



Alexandra Magdaleno of Art Rocks 247 talks with Sami Nye, actress extraordinaire...Sami is performing in "SHE LOVE ME" San Diego Musical Theatre's newest production – Playing now thru March 8th, 2020

Book by: Joe Masteroff | Music by Jerry Bock
Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
Director: Richard Israel
Choreographer/AD: Lauren Haughton
Music Director: Don LeMaster

An intimate and touching show, featuring music by Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick (Fiddler on the Roof) and book by Joe Masteroff (Cabaret), She Loves Me was nominated for five Tony Awards in 1964. The 1993 Broadway revival won the Olivier Award for Best Musical Revival, the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revival of a Musical, and the 1994 Critics Circle Award for Best Musical. Considered by many to be the most charming musical ever written, She Loves Me is a warm romantic comedy with an endearing innocence and a touch of old-world elegance.



Set in a 1930s European perfumery, we meet shop clerks, Amalia and Georg, who, more often than not, don't see eye to eye. After both respond to a "lonely hearts advertisement" in the newspaper, they now live for the love letters that they exchange, but the identity of their admirers remains unknown. Join Amalia and Georg to discover the identity of their true love... and of all the twists and turns along the way! Sami Nye is playing Ilona Ritter. Don't miss this production, get your tickets here: www.sdmt.org

The phone interview took place on February 14th, 2020 at 11:00 am

Sami: Hi, is this Alexandra?

Alexandra: The one and only! (both giggle)

S: How's it going?

A: It's going good. Happy Valentine's day

S: Happy Valentine's day. I know what a crazy coincidence

A: Hey, it's a day full of love; that's the good news

A: We got a chance to see you perform in, "She Loves Me," and you were awesome

S: Oh, thank you so much. I'm so glad you liked the show

A: Yes, we were quite smitten with the show, and the sets were amazing, the perfume shop was a wow!

S: It really is. It's such a beautiful piece to look at, you kind of get like sucked into this beautiful little world and it's just wonderful

A: All right, let's jump in then. Um, this can be three words. What is your idea of perfect happiness?

S: Ooh, living with purpose

A: This can be one sentence. What is your greatest fear?

S: Greatest fear would probably be not giving back enough because I've been so blessed in my life

A: Okay, mine's losing my memory. I am so worried about it that I take all these brain memory supplements, and then I forget to take the supplements, I can't win!

S: Yeah, I'm always like, did I lock my car door, and I go back three times because I'm like, did I lock it? Did I lock it? And I'm like, yeah, I know it's crazy, isn't it?

A: What is the trait you most deplore in yourself? This needs to be one word

S: Okay. Sorry, can you repeat that?

A: What is the one trait that you most deplore in yourself?

S: Hm. I think probably, I'd say passion

A: Hmmm, never heard that before....

A: What is the trait you most deplore in others?

A: Mine is when people are late

S: Oh my gosh, I was so confused. I thought you said adore (we both burst out laughing)

S: Oh, no, can I change my answer?

A: Go right ahead. What don't you like about yourself?

S: Yes. Yes. Okay. A trait that I most deplore about myself would probably be, um, being a perfectionist. Overly a perfectionist

A: Believe it or not, that is pretty common, I know because I live with one. He just takes forever to do anything. I'm like, come on, you know, I'm kind of like impatience. I guess that's one of my traits (ha-ha) yeah it drives me insane sometimes, but I understand it

A: What is the trait you most deplore in others?

S: I think just unkindness when people are not kind. There is no need for people to be unkind
Everybody deserves kindness

A: I second that one! What is your greatest extravagance? This could be a sentence and let me preface this by saying that it doesn't have to be money-related

S: I guess it doesn't sound very extravagant, but I one of the things that I just love is having a really lazy Saturday morning where I wake up when I want, get to, you know, have my morning coffee, read my magazines, watch whatever TV show I want. This might not sound very extravagant, but it's such a luxury to me!

A: I share that one too. But you forgot; get your nails done or get a pedicure and that would complete the perfect Saturday!

A: On what occasion do you lie?

S: Oh, I do think sometimes I will lie to spare someone's feeling, which is great. Something that I'm trying to, you know, work on being honest, but, you know, sometimes you don't want to hurt their feelings

A: Yeah. I don't like making people feel bad.

A: What is your favorite thing to do on a rainy day?

S: Oh, gosh, I have to say reading a good book. There's just nothing like it, especially when it's cozy and you're on the couch with, you know, a blanket and a cup of tea and just a good book, and you get lost in a whole other world. There's just nothing like it

A: Yeah. I love reading

A: This is one word. What's the best gift you've ever received?

S: Oh, I would say my education

A: What's your favorite ice cream?

S: Oh, my favorite. I'm a chocolate chip cookie dough girl through and through. Ever since I was like five years old

A: If you could make a documentary movie, what would it be about? And this could be three words.

S: I would say the life of an aspiring artist

A: Okay. Like an unknown or a somebody?

S: Like an unknown, it would be so revealing. We all so many stories and documentaries about people who are well known, and those are very valuable. But I think it's so human to see anybody who is any kind of artist who goes after what they want, following their dreams and seeing their story. How it affects their life, their relationships, the people around them and seeing what makes them tick

A: I love seeing stories like that. I would love to see more of those

A: Favorite color

S: Pink

A: Ha...I thought pink was your color!

A: What do you usually order at Starbucks?

S: Ooh, I usually order two drinks. If I want coffee, I will get an almond milk latte with one packet of Stevia. If I'm going to be singing or performing, then I will get a medicine ball, tea with apple juice instead of lemonade

A: Okay, so that sounds pretty Zen, is that something your vocal coach recommends?

S: Yes, I suppose. It's you know to coat your vocal cords, and it is very soothing. And I find apple juice, one of my opera teachers back in college would always tell me to drink a little bit of apple juice, um, before an audition or performance because it's so hydrating; so I have medicine ball, and I also have a little jug of apple juice in my dressing room too

A: Oh, nice. Okay. Well thanks for sharing that

A: Do you have any rituals that you do before you go on a live?

S: Oh, yes, I do. Um, I always warm up. Um, always, always, always. I have my exercises that my vocal coach sends to me, and I will do those before every, every show, every performance. Uh, I usually try to get to the theater pretty early, so I have time and space to myself just to kind of center and check-in after a crazy day. Uh, I like to steam, I have my little steamer, so I'll steam for a few minutes, uh, chat with a few of my colleagues and head down to the stage and do a full-body warmup. I'll bring my yoga mat down there, and I'll do some stretching, some breathing, kind of get out any energy and really center myself and get grounded. And then, uh, get into costume, getting ready for the show. And then before I go on, I always say a prayer in the wing and by that time I'm ready to go

A: Awesome. That's lovely. I'm glad to hear that

A: What's your favorite? Dark chocolate milk chocolate or white chocolate?

S: Ooh, dark chocolate; got to go with dark chocolate.

A: Heels or flats?



Sami Nye, Actor Singer Dancer, Los Angeles CA

S: Oh, gosh. I love looking at heels, but I love wearing flats

A: Um, what's your favorite guilty pleasure?

S: Oh, I got to say I am a sucker for those reality TV shows. I love the Bachelor. I love the Real Housewives after a long day. It's so nice to just like sit on the couch and watch you know; those shows and just kind of we kind of zone out and you kind of turn your brain off for a bit

A: So, as we wrap up here, um, did you remember what your pet peeve was?

S: Oh, yes, I do remember it. So, it's when, uh, there's a long line and maybe a coffee shop or a restaurant and when people get to the front of the line, and then they decide to look at the menu

A: Yeah, I'm like, really?

A: Okay, so our last question...

S: Okay

A: What is the one thing your parents told you that you actually listened to?

S: I think you have to work hard. My parents are both really hard workers. They've worked for everything that they have, and they've always instilled that in me. You have to put in the time, the effort, the energy, and I think, okay. Just seeing them, having them as my role models has been so instrumental in me, just the work ethic that I have now. I'm so grateful for them for teaching me that because it's, uh, it's, definitely helped me in my path and my journey in life

A: Oh, that's great. My parents said always put enough money in the meter

S: That's great advice

A: Isn't that funny? But I don't know why it's just one of the things that stands out, and I do it. You know there are parking meters in most large cities, and nowadays they take credit cards. To this day, and I know it's super old school, but in my ashtray, I keep a stack of coins, just in case...

S: My parents always told me to keep cash in my purse. So just always keep a little bit of money. That was another thing

A: This was so much fun, I so glad I got you thinking spontaneously

S: This was fun. I know, it was like, oh my goodness, I have to wake my brain up!

A: I was great to talk with you and have a great rest of your day

S: Yeah, you too. Okay, my dear. Take care. Bye-bye