

Bio: Marilyn Abrams and Bruce Jordan

Marilyn Abrams (Original Co-Producer) and Bruce Jordan (Original Co-Producer, Director) are the owners and creators of ***Shear Madness***, the longest-running nonmusical play in the American theater history. These two New York actors anticipated the trend for interactive theater and acquired the world stage, film, and television rights to an obscure murder mystery originally titled *Scherenschnitt*, written by German playwright Paul Portner. In 1978, the play made its debut in the United States in a summer stock production in Lake George, New York. Mr. Jordan directed and created the role of Tony Whitcomb, salon proprietor, and Ms. Abrams created the role of Barbara DeMarco, the gum-chewing manicurist.

This exuberant duo oversees the ***Shear Madness*** companies across the USA and in diverse international cities such as Paris, London, Rome, Budapest, Athens, Johannesburg, Buenos Aires, Seoul, Barcelona and Madrid. While each occasionally takes time out to pursue other stage and film work, both make frequent visits to ***Shear Madness*** cities, where Mr. Jordan directs and maintains the artistic quality of the productions and Ms. Abrams handles sales and marketing.

The 38-year-old Boston company is the longest running play in American theatre history with the Washington, D.C. production at the John F. Kennedy Center running in second place. The play has been listed in *The Guinness Book of World Records*, and Boston's Warrenton Street, location of the historic Charles Playhouse, is officially known as "Shear Madness Alley". The Chicago company is the 3rd longest running play in the history of the American theatre, completing a ***Shear Madness*** Theatrical Triple Crown. Other honors include the Mystery Writers of America Raven Award, *The Boston Globe's* Best Comedy of the Year, *The Chicago Tribune's* Best Play of the Year, Boston's Elliot Norton Award, The Los Angeles Dramalogue Award, the USO Award for Outstanding Contribution in the Theatrical Arts, and *The Philadelphia Daily News's* Best Play of the Year. In October of 1997, Ms. Abrams and Mr. Jordan were the recipients of the Charlie Chaplin Comedy Award, given by the National Comedy Hall of Fame, as the creators of ***Shear Madness***, the first play ever to be so honored.

