

LIL & SATCHMO
by Jo Morello
A play with music
(formerly LIL & LOUIS)

Development/Production History

- Mar. 2017-Aug 2018 Begin work on script & music. Find artistic home (Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, Sarasota) & director (Chuck Smith, SDC, Goodman Theatre & WBTT).
- Aug. 31, 2018 Reading w/invited audience & written feedback at Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (WBTT), Sarasota, FL. Director: Chuck Smith)
- Sept. 2018-Jan. 2019 Revise script, work with NEA Jazz Master Dick Hyman on song selections. Hire musicians and record songs with trumpet & piano.
- Feb. 4-6, 2019 Mini-workshop w/music & dance at WBTT. Director: Chuck Smith.
- Mar. 4-5/10, 2019** **Workshop production:** Sarasota, FL. 3 performances as part of Sarasota Jazz Festival: script-in-hand w/blocking, music, dance. Written feedback. At WBTT and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sarasota. Director: Chuck Smith.
- Mar-Dec 2019 Receive three grants towards full production. Continue to revise script and songs. As producer: contract with musicians, create 5-piece jazz band & record music. Work with director Chuck Smith on casting and script towards private table reading, August 2019. Secure venue. Hire crew including designers, choreographer, vocal coach.
- Dec. 2019 Begin rehearsals for January 2020 production: Chuck Smith, director.
- Jan. 21-25, 2020** **Production:** Sarasota, FL. 6 non-Equity performances. First Presbyterian Church. Directed by Harry Bryce, WBTT, after serious illness forced Chuck Smith's withdrawal during the first week of rehearsals. For information, reviews, production photos, see LILandLOUIS.com.
- Feb. - Aug. 2020 Re-record six songs for show. Continue with ongoing script revisions. Change title from LIL & LOUIS to LIL & SATCHMO.
- Aug. 2020-Jan. 2022 Continue script and music revisions, replace some songs with others. Develop new website: Lil-and-Satchmo.com.
- Jan. 28-Feb. 27, 2022** **Production:** Fort Worth, TX. Jubilee Theatre, for Black History Month. Producer D. Wambui Richardson. Directed by Khira Hailey.