

JIM WANN

Jim Wann is a professional writer and performer, whose career has combined music and theatre in interesting ways. His newest project is in television: he is the host of Farmers Almanac TV's magazine show, which will begin weekly broadcasts on PBS stations in March, 2006.

As the principal author/composer of the Broadway hit, PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES, Mr. Wann also sang and acted the role of "Jim" in its original New York incarnations. Nominated for Tony and Drama Desk Awards for Best Musical and Best Music on Broadway, nominated for the Olivier Award for Best Musical in London, and winner of Canada's Dora Award for Best Musical, PUMP BOYS is the longest-running musical in Chicago theatre history, and has been produced around the world from Prague to South Africa to Australia.

Mr. Wann's off-Broadway successes include DIAMOND STUDS: The Life Of Jesse James, A Saloon Musical, notable for creating "Musicians' Theatre" as a genre; and KING MACKEREL & THE BLUES ARE RUNNING, both co-authored with Bland Simpson. KING MACKEREL, featuring its original cast (Mr. Wann, Mr. Simpson, and Don Dixon) is now in its twentieth year of special engagements, raising funds for environmental and cultural organizations.

New musicals include THE PEOPLE VS. MONA and JIM'S GARAGE (co-author, Patricia Miller); and THE GREAT UNKNOWN (co-author, William Hauptman). Two solo recordings, "PARDON MY SOUTHERN ACCENT" (Vol. 1, Johnny Mercer songs, and Vol. 2, Jim Wann songs), produced by Don Dixon, have garnered recent acclaim.

Mr. Wann has appeared on TODAY, GOOD MORNING AMERICA, THE TONY AWARDS, THE PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES SPECIAL (NBC), and KING MACKEREL & THE BLUES ARE RUNNING (WUNC-TV/PBS Special, a pledge drive favorite). A Morehead Scholar graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill (1970), Mr. Wann and his wife, Patricia, live on Tybee Island, GA, and in New York's Hudson Valley. He can be found on the web at www.jimwann.com.