



Musical Theater And American Culture

George McCue



Musical Theater And American Culture:

Musical Theater and American Culture David Walsh, Len Platt, 2003-10-30 Though there have been many histories of the theater and specifically the theatrical musical none has done quite what Musical Theater and American Culture achieves it explores how the musical emerged in the late 18th and 19th centuries as a specifically American form of entertainment and went on to become a powerful medium of popular and political collective expression articulating the tensions and reconciliations of everyday relations between individuals and society Intimately related to the forging of social cultural and political American identities the musical often dismissed as merely entertainment is tied inextricably to America's sense of itself as a New World a land of opportunity and above all the emblem of modern culture Including material on genres ranging from minstrel shows to melodrama to the development of the contemporary book musical and the megamusical Musical Theater and American Culture delves into such important shows as Anything Goes West Side Story Evita and Rent it represents the first sustained analysis of this medium as a social and political vehicle Authors David F Walsh and Len Platt further consider how the current condition of the musical the emergence of specialist musicals revivals and blockbuster musicals intended for a globalized audience relate both aesthetically and culturally to their Broadway progenitors Tackling the much broader question of what the fragmentation of this popular culture now indicates about contemporary America they forge a new and unique study sure to appeal to both scholars of the theater and fans of its ongoing and always fascinating new forms

American Musical Theater James Leve, 2016 Oklahoma and the integrated book musical Musical theater in nineteenth century America Broadway at the turn of the century The teens The twenties The thirties The forties The fifties The sixties The seventies The eighties The nineties The new millennium Musical theater off Broadway The black musical Rock on Broadway The star

Music in American Society George McCue, 2019-01-22 This book is the literary legacy of a national music festival in St Louis organized to identify as clearly as possible the specifically native character of music originating in the United States of America The festival the Bicentennial Horizons of American Music and the Performing Arts B H A M sponsored more than 250 performances and workshops between Flag Day and Independence Day 1976 It was the only event of the Bicentennial celebration to address itself to a survey and evaluation of the musical development of this country

The Routledge Handbook of Religion and American Culture Chad E. Seales, 2025-03-31 The Routledge Handbook of Religion and American Culture explains where religion is made in the United States It offers essays profiling cultural sites including energy industry public life music arts and entertainment and life and death These sites organize the volume's 31 chapters demonstrating how cultural religion has been constructed and performed in specific historical and ethnographic case studies This volume offers a much needed resource for Religious Studies scholars and students interested in the study of religion and culture in the United States as well as those in American Studies Anthropology of Religion Sociology of Religion Material Culture Studies Environmental Studies and History

A History of the American Musical

Theatre Nathan Hurwitz, 2014-06-27 From the diverse proto theatres of the mid 1800s through the revues of the 20s the true musicals of the 40s the politicisation of the 60s and the mega musicals of the 80s every era in American musical theatre reflected a unique set of socio cultural factors Nathan Hurwitz uses these factors to explain the output of each decade in turn showing how the most popular productions spoke directly to the audiences of the time He explores the function of musical theatre as commerce tying each big success to the social and economic realities in which it flourished This study spans from the earliest spectacles and minstrel shows to contemporary musicals such as Avenue Q and Spiderman It traces the trends of this most commercial of art forms from the perspective of its audiences explaining how staying in touch with writers and producers strove to stay in touch with these changing moods Each chapter deals with a specific decade introducing the main players the key productions and the major developments in musical theatre during that period *The Routledge Companion to Musical Theatre* Laura MacDonald, Ryan Donovan, 2022-12-30 Global in scope and featuring thirty five chapters from more than fifty dance music and theatre scholars and practitioners The Routledge Companion to Musical Theatre introduces the fundamentals of musical theatre studies and highlights developing global trends in practice and scholarship Investigating the who what when where why and how of transnational musical theatre The Routledge Companion to Musical Theatre is a comprehensive guide for those studying the components of musical theatre its history practitioners audiences and agendas The Companion expands the study of musical theatre to include the ways we practice and experience musicals their engagement with technology and their navigation of international commercial marketplaces The Companion is the first collection to include global musical theatre in each chapter reflecting the musical's status as the world's most popular theatrical form This book brings together practice and scholarship featuring essays by leading and emerging scholars alongside luminaries such as Chinese musical theatre composer San Bao Tony Award winning star Andr De Shields and Tony Award winning director Diane Paulus This is an essential resource for students on theatre and performance courses and an invaluable text for researchers and practitioners in these areas of study **A Different Stage: The Legacy of American Musical Theater** Pasquale De Marco, 2025-05-19 In the heart of New York City where dreams take flight and stories come alive lies the world of American musical theater This book is a love letter to this beloved art form a celebration of its enduring spirit and transformative power Within these pages you'll embark on a journey through time tracing the evolution of Broadway from its humble beginnings to its current status as a global phenomenon You'll encounter iconic shows that have captured the hearts of generations from classic musicals like Oklahoma and The Sound of Music to contemporary hits like Hamilton and Wicked Beyond the footlights you'll meet the unforgettable characters who have graced the Broadway stage from the legendary performers who defined an era to the rising stars who are shaping the future of musical theater You'll witness their dedication to their craft their resilience in the face of adversity and their unwavering passion for their art This book also delves into the creative process behind these masterpieces unraveling the intricate web of collaboration between

composers lyricists choreographers and performers You ll learn about the challenges and rewards of bringing a Broadway show to life from the grueling rehearsals to the exhilarating opening night And you ll discover the stories of the unsung heroes who toil behind the scenes ensuring that every performance is flawless But American musical theater is more than just a form of entertainment it is a reflection of our society and a powerful force for change This book explores the profound impact that Broadway has had on the world addressing issues of social justice equality and the human condition You ll see how musicals have educated inspired and united people from all walks of life and you ll marvel at the enduring legacy of this extraordinary art form Whether you re a lifelong fan of musical theater or new to this magical world this book is an invitation to step inside and experience the wonder and enchantment of Broadway Prepare to be swept away by the soaring melodies the dazzling spectacle and the unforgettable stories that have made American musical theater a beloved tradition for generations If you like this book write a review on google books

Irving Berlin's American Musical Theater Jeffrey Magee,2014 Irving Berlin s songs have been the soundtrack of America for a century but his most profound contribution to the nation is to Broadway Award winning music historian Jeffrey Magee s chronicle of Berlin s theatrical career is the first book to fully consider the songwriter s immeasurable influence on the Great White Way Tracing Berlin s humble beginnings on the lower east side to his rise to American icon Irving Berlin s American Musical Theatre will delight theater aficionados as well as students of music and popular culture and anyone interested in the story of a man whose life and work expressed so well the American dream

Encyclopedia of War and American Society Peter Karsten,2006 Publisher description
Changed for Good Stacy Wolf,2011-07-07 In this lively book Stacy Wolf illuminates the women of American musical theater performers creators and characters from the start of the cold war to the present day creating a new feminist history of the genre Moving from decade to decade Wolf highlights the assumptions that circulated about gender and sexuality at the time and then looks at the leading musicals stressing the aspects of the plays that relate to women The musicals discussed here are among the most beloved in the canon West Side Story Guys Dolls Cabaret and many others with special emphasis on Wicked

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