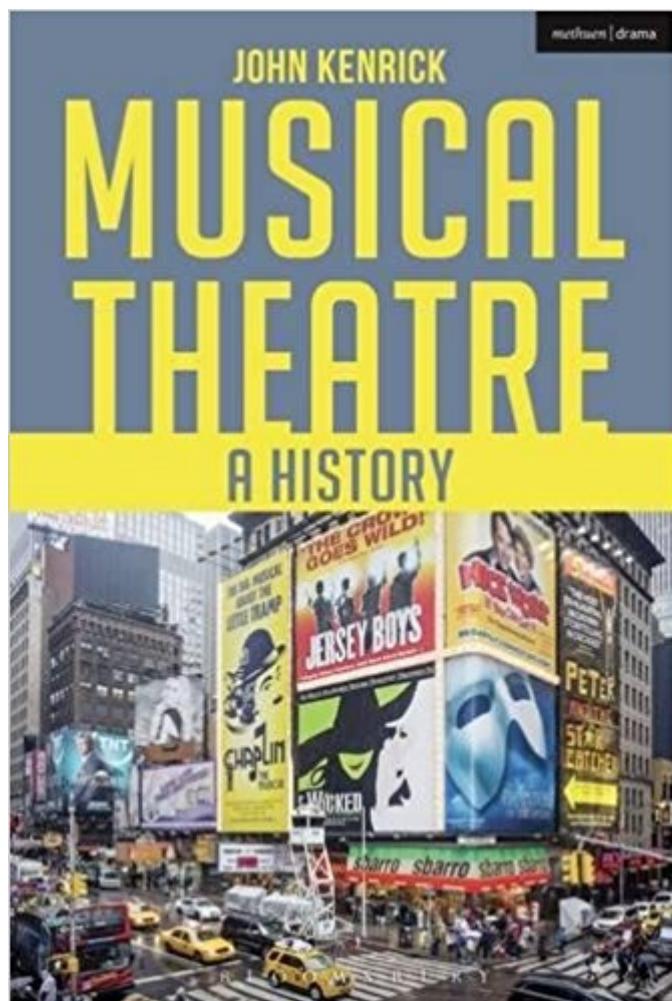


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Musical Theatre: A History



Synopsis

Musical Theatre: A History is a new revised edition of a proven core text for college and secondary school students and an insightful and accessible celebration of twenty-five centuries of great theatrical entertainment. As an educator with extensive experience in professional theatre production, author John Kenrick approaches the subject with a unique appreciation of musicals as both an art form and a business. Using anecdotes, biographical profiles, clear definitions, sample scenes and select illustrations, Kenrick focuses on landmark musicals, and on the extraordinary talents and business innovators who have helped musical theatre evolve from its roots in the dramas of ancient Athens all the way to the latest hits on Broadway and London's West End. Key improvements to the second edition: A new foreword by Oscar Hammerstein III, a critically acclaimed historian and member of a family with deep ties to the musical theatre, is included. The 28 chapters are reformatted for the typical 14 week, 28 session academic course, as well as for a two semester, once-weekly format, making it easy for educators to plan a syllabus and reading assignments. To make the book more interactive, each chapter includes suggested listening and reading lists, designed to help readers step beyond the printed page to experience great musicals and performers for themselves. A comprehensive guide to musical theatre as an international phenomenon, Musical Theatre: A History is an ideal textbook for university and secondary school students.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kenrick demonstrates his considerable knowledge in this enjoyable, well-written volume ... Specific examples about particular performers (e.g., Al Jolson) and shows (e.g., Franz Lehar's *Merry Widow*) enliven the text ... A section of photos, most not the usual views, is a modest addition. In place of references, the author lists titles cited in a useful annotated bibliography. Summing Up: Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals; general readers. Choice A comprehensive history of stage musicals ... As informative as it is entertaining, *Musical Theatre* is richly illustrated with anecdotes of shows The Pass

John Kenrick combines a passion for entertainment history with the practical know-how earned working on stage productions at every level from amateur to Broadway. This New York native pulls back the curtain and introduces audiences and students to the fascinating people behind show business legends. Every month, his website Musicals101.com introduces thousands of visitors to the history of stage and screen musicals. He has appeared on PBS, Biography, BBC TV and radio, National Public Radio and the Travel Channel. John currently teaches at the New School University and New York University's Steinhardt School.

Was easy reading, very informative, well written and enjoyable

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