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The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals

Dan Dietz

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Musicals of the 1990s felt the impact of key developments that forever changed the landscape of Broadway. While the onslaught of British imports slowed down, the so-called Disneyfication of Broadway began, a trend that continues today. *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King* became long-running hits, followed by more family-friendly musicals. The decade was also distinguished by a new look at revivals—instead of slavishly reproducing old shows or updating them with campy values, Broadway saw a stream of fresh and sometimes provocative reinventions, including major productions of *My Fair Lady*, *Damn Yankees*, *Carousel*, *Show Boat*, and *Chicago*.

In *The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals*, Dan Dietz examines in detail every musical that opened on Broadway during the 1990s. This book discusses the era's major hits (*Miss Saigon*, *Crazy for You*, *Rent*), notorious flops (*Shogun*, *Nick & Nora*, *The Red Shoes*), controversial shows (*Passion*, *The Capeman*), and musicals that closed during their pre-Broadway tryouts (*Annie 2*: *Miss Hannigan's Revenge*, *Whistle Down the Wind*). In addition to including every hit and flop that debuted during the decade, this book highlights revivals and personal-appearance revues with such performers as Sandra Bernhard, Michael Feinstein, Patti LuPone, Liza Minnelli, and Mandy Patinkin.

Each entry contains the following information:
- Plot summary
- Cast members
- Names of all important personnel, including writers, composers, directors, choreographers, producers, and musical directors
- Opening and closing dates
- Number of performances
- Critical commentary
- Musical numbers and the performers who introduced the songs
- Production data, including information about tryouts
- Source material
- Tony awards and nominations
- Details about London and other foreign productions

Besides separate entries for each production, the book offers numerous appendixes, including a discography, filmography, and published scripts, as well as lists of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, black-themed shows, and Jewish-themed productions.

A treasure trove of information, *The Complete Book of 1990s Broadway Musicals* provides a comprehensive view of each show. This significant resource will be of use to scholars, historians, and casual fans of one of the greatest decades in musical theatre history.

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