

2009

Stage Center Theatre Newsletter- Dec. 2009

Nicole Kashian

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Recommended Citation

Kashian, Nicole, "Stage Center Theatre Newsletter- Dec. 2009" (2009). *Stage Center*. 21.
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SEASON 2009-2010

Stage Center Theatre

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2009

2009-2010 Stage Center Theatre

Last chance to see the second main stage production for the fall...

Lucky Stiff

Book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and Music by Stephen Flaherty

Director: Anna Antaramian

Musical Director: Julie Crossen

Choreographer: Judith Warren

Costume Designer: Elizabeth Wislar

Set Designer: Jessica Kuehnau

Light Designer: John Rodriguez

Cast:

Andrew Berlien

Lisa Cantwell

Tony Gasbarro

Ryan Gilbert

Sara Greenfield

Kendel Lester

Jesus Matta

Danna Pantzke

John Rodrick

Danny Shannon

AUDITIONS

January 12 & 13, 2010

1:30 - 3:00 pm & 6:00 - 9:00 pm

To reserve an audition slot call
Professor Antaramian 773.442.5975

A prepared monologue is preferred but cold readings
will be available upon request.

The spring Season is listed to the right. The auditions for all spring season
productions are held on January 12th and 13th.

Spring 2010 Semester Theatre Classes

CMTT 130 Introduction to Theatre, sections 1—8 (Faculty)

CMTT 139, 239, 339 Practicum 1, 2 and 3 (Rodriguez & Kuehnau)

CMTT 241 Advanced Stage Craft (Kuehnau)

CMTT 255 Oral Interpretation of Literature (Wirth)

CMTT 321 Acting 2 (Antaramian)

CMTT 337 Women Playwrights (Antaramian)

CMTT 341 Lighting Design (Rodriguez)

CMTT 350 Children's Theatre Workshop: Elementary

CMTT 359 Ensemble Interpretation (Wirth)

CMTT 430 Dramatic Theory (Higginbotham) Graduate students only

2009—2010

UPCOMING SHOWS

MAIN STAGE *7:30 P.M.

Reservations: 773.442.4274

Final Two Weeks

Lucky Stiff

Book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens,
Music by Stephen Flaherty

December 3-5, 10-12

Vaudeville America!

February 18-20, 25-27, March 4-6

A Tale of Two Cities

adapted by Mark Fitzgibbons

April 15-17, 22-24, 29-May1

STUDIO SERIES *7:30 P.M.

F-109

Wine in the Wilderness

by Alice Childress

February 22-24, March 1-3

CHILDREN'S THEATRE
WORKSHOP*10:30 A.M.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Reservations: 773.442.5971

Señora Tortuga

by Roxanne Schroeder-Arce

December 1-9

Totally Red

by Dinah Toups and Barbara
Walker

March 29—April 30

Call the
Stage Center
Theatre box
office for
reservations
and ticket sales
773.442.4274
Tickets are
free for all
faculty, staff,
and students
with an
NEIU ID



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Musical Theatre: 101

What exactly is musical theatre?

Technically, musical theatre is a staged form of dramatic entertainment in which music is used as a vital creative component.

What makes a musical a "musical?"

There are three main components to a musical: the book, the music, and the lyrics. A musical's *book* refers to the spoken words of its story. And, in some musical theatre genres, such as opera, the book also refers to the dialogue and lyrics combined. In this case, the dialogue and lyrics are referred to as the *libretto*, or *little book* in Italian. The second element, *music*, refers to an arranged set of sounds that produce a continuous, unified melody. The third, *lyrics*, are compact word patterns that when set to music communicate vital information about the show's dramatic life. Furthermore, when the music and lyrics combine, this forms the musical's *score*.

Are there different types of lyrics?

Yes. Similar to the three components that comprise a musical, there are three main types of lyrics: ballads, charm songs and comedy songs. Each of

these, when set to music, create a *musical scene* or *language package* that sets dramatic action to music.

What makes each lyric unique?

Each lyric is distinct in that each one serves a different purpose and evokes varied emotions and meaning from the audience. For example, a ballad is a love song, said to be the servant of the play, easily overpowering the audience's emotions. A charm song is characterized by its optimistic intent, warmth, and evoked audience satisfaction. Most charm songs serve an intermediary purpose, placing equal emphasis on the music and the lyric, in contrast to a comedy song, known for its comic intent and relief between dramatic scenes. In addition, most comedy songs require an elaborate setup that pays off with one powerful punch line at the end of the song.

Musical theatre or "total theatre?"

Musical theatre has been called "total theatre" because it is one of the most collaborative art forms. It is known for its consistent style and message; the style being presentational, and all musical theatre is presentational. The message? Life is worth it—even if things don't work out perfectly in the end.

~THEATRE QUIZ TIME~

This Month's Theme: Musicals Part II & Auditioning*

Coinciding with this month's zany musical comedy *Lucky Stiff* & *Spring Auditions*—find out how much you know about the musical theatre genre and auditioning!

- 1) Which show won the 2009 Tony Award for Best Musical?
 - A. Billy Elliot, the Musical
 - B. Shrek, the Musical
 - C. The Lion King, the Musical
 - D. Next to Normal
- 2) What was the longest running musical on Broadway when it closed in 2000?
 - A. Phantom of the Opera
 - B. Cats
 - C. Les Miserables
 - D. Fiddler on the Roof
- 3) Which show won the 2009 Tony Award for Best Musical Revival?
 - A. Guys and Dolls
 - B. Hair
 - C. Paul Joey
 - D. West Side Story
- 4) In the musical *A Chorus Line*, 17 dancers audition for an upcoming Broadway show, of the 17, how many make the final cut?
 - A. 10
 - B. 14
 - C. 12
 - D. 8
- 5) The two things any actor needs to be successful are: Talent and Ambition. True or False?
 - A. Start of Something New
 - B. New Horizons
 - C. What I've Been Looking For
 - D. About Time
- 6) In *High School Musical*, Gabriella and Troy first meet while singing what song in a karaoke contest?
 - A. Start of Something New
 - B. New Horizons
 - C. What I've Been Looking For
 - D. About Time

~Musicals: November Newsletter Quiz Answers~

1) C (Music, Lyrics, Book); 2) True; 3) B (5th Century BCE); 4) C (West Side Story); 5) C (Trouble); 6) D (The Lion King, Beauty and the Beast * Quiz answers will be revealed in next month's issue! **Part of this quiz is property of Funtrivia.com.**