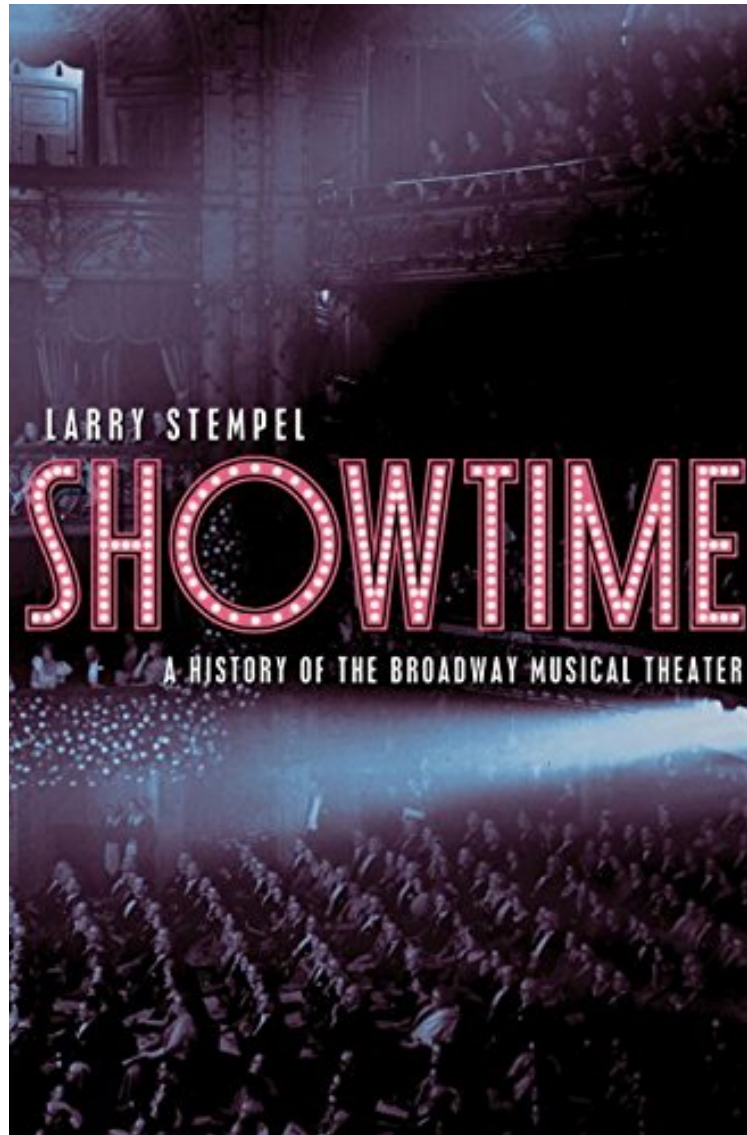


(Library ebook) Showtime: A History of the Broadway Musical Theater

## Showtime: A History of the Broadway Musical Theater

Larry Stempel

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**Larry Stempel : Showtime: A History of the Broadway Musical Theater** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Showtime: A History of the Broadway Musical Theater:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A perfect book on a perfect subject!By mscmsBest (actually ONLY) textbook on the musical theatre would make this invaluable, but add that it is delightful and readable makes this part of my permanent bedside reading collection. Mr. Stempel's knowledge and love of the subject is clear throughout the book. The organization and chapter headings make it ideal for teaching and learning the historical development of the

genre. I love this book and give it as a gift frequently to fellow lover's of musical theatre. Congratulations and gratitude for writing this wonderful book, Mr Stempel. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No standing ovation for this. By James Cooper I expected more showbiz, bright lights and fun than this survey provides. Stempel's book is academic, fact-filled and heavy going. Little of the joy of the Broadway musical transcends the pedestrian prose. Nevertheless, it's a worthy catalogue of shows, many of which I'd seen and enjoyed. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Thorough Historical Review of Broadway's Musical Theater By Larry Gevirtz This is a very thorough and well-written review of the history of the Broadway musical. It is highly recommended for those interested in the theater.

The definitive history of the Broadway musical: the shows, the stars, the movers, and the shakers. Showtime brings the history of Broadway musicals to life in a narrative as engaging as the subject itself. Beginning with the scandalous Astor Place Opera House riot of 1849, Larry Stempel traces the growth of musicals from minstrel shows and burlesques, through the golden age of Show Boat and Oklahoma!, to such groundbreaking works as Company and Rent. Stempel describes the Broadway stage with vivid accounts of the performers drawn to it, and detailed portraits of the creators who wrote the music, lyrics, and stories for its shows, both beloved and less well known. But Stempel travels outside the theater doors as well, to illuminate the wider world of musical theater as a living genre shaped by the forces of American history and culture. He reveals not only how musicals entertain their audiences but also how they serve as barometers of social concerns and bearers of cultural values. Showtime is the culmination of decades of painstaking research on a genre whose forms have changed over the course of two centuries. In covering the expansive subject before him, Stempel combines original research—including a kaleidoscope of primary sources and archival holdings—with deft and insightful analysis. The result is nothing short of the most comprehensive, authoritative history of the Broadway musical yet published. 16 pages of four-color; 105 black-and-white illustrations

“Starred . Not just a catalog or reference book, but a highly astute, integrative cultural history.” - Kirkus  
s“Throughout, as Stempel traces the evolution with exhaustive archival research, he offers a penetrating and illuminating analysis of various musical forms and influences. Many of the 105 carefully selected black-and-white illustrations are surprising and revelatory. Theater buffs will be delighted to find that this scholarly, definitive work is also a hugely entertaining read.” - Publishers Weekly  
From the Back Cover “Stempel has hit the trifecta: for academics, it’s a definitive work of scholarship; for students, it’s the perfect textbook; for ordinary lovers of musical theater, it’s a treat to savor at the end of a long day.”  
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?Kim H. Kowalke, Eastman School of Music  
About the Author Larry Stempel, an associate professor of music at Fordham University and a recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, was a member of Lehman Engel's BMI Musical Theater Workshop. He lives in Mount Vernon, New York.