



# Show Tunes, 1905-1991: The Songs, Shows and Careers of Broadway's Major Composers

*Steven Suskin*

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**Show Tunes, 1905-1991: The Songs, Shows and Careers of Broadway's Major Composers** Steven Suskin

This majestic reference book fully chronicles the shows, songs, and careers of the major composers of the American musical theater, from Jerome Kern's earliest interpolations to the latest hits on Broadway. Gershwin, Rodgers, Porter, Berlin, Bernstein, Loesser, Sondheim, Kander, Finn, Flaherty, and more--this book covers their work, their innovations, their successes, and their failures. *Show Tunes* is simply the most comprehensive volume of its kind ever produced, and this newly revised and updated edition discusses over 900 shows and almost 8,000 show tunes. The book has been called "a concise skeleton key to the Broadway musical" (*Variety*) and "a ground-breaking reference work with a difference" (*Show Music*)--or, as the *Washington Post* observed, "It makes you sing and dance all over your memory."

The eagerly anticipated Third Edition, updated through January 1999, features the entire theatrical output of thirty-six of Broadway's leading composers, in addition to a wide selection of work by other composers. The listings include essential production data and statistics, the most extensive information available on published and recorded songs, and lively commentary on the shows, songs, and diverse careers.

Based on meticulous research, the book also uncovers dozens of lost musicals--including shows that either closed out of town or were never headed for Broadway--and catalogs hundreds of previously unknown songs, including a number of musical gems that have been misplaced, cut, or forgotten. The book also includes a detailed chronology of the musicals and a show-by-show guide to the careers of Broadway's most important lyricists, librettists, producers, directors, and choreographers.

Informative, insightful, and provocative, *Show Tunes* is an essential guide for anyone interested in the American musical.

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