Mezzo-Soprano/Belter Volume 4

A collection of songs from the musical stage, categorized by voice type. The selections are presented in their authentic settings, excerpted from the original vocal scores.

Compiled and Edited by Richard Walters

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Foreword

When I conceived and compiled the first volumes of *The Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology*, released in 1987, I couldn't have possibly imagined the day when I would be writing the foreword for Volume 4 Such a venture is made possible only by the lively and sustained interest of singing actors of all descriptions, be they students or professionals. As a researcher I can only present you with practical choices from existing theatre literature. Without the dedicated pursuit of that music by people such as you, dear reader, these collections would remain on a shelf, unopened.

Volume 4 allows inclusion of songs from shows opened since Volume 3 (released in 2000), as well as a continuing, deeper look into both classic and contemporary musical theatre repertory. As has been the case with each of the solo voice volumes in this series, songs are chosen with many types of talent in mind. All songs do not suit all singers. It is good and natural for any performer to stretch as far as possible, attempting diverse material. But it is also very important ultimately to know what you do well. That is an individual answer, based on your voice, your temperament and your look. This collection has enough variety of songs that any interested performer should be able to find several viable choices.

You will come up with a more individual interpretation, conjured from the ground up in the manner that all the best actors work, if you learn a song on your own, building it into your unique singing voice, without imitating a recorded performance Particularly try to avoid copying especially famous renditions of a song, because you can probably only suffer in the comparison. Would you learn a role from Shakespeare, Shaw or Edward Albee solely by mimicking a recording, film or video/DVD of it? Your answer had better be of course not! The same needs to be true of theatre music. After you know the notes and lyrics very well, study the character's stated and unstated motivations and thoughts to come up with your own performance. Explore your own ideas about musical and vocal phrasing to express the character's emotions. In other words, make a song your own, and no one can take it away from you. It's yours for life.

Original keys are used exclusively in this edition. Sometimes these reflect the composer's musical/vocal concept, and sometimes they are merely the keys best suited to the original performers. Still, they give a singer a very good idea of the desired vocal timbre for a song as presented in its authentic theatre context. There are general vocal guidelines for voice types in theatre music, but these are not in stone. A soprano with a good belt will be able to sing songs from the soprano volumes as well as the mezzo-soprano/belter volumes. Belters may decide to work on their "head voice" in soprano songs. Men who have voices that lie between tenor and baritone, commonly called "baritenors" (a common range in contemporary musical theatre), may find songs in both the tenor and baritone/bass volumes.

In my foreword for Volume 3 of *The Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology*, written in 2000, I stated that the movie musical was dead. What a difference five years makes! The genre appears to be gaining a little steam at this writing, evidence of the continued relevance of musical theatre to a wider audience.

The books comprising Volume 4 of this series would not have been possible without the enthusiastic help of Brian Dean as assistant editor, and I thank him heartily.

All the selections from all volumes of this series, including duets, total nearly 700 songs. A marathon performance of all the songs in all volumes of *The Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology* would take more than 40 hours. What fun that would be!

Richard Walters, December, 2005

THE SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY

Mezzo-Soprano/Belter Volume 4

Contents

AIDA

12 The Past Is Another Land

16 I Know the Truth

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

22 I Got Lost in His Arms

ASPECTS OF LOVE

30 Anything But Lonely

AVENUE Q

25 There's a Fine, Fine Line

THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

50 Our Kind of Love

BELLS ARE RINGING

34 I'm Going Back

THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS

42 Hard Candy Christmas

THE BOY FROM OZ

46 Don't Cry Out Loud

CHESS

64 Heaven Help My Heart

CHICAGO

55 Nowadays

58 Roxie

A CHORUS LINE

70 The Music and the Mirror

ELEGIES FOR ANGELS, PUNKS, AND RAGING OUEENS

78 Angels, Punks, and Raging Queens

FOLLIES

84 I'm Still Here

THE FULL MONTY

98 Life with Harold

GRAND HOTEL

105 I Want to Go to Hollywood

GREASE

114 There Are Worse Things I Could Do

HAIRSPRAY

118 I Can Hear the Bells

127 Miss Baltimore Crabs

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE

138 I Will Be Loved Tonight

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

132 I Don't Know How to Love Him

THE LAST FIVE YEARS

143 Still Hurting

150 See I'm Smiling

THE LION KING

160 Shadowland

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT

167 Whatever Happened to My Part?

THE PRODUCERS

172 When You Got It, Flaunt It

SONGS FOR NEW WORLD

179 Just One Step

A STAR IS BORN

192 The Man that Got Away

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

198 Gimme Gimme

WICKED

205 Popular

214 I'm Not that Girl

219 The Wizard and I

THE WILD PARTY

230 Look at Me Now

237 How Did We Come to This?

WISH YOU WERE HERE

248 Shopping Around

WONDERFUL TOWN

242 One Hundred Easy Ways

ABOUT THE SHOWS

The material in this section is by Stanley Green, Richard Walters, Brian Dean, and Robert Viagas, some of which was previously published elsewhere

AIDA

MUSIC: Elton John LYRICS: Tim Rice

BOOK: Linda Woolverton, Robert Falls and David Henry Hwang

DIRECTOR: Robert Falls

CHOREOGRAPHER: Wayne Cilento

OPENED: 3/23/00, New York; a run of 1,852 performances

Aida is based on the story of the 1871 opera by Giuseppe Verdi (libretto by Antonio Ghislanzoni) about an Ethiopian princess (Aida) who is captured during wartime by the enemy Egyptians. Radames, an Egyptian general, and Aida fall in love ("The Past is Another Land"). Aida is scorned by the daughter of the Egyptian King, Amneris, who is also in love with Radames. Much later, Radames plans to call off his wedding to Amneris to be with Aida, but Aida convinces him to keep up appearances so she can flee from captivity with her father. Amneris overhears their exchange, and realizes that their marriage is a sham ("I Know the Truth"). At their parting, Radames and Aida wonder if their love was doomed at the outset. The story ends tragically with the death of the two lovers.

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Irving Berlin BOOK: Herbert Fields and Dorothy Fields

DIRECTOR: Joshua Logan

CHOREOGRAPHER: Helen Tamiris

OPENED: 5/16/46, New York; a run of 1,147 performances

Irving Berlin's musical biography of scrappy gal sharpshooter Annie Oakley earned standing ovations for Broadway stars of two generations: the original, Ethel Merman, in the 1940s and Bernadette Peters in the 1990s. The tune-packed musical traces Annie's rise from illiterate hillbilly to international marksmanship star as she is discovered and developed in the traveling "Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show." Annie falls hard for the show's chauvinistic male star, Frank Butler, and romance blossoms, right up until she begins to outshine Frank "I Got Lost in His Arms" sees Annie dreaming of her future with Frank. In the end, after quarrelling, the two fall into each other's arms in marriage. The movie version was originally to have starred Judy Garland, but after she was fired from the set. Betty Hutton played the role opposite Howard Keel in the 1950 release. The major Broadway revival starring Peters opened in 1999; Reba McEntire also enjoyed special acclaim as Annie in that production

ASPECTS OF LOVE

MUSIC: Andrew Lloyd Webber LYRICS: Don Black and Charles Hart BOOK: Andrew Lloyd Webber DIRECTOR: Trevor Nunn

CHOREOGRAPHER: Gillian Lynne

OPENED: 4/8/90. New York; a run of 377 performances

Aspects of Love is based on an autobiographical novel by David Garnett, a nephew of Virginia Woolf The show had an intimate production style, with orchestrations that threw out the brass in favor of a chamber music sound. It follows a group of characters over nearly two decades of interweaving relationships. The story begins with a 17-year-old boy, Alex, who is infatuated with an actress, Rose, in her mid-20s. The actress eventually has a love affair with Alex's uncle, and they marry. Along the way almost everyone winds up in love with, or broken-hearted by, all the others. The plot is emotionally complex, as are the characters and their relationships. Rose begs Alex to stay with her in "Anything But Lonely," but as she left him years before, so too will Alex turn her down

AVENUE Q

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx

BOOK: Jeff Whitty DIRECTOR: Jason Moore

CHOREOGRAPHER: Ken Roberson

OPENED: 7/31/03, New York; still running as of January 2009

Avenue Q is an ironic homage to Sesame Street, though the puppet characters are much more adult, dealing with topics such as loud lovemaking, closeted homosexuality, and internet porn addiction. The puppeteers are onstage, acting and singing for their characters, but there are also humans in the production. The story deals with a young college graduate. Princeton, who learns how to live life and find love in New York. Along the way we meet the many tenants in his apartment building on Avenue Q. Princeton and his love interest Kate Monster hit some rocky times, and as they

THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

MUSIC: Andrew Lloyd Webber LYRICS AND BOOK: Ben Elton DIRECTOR: Robert Carsen

CHOREOGRAPHER: Meryl Tankard OPENED: 9/26,00, London, closed 9/1/01

The "beautiful game" of the title is football (soccer) ("The Beautiful Game" is a common phrase used to describe soccer in the world outside the U S) Lloyd Webber and playwright Ben Elton's original story is a tale of teenagers coming of age in Belfast, Ireland, from 1969-1972, a battleground between warring factions of Catholics and Protestants. The teenagers are caught up in that atmosphere, at first competitively on the football field, but eventually their clashes occur on the street as they transition from sweet youths to angry adults, carried away in Nationalistic fever, capable of murder. Star-crossed lovers, Del, a Protestant, and Christine, a Catholic, eventually escape to New York to have a life together. Christine explains her relationship with Del to one of her Catholic friends in "Our Kind of Love," an anthem of love knowing no houndaries.

BELLS ARE RINGING

MUSIC: Jule Styne

BOOK AND LYRICS: Betty Comden and Adolph Green

DIRECTOR: Jerome Robbins

CHOREOGRAPHERS: Jerome Robbins and Bob Fosse OPENED: 11/29/56, New York; a run of 924 performances

Since appearing together in a nightclub revue, Comden and Green had wanted to write a musical for their friend, Judy Holliday The idea they eventually hit upon was to cast Miss Holliday as a meddlesome operator at the Susanswerphone telephone answering service (a now out-of-date type of business later replaced by answering machines, voice mail and cell phones) who gets involved with her clients' lives She is in fact so helpful to one, a playwright in need of inspiration, that they meet, fall in love (though through it all she conceals her occupation), dance and sing in the subway, and entertain fellow New Yorkers in Central Park. At last she confesses that she's the operator, and after some adjustment they happily couple up. Right before the happy conclusion, a dejected Ella exclaims "I'm Going Back," leaving Susanswerphone and her problems, and returning to her former job at the switchboard of the Bonjour Tristesse Brassiere Company in upstate New York. A film version, directed by Vincent Minelli, was made in 1960 that is virtually the stage show on film, with Dean Martin opposite Miss Holliday

THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Carol Hall BOOK: Larry King and Peter Masterson DIRECTOR: Peter Masterson and Tommy Tune

CHOREOGRAPHER: Tommy Tune

OPENED: 6/19/78, New York; a run of 1,584 performances

The Chicken Ranch, a bordello in rural Texas, was a well attended institution for years. A friendly place, it derived its name from the fact that in the Depression clients were able to pay for their visits with poultry. This musical, based on the true story of the crusade by a conservative radio personality to shut down the Chicken Ranch, was brought to Broadway due to the efforts of Texans Carol Hall. Peter Masterson, Tommy Tune and Larry King—yes, that Larry King Masterson was prompted to write the show after reading an article by King about the Chicken Ranch in a 1974 issue of *Playboy*. A surprisingly sweet and funny show. The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas immortalized the debate over the house, the rabid vigilante actions of the radio commentator Melvin P. Thorpe, and the two-faced politicians who publicly decried the institution, while privately being clients for many years. A sequel, The Best Little Whorehouse Goes Public, flopped on Broadway in 1994. A successful film was released in 1982, starring Dolly Parton and Burt Reynolds. Eventually evicted from the Chicken Ranch, the girls sing with worry and hope of their futures in "Hard Candy Christmas"

THE BOY FROM OZ

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Peter Allen

BOOK: Martin Sherman

DIRECTOR: Phillip William McKinley **CHOREOGRAPHER:** Joey McKneely

OPENED: 3/5/98, Sidney

10/16/03. New York; a run of 364 performances

Australian-born Peter Allen was a quintessential 1970s performer, a rag to riches, Australian bush country to Radio City Music Hall story. This musical biography uses the songs that Allen wrote throughout his life, many of which were already autobiographical, to weave together the story of this flamboyant performer from meager beginnings, to marriage with Liza Minelli, to his own death of AIDS "Don't Cry Out Loud" appears late in the show, sung by Peter's mother Marion. This ballad shows Peter's compulsion to hide his feelings deep within himself, while putting forward a flashy, untouchable personality outside. Drawing on the success of the Sydney production, *The Boy from Oz* came to Broadway in 2003 as a star vehicle for another Aussie, movie star Hugh Jackman.

CHESS

MUSIC: Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus

LYRICS: Tim Rice

BOOK: Richard Nelson, based on an idea by Tim Rice

DIRECTOR: Trevor Nunn

CHOREOGRAPHER: Lynne Taylor-Corbett OPENED: 5/14/86. London, closed 4/4/89

4/28/88, New York; a run of 68 performances

There have been musicals about the cold war (Leave it to Mel, Silk Stockings), but Chess was the first to treat the conflict seriously, using an international chess match as a metaphor. The idea originated with Tim Rice, who first tried to interest his former partner, Andrew Lloyd Webber, in the project. When that failed, he approached Andersson and Ulvaeus, writers and singers with the Swedish pop group ABBA. Like Jesus Christ Superstar and Evita, Chess originated as a successful concept album before it became a stage musical. The London production was a high-tech spectacle, rock opera type presentation. The libretto was revised for New York, and a different production approach was tried. It is ironic that the musical opened on Broadway at the tail end of the Cold War era, which may have made the subject matter seem less than current. The story is a romantic triangle with a Bobby Fischer type American chess champion, a Russian opponent who defects to the West, and the Hungarian born American, Florence, who transfers her affections from the American to the Russian without bringing happiness to anyone. Realizing early on the futility of her love for the Russian, Florence sings of her predicament in the ballad "Heaven Help My Heart"

CHICAGO

MUSIC: John Kander LYRICS: Fred Ebb

BOOK: Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse

DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHY: Bob Fosse **OPENED:** 6/3/75, New York; a run of 936 performances

Based on Maureen Dallas Watkins' 1926 play *Roxie Hart*. this tough, flint-hearted musical tells the story of Roxie (Gwen Verdon), a married chorus girl who kills her faithless lover in gangster-ridden Chicago of the 1920s. She manages to win release from prison through the histrionic efforts of razzle-dazzle lawyer Billy Flynn (Jerry Orbach), and ends up as a vaudeville headliner with another "scintillating sinner." Velma Kelly (Chita Rivera), performing "Nowadays" every night. This scathing indictment of the American legal system, political system, media and morals may have been ahead of its time in its original 1975 production. It came roaring back for a spare and stylish smash 1996 revival Broadway revival, one of the longest running productions in Broadway history. A more lavish movie treatment, directed by Broadway choreographer Rob Marshall, was released in 2002, starring Renée Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Richard Gere in the lead roles. Against all odds for a new movie musical, it was a critical and popular hit. As soon as slick Billy Flynn agrees to take Roxie's case, her name is plastered all over the papers, and she is the talk of the town. This pleases her greatly, and fuels her self-delusion, as she sings in "Roxie"

A CHORUS LINE

MUSIC: Marvin Hamlisch LYRICS: Edward Kleban

BOOK: James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante

DIRECTOR: Michael Bennett

CHOREOGRAPHER: Michael Bennett and Bob Avian OPENED: 7/25/75. New York; a run of 6.137 performances

Until overtaken by Cats, this musical stood for years as the longest-running show in Broadway history. It also won numerous Tony Awards, including Best Musical, plus the Pulitzer Prize for drama. The story is simple: seventeen dancers reveal their life stories as they audition for eight chorus parts in an unnamed Broadway musical. The show concentrates on the joys and troubles of their childhood and teen years. Cassie is singled out early by name, and we learn that she has already had success as a leading lady, when she was involved with producer Zach years before. Their love and her opportunities faded, and now she needs to start over again, even in the chorus, just for the chance to dance ("The Music and the Mirror")

ELEGIES FOR ANGELS, PUNKS AND RAGING QUEENS

MUSIC: Janet Hood

LYRICS AND BOOK: Bill Russell

DIRECTION AND STAGING: Bill Russell **OPENED:** first performance 5/89, New York

Composer/lyricist Bill Russell was extremely moved when the Names Project Quilt was unveiled in Washington, DC in 1987, memorializing those dead from AIDS. A fan of the Edgar Lee Masters' collection of poems, *Spoon River Anthology*, where members in a cemetery recite their own epitaphs, Russell set out to create his own show, told in the words and stories of AIDS patients, which celebrates life and love, struggle and hope. The show, often given in conjunction with AIDS awareness and fundraising, has been performed in several countries, including the U.K., Germany, Sweden, Israel and Australia. A recording was made of the all-star performance given in New York in April, 2001, to benefit the Momentum AIDS Project. Some of the songs have a gospel feel to them, including the number "Angels, Punks and Raging Queens"

FOLLIES

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Stephen Sondheim

BOOK: James Goldman

DIRECTION: Harold Prince and Michael Bennett CHOREOGRAPHER: Michael Bennett

OPENED: 4/4/71, New York; a run of 522 performances

Follies takes place at a reunion of former Ziegfeld Follies-type showgirls on the night before the destruction of the theatre where they all once played The musical deals with the reality of life as contrasted with the unreality of the theatre and the past. Follies explores this theme through the lives of two couples, the upper-class, unhappy, Phyllis and Benjamin Stone, and the middle-class, also unhappy, Sally and Buddy Plummer. The show also shows us these four as they were in their pre-marital youth. The young actors appear as ghosts to haunt their elder selves. Because the show is about the past, and often in cinematically inspired flashback, Sondheim styled his songs to evoke some of the theatre's great composers and lyricists of the past. In a show of often melancholy recollections, former chorus girl and showbiz veteran Carlotta Campion is happy to have survived the good and burn times, singing "I'm Still Here." Since the show is set in 1971, Carlotta's survivor list includes many specific references to the 1920s through the 1950s

THE FULL MONTY

MUSIC AND LYRICS: David Yazbek

BOOK: Terrence McNally
DIRECTOR: Jack O'Brien

CHOREOGRAPHER: Jerry Mitchell

OPENED: 10/26/00, New York; a run of 770 performances

Based on the successful British movie of the same name. The Full Monty was David Yazbek's first foray into Broadway. The scene for the stage musical is changed to Buffalo. New York. The men in the story are unemployed factory workers Determined to support themselves and their families, the decidedly average group form a Chippendale's type strip act, baring everything (as the British phrase "the full monty" implies) for entertainment and cash. Each of the guys has a personal obstacle to overcome, and the act of stripping publicly becomes a symbol of freedom and pride, rather than the embarrassment it once seemed. Harold, a former factory manager, has not been able to admit to his wife Vicki that he has lost his job. They continue to keep up appearances, attending a dance-class regularly. In "Life with Harold" she mambos to the many ways she loves her doting husband.

GRAND HOTEL

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Maury Yeston; and Robert Wright and George Forrest

BOOK: Luther Davis

DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER: Tommy Tune **OPENED:** 11/12/89, New York; a run of 1.018 performances

Based on a novel by Vicki Baum, *Grand Hotel* interweaves the staff and guests at a posh Berlin hotel of ϵ 1930, just as the star-studded film of 1932 mixed the stories of Greta Garbo. Lionel Barrymore, Joan Crawford and a host of others. On Broadway, the stories included the penniless Baron's plans to steal the aging ballerina's jewels (he instead falls in love with her), the businessman who wrestles with his conscience, an aspiring actress who reluctantly peddles her flesh and the accountant with a zeal for living in the face of a fatal disease. The sub-plots intermingled and intersected predominantly through dance in the Tommy Tune production. Aspiring actress, but current typist. Flaemmehen confides to the girl in the mirror "I Want to Go to Hollywood"

GREASE

MUSIC, LYRICS AND BOOK: Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

DIRECTOR: Tom Moore

CHOREOGRAPHER: Patricia Birch

OPENED: 2/14/72, New York; a run of 3,388 performances

A surprise runaway hit reflecting the nostalgia fashion of the 1970s, *Grease* is the story of hip greaser Danny Zuko and his wholesome girl Sandy Dumbrowski, a loose plot that serves as an excuse for a light-hearted ride through the early rock and roll of the 1950s. The 1978 movie version, starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, is one of the top grossing movie musicals of all time. A hit revival opened in 1994, with a revolving Rizzo, played by Rosie O'Donnell. Brook Shields, Lucy Lawless and Debbie Gibson, among others. Tough girl Rizzo fears she might be pregnant. When consoled by chaste Sandy, Rizzo angrily lashes out at her, saying. "There Are Worse Things I Can Do."

HAIRSPRAY

MUSIC: Marc Shaiman

LYRICS: Scott Wittman and Marc Shaiman BOOK: Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan

DIRECTOR: Jack O'Brien

CHOREOGRAPHER: Jerry Mitchell

OPENED: 8/15/02, New York; a run of 2,642 performances

Film composer Marc Shaiman helped turn John Waters' campy 1988 movie *Hairspray* into perfect fodder for a new Broadway musical—teenage angst, racial integration, a lot of dancing and a whole lot of hair. Plump heroine Tracy Turnblad dreams of dancing on the Corny Collins TV show, but is upstaged by the prettier, but less talented, current "It-girl" Amber Von Tussle. Tracy envisions good things for herself, as she knows she can take down Amber in "I Can Hear the Bells" Amber has the support of her overbearing mother, Velma, who is also the producer for Corny Collins. Velma, a former child star, waxes poetic on her fame, and rages that Tracy will never reach the heights Velma did when she was "Miss Baltimore Crabs" Tracy eventually dances her way onto the show and gains acceptance for all teens of every size, shape and color.

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE

MUSIC: Jimmy Roberts

LYRICS AND BOOK: Joe DiPietro

DIRECTOR: Joel Bishoff

OPENED: 8/1/95. New York; a run of 5,003 performances

This sleeper hit Off-Broadway revue addresses the whole messy process of being single, dating, finding romance, picking a mate, marrying, having children, having affairs, trying to rekindle the spark in marriage, etc. Though simple in its conception, the show found its niche as a good "date" musical, sailing past 3,000 performances in 2005, and seeing productions in cities around the world. A woman prepares for a date in "I Will Be Loved Tonight."

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

MUSIC: Andrew Lloyd Webber

LYRICS: Tim Rice

DIRECTOR: Tom O'Horgan

OPENED: 10/21/71. New York; a run of 711 performances

Through conceived as a theatre piece about the final week in the life of Jesus, the young team of Lloyd Webber and Rice could not find a producer interested in a "rock opera." Instead, they recorded it as an album, which became a smash hit Concert tours of the show followed. It didn't take any more convincing that this would fly in the theatre. The concept of a "rock opera" caused quite a stir at the time. "I Don't Know How to Love Him" is Mary Magdalene's big ballad. In it she wrestles with how to deal with the emotions she feels for Jesus, and her own suddenly changed feelings about herself.

THE LAST FIVE YEARS

MUSIC: Jason Robert Brown

LYRICS AND BOOK: Jason Robert Brown

DIRECTOR: Daisy Prince **OPENED:** 3/3/02. New York

The Off-Broadway musical *The Last Five Years* paired writer Jason Robert Brown and director Daisy Prince together again after their collaboration on the revue *Songs for a New World* This two-person show chronicles the beginning, middle and deterioration of a relationship between a successful writer and a struggling actress. The show's form is unique. Cathy starts at the end of the relationship, and tells her story backwards, while Jamie starts at the beginning. The only point of intersection is the middle at their engagement. In "See I'm Smiling," Cathy senses the marriage is crumbling and tries to reconcile with Jamie one more time, but conversation dissolves into argument once again. The relationship has taken its toll on Cathy; she is "Still Hurting" after the break-up (the show's opening song), wondering about the love and the lies that Jamie gave her. The two original actors Off-Broadway were Norbert Leo Butz and Sherie René Scott.

THE LION KING

MUSIC: Elton John LYRICS: Tim Rice

BOOK: Roger Allers and Irene Mecchi

DIRECTOR: Julie Taymor CHOREOGRAPHER: Garth Fagan

OPENED, 1102/07 New Years and access on

OPENED: 11/13/97, New York; still running as of January 2009

A fantastic triumph of art design and choreography, Julie Taymor's adaptation to the stage of the 1994 Disney movie won both critical and popular praise. Lavish sets and costumes, including actors on stilts, set this production high above other movie-to-stage adaptations. The Broadway score incorporates all the music from the original movie, along with new material. Mufasa, king of the lions, is murdered by his brother Scar. Young Simba is led to believe he killed his father and runs away to exile. As an adult, Simba returns to overthrow the evil Scar and claim his birthright as king. Childhood friend and fellow lion Nala stays, and endures the evil Scar's reign over the pride. She decides she can no longer bear her circumstances, and must pass into the jungle to find a new life in "Shadowland"

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT

MUSIC: John Du Prez and Eric Idle

LYRICS: Eric Idle

BOOK: Eric Idle, "lovingly ripped off" from the motion picture Monty Python and the Holy Grail

DIRECTOR: Mike Nichols

CHOREOGRAPHER: Casey Nicholaw

OPENED: 3/17/05. New York, a run of 1,575 performances

Eric Idle, one of the founding members of the British television comedy troupe "Monty Python's Flying Circus," made his Broadway writing debut with Monty Python's Spamalot, billed as "a new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture Monty Python and the Holy Grail" As in the movie, the show involves the wacky adventures of King Arthur and his band of knights in their search for the Holy Grail, shrubbery, and in the musical, success on the Great White Way The lavish Spamalot was directed by luminary Broadway and movie director Mike Nichols The original cast starred Tim Curry, Hank Azaria, and David Hyde Pierce True to characteristic Python irreverence and silliness. Spamalot lambasts the musical genre at every step, one such example being "Whatever Happened to My Part?" where the Lady of the Lake wonders why she is underused in the second act

THE PRODUCERS

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Mel Brooks BOOK: Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER: Susan Stroman **OPENED:** 4/19/01, New York; a run of 2,502 performances

Mel Brooks swept critics and audiences off their feet in New York with this show, adapted from his 1968 movie *The Producers*. A couple songs from the movie were incorporated into the otherwise new stage score. The story concerns washed-up Broadway producer Max Bialystock and his nerdy accountant Leo Bloom, who has dreams of being a producer himself. During an audit of Max's books, Leo offhandedly remarks that one could make more money producing a flop than a hit. The two eventually produce the show "Springtime for Hitler," which seems on paper like it will be the biggest flop ever. It's a surprise hit and Bialystock and Bloom are in trouble. All ends well, after a brief prison detour. Svelte, sexy Swede Ulla comes to the offices of Bialystock and Bloom to audition (she is hired as secretary), her only talent being "When You Got It. Flaunt It." The original cast included Broadway stars Nathan Lane (Max) and Matthew Broderick (Leo). The director and most of the lead actors from Broadway were in the 2005 movie musical.

SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Jason Robert Brown

DIRECTOR: Daisy Prince

CHOREOGRAPHER: Michael Arnold

OPENED: 10/26/95. New York; a run of 27 performances

In 1994, Daisy Prince, daughter of Broadway legend Harold Prince, went to hear a 24-year-old Greenwich Village coffeehouse pianist named Jason Robert Brown play some of his original compositions. A collaboration and a friendship were born when she heard he was working on a concert evening of songs that played like offbeat short stories. Titled Songs for a New World, the piece was developed at a summer festival in Toronto Musically distinctive and precocious, the songs look at contemporary life from unusual angles. In the plotless, Off-Broadway revue, a shrill wife at the end of her rope, unloved and cheated on, threatens her husband from a high ledge. She'll end it all with "Just One Step"—just you watch!

A STAR IS BORN (film)

MUSIC: Harold Arlen LYRICS: Ira Gershwin

SCREENPLAY: William Wellman, Dorothy Parker, Alan Cambell, Moss Hart

DIRECTOR: George Cukor

CHOREOGRAPHER: Richard Barstow RELEASED: 1954, Warner Bros.

This movie musical about the rise and fall in show business chronicles the alcoholic, waning star Norman Maine (James Mason) and his new romance, the ascending showgirl Esther Blodgett (Judy Garland). Esther's career as a musical movie star wins her an Oscar, while Norman hits the skids. Though they love one another, his self-destruction takes over and he drowns himself. Judy Garland belts out many show stoppers in her big comeback movie, a few years after being fired from MGM. Early in the story, she sings "The Man that Got Away" in an after-hours rehearsal in a nightclub, overheard by movie star Norman. The Gershwin/Arlen torch song became a signature Garland number. Two other movies have been made using the same storyline but different music; a 1937 version, and the 1976 star vehicle for Barbra Streisand.

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

MUSIC: Jeanine Tesori LYRICS: Dick Scanlan

BOOK: Dick Scanlan and Richard Morris

DIRECTOR: Michael Mayer CHOREOGRAPHER: Rob Ashford

OPENED: 4/18/02. New York; a run of 903 performances

Based on the 1967 movie starring Julie Andrews, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a new musical, retaining only three of the songs from the movie (including the title song), with a score by Jeanine Tesori It chronicles the life of Millie, a transplanted Kansas girl trying to make it big in New York in the flapper days of the 1920s She stays at the Hotel Priscilla, along with other young starlets, which is run by the sinister Mrs Meers, who actually is running a white slave trade on the side. The madcap plot has many twists and turns, and shows a cheery slice of life in New York during the Jazz age. Millie decides in the end that it is only love she is interested in She belts this sentiment high and loud in "Gimme Gimme."

WICKED

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Stephen Schwartz

BOOK: Winnie Holzman, based on the novel "Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West"

by Gregory Maguire DIRECTOR: Joe Mantello

CHOREOGRAPHER: Wayne Cilento

OPENED: 10/30/03. New York; still running as of January 2009

Stephen Schwartz's return to Broadway came with Wicked. a hit from 2003 Based on Gregory Maguire's 1995 book, the musical chronicles the backstory of the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba, and Good Witch of the North, Glinda (Galinda), before their story threads are picked up in L. Frank Baum's The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. At times a dark show, the original production was characterized by lavish sets and a stellar cast. including Kristin Chenoweth, Idina Menzel, Norbert Leo Butz. and Broadway immortal Joel Grey. The two witches first cross paths back in school as unlikely roommates. Elphaba, shy, and green, learns from radiant Galinda just what it takes to be "Popular." Feeling unloved and left out, Elphaba laments her fate in "I'm Not that Girl." Ignored by her own father, Elphaba envisions a strong relationship with the Wizard, and a new exciting life for herself in "The Wizard and I."

THE WILD PARTY

MUSIC, LYRICS AND BOOK: Andrew Lippa

DIRECTOR: Gabriel Barre

CHOREOGRAPHER: Mark Dendry

OPENED: 2/24/00. New York; a run of 54 performances

Two productions of The Wild Party hit New York in 2000. the unsuccessful Broadway show by Michael John LaChiusa, and the Off-Broadway, and now more popular Andrew Lippa musical Both were based on the scandalous 1928 poem by The New Yorker editor Joseph Moncure March This jazz age drama, depicting a night of decadence and debauchery at a party thrown by lusty showgirl Queenie and her abusive lover, vaudeville clown Burrs, was inspiration for Lippa's accomplished score. Kate, a semi-reformed hooker, arrives with her squeeze, Mr Black. She belts of her humble beginnings in "Look at Me Now" After the wanton night of excessive partying and drama, Queenie surveys the scene in "How Did We Come to This?" to end the show

WISH YOU WERE HERE

MUSIC AND LYRICS: Harold Rome BOOK: Arthur Kober and Joshua Logan

DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER: Joshua Logan OPENED: 6/25/52, New York; a run of 598 performances

It was known as the musical with the swimming pool, but Wish You Were Here had other things going for it, including a cast full of ingratiating performers, a warm and witty score by Harold Rome, and a director who wouldn't stop making improvements even after the Broadway opening (among them were new dances choreographed by Jerome Robbins). The musical was adapted by Arthur Kober and Joshua Logan from Kober's own play, Having a Wonderful Time, and is about a group of middle-class New Yorkers trying to make the most of a two-week vacation at an adult summer camp in the mountains (of upstate New York or New England) "Shopping Around" is an outrageous number sung by vampy Fay, who will find what she wants, trying out one man at a time

WONDERFUL TOWN

MUSIC: Leonard Bernstein

LYRICS: Betty Comden and Adolph Green BOOK: Joseph A. Fields and Jerome Chodorov **DIRECTOR:** George Abbott

CHOREOGRAPHER: Donald Saddler

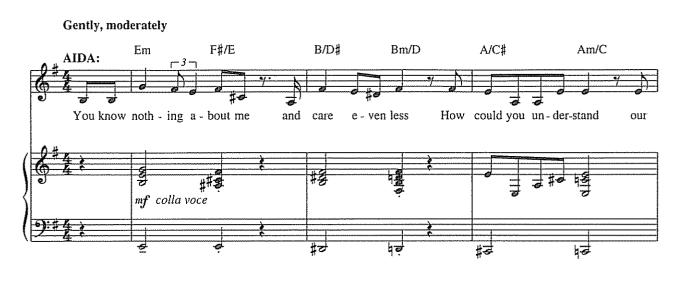
OPENED: 2/25/53, New York; a run of 559 performances

Wonderful Town reunited the creative team that made 1944's On the Town so successful: Bernstein, Comden and Green, and director George Abbott. Set in New York, this show is not a sequel; rather it is based on the hit Broadway play My Sister Eileen, which itself was based on Ruth McKinney's semi-autobiographical New Yorker short stories The musical was conceived as a showcase for Rosiland Russell as Ruth. Ruth and Eileen are two sisters making their way in Greenwich Village, originally from a small town in Ohio. Ruth is a writer, and Eileen is well, pretty. The tomboyish, assertive Ruth describes her failures at dating in "One Hundred Easy Ways to Lose a Man" As Ruth chases the story, Eileen is chased by suitor after suitor. Ruth's editor, Bob Baker, comes over to apologize for being curt with Ruth, and Eileen immediately falls "a little bit in love" with him After a raucous night with seven amorous. Conga-dancing Brazilian naval cadets that lands Eileen in jail, all is well in the end as she realizes that Ruth and Bob love one another, and Eileen finds a singing career A revival came to Broadway in 2002, with Donna Murphy as Ruth.

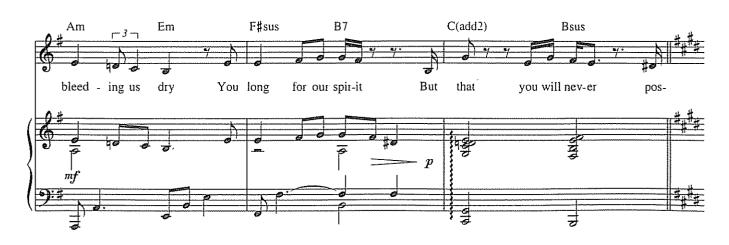
THE PAST IS ANOTHER LAND

from Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida

Music by ELTON JOHN Lyrics by TIM RICE











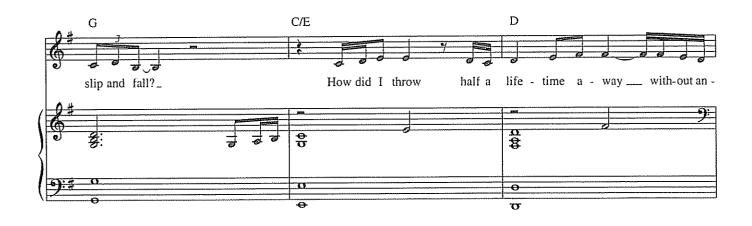


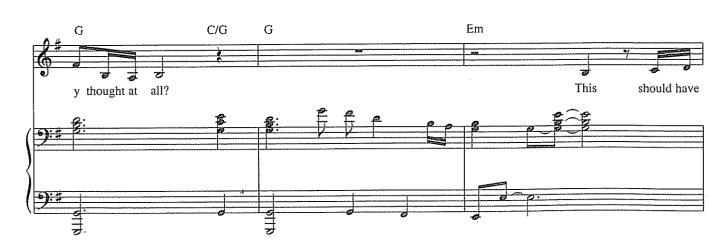
I KNOW THE TRUTH

from Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida

Music by ELTON JOHN Lyrics by TIM RICE













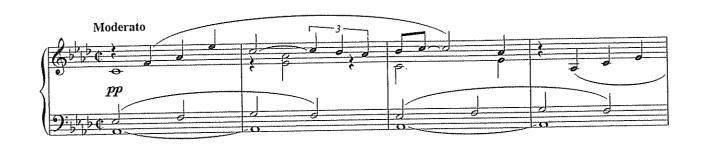


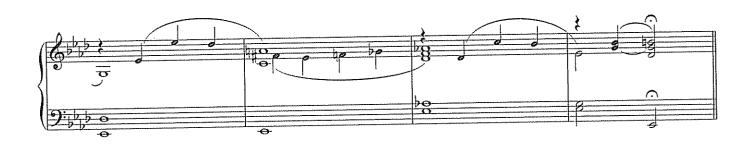


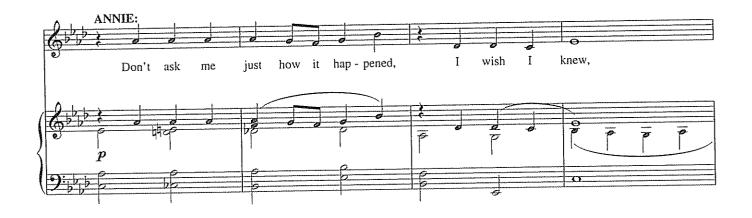
I GOT LOST IN HIS ARMS

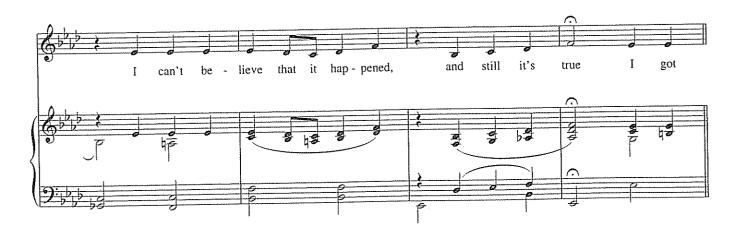
from Annie Get Your Gun

Words and Music by IRVING BERLIN











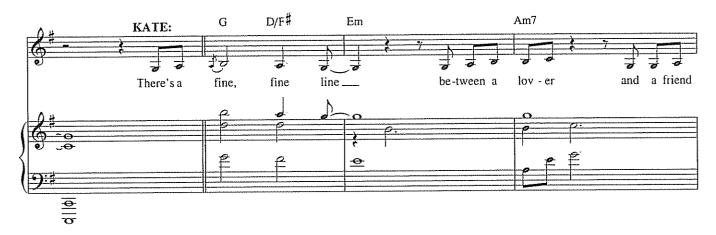


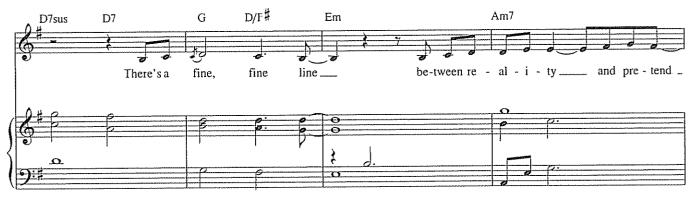
THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE

from the Broadway Musical Avenue Q

Music and Lyrics by ROBERT LOPEZ and JEFF MARX













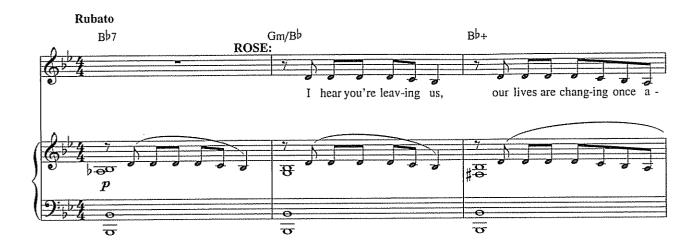


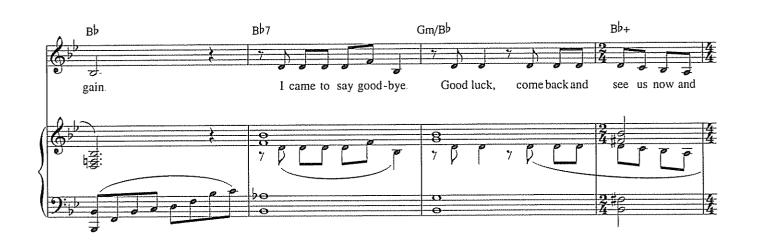


ANYTHING BUT LONELY

from Aspects of Love

Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by DON BLACK and CHARLES HART







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I'M GOING BACK

from Bells Are Ringing

Words by BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN Music by JULE STYNE



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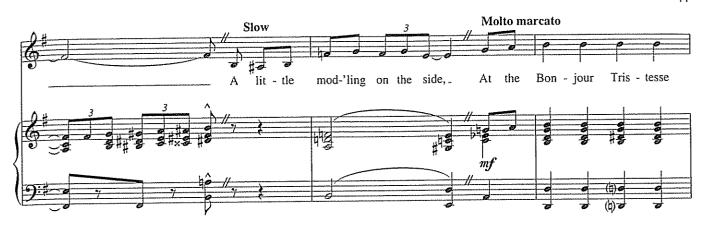












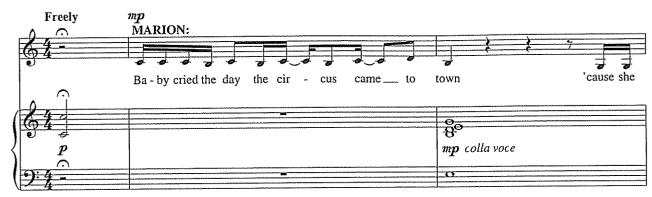


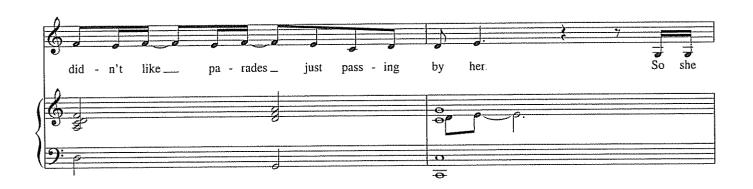


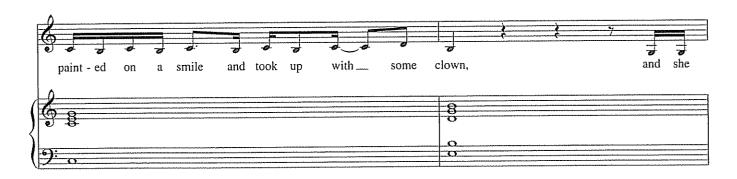


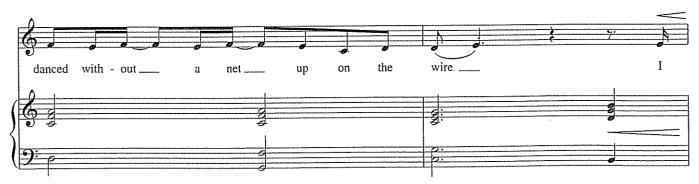
DON'T CRY OUT LOUD (We Don't Cry Out Loud) from The Boy from Oz

Words and Music by PETER ALLEN and CAROLE BAYER SAGER









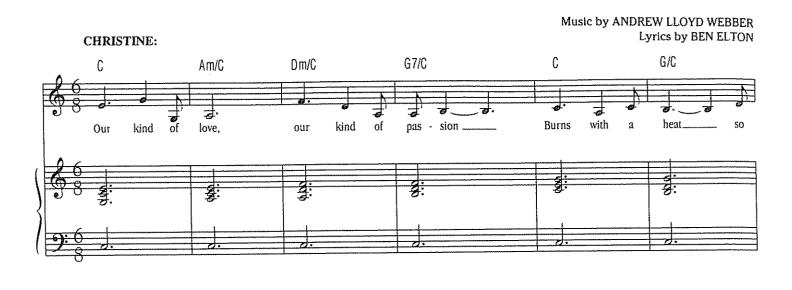


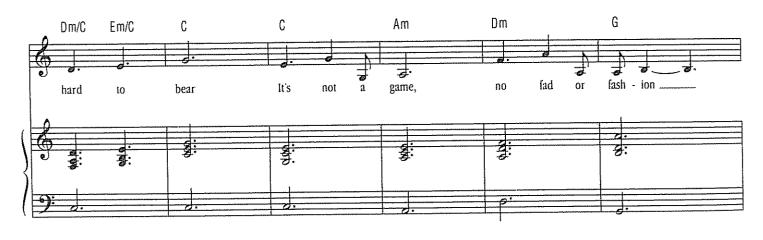


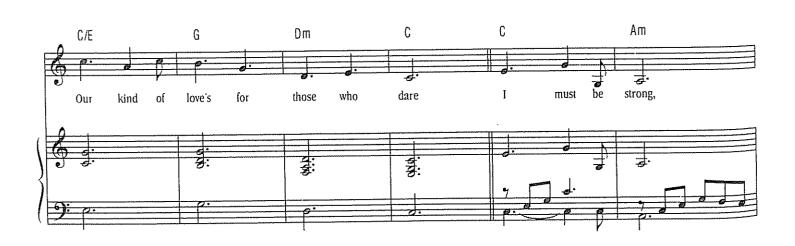


OUR KIND OF LOVE

from The Beautiful Game

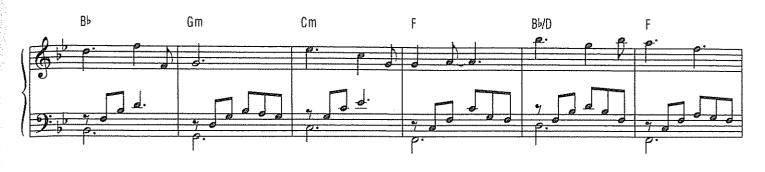


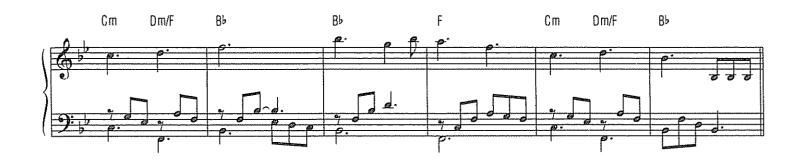


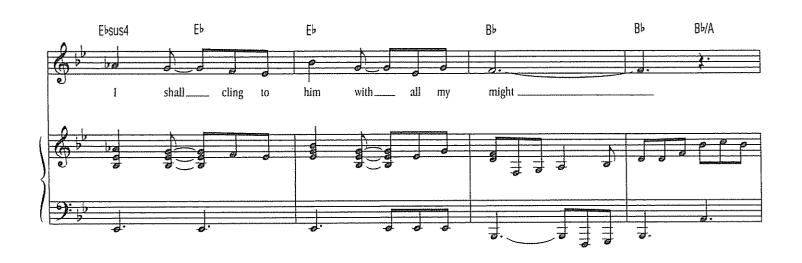


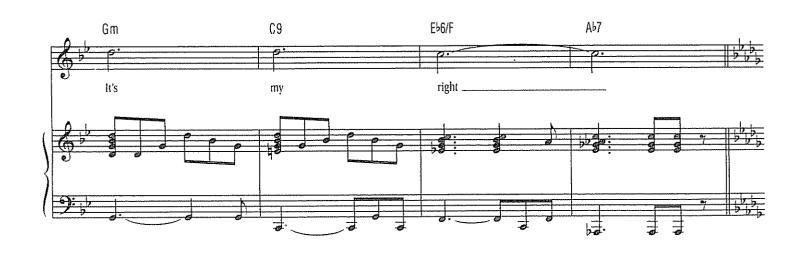












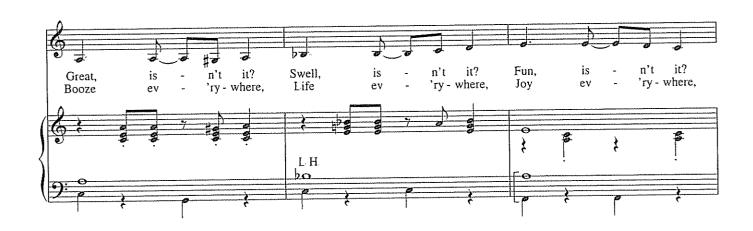


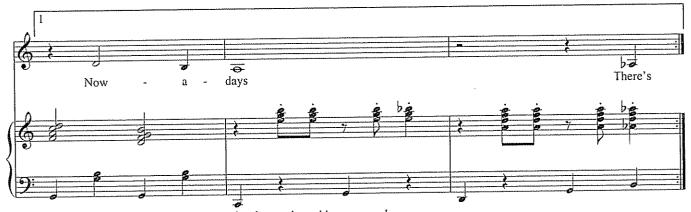
NOWADAYS

from Chicago

Words by FRED EBB Music by JOHN KANDER







This song is a duet for Velma and Roxie in the show, adapted here as a solo





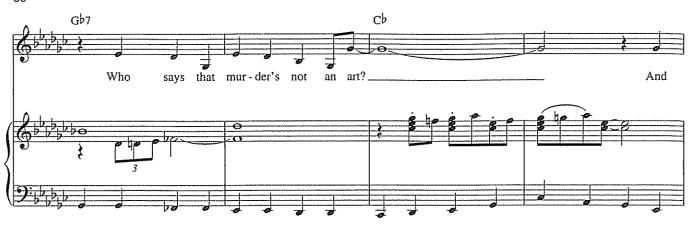
ROXIE from Chicago

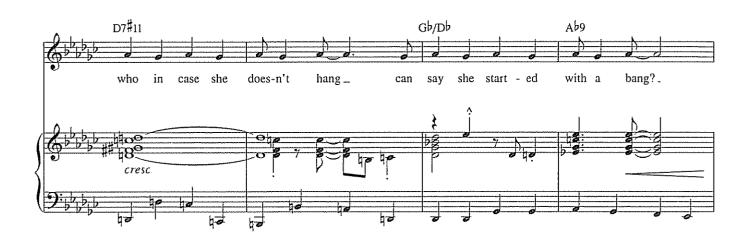
Words by FRED EBB

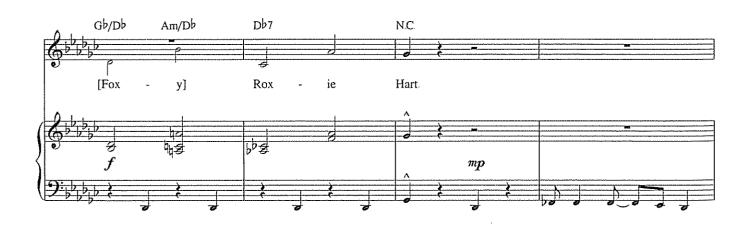
















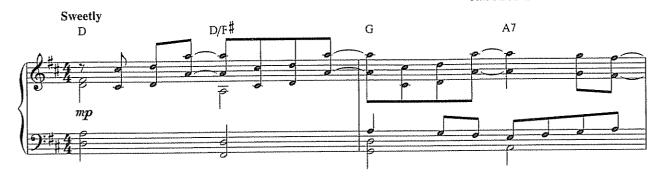


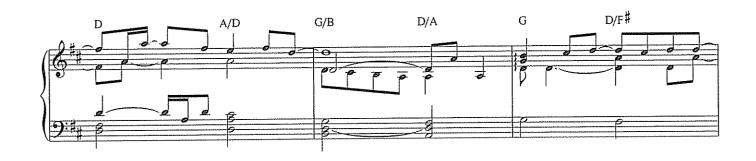


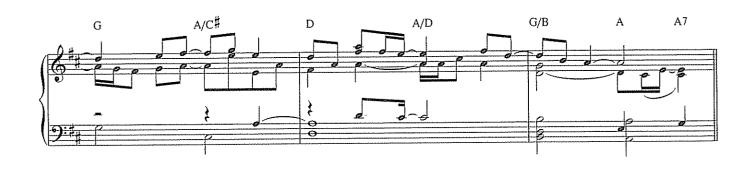
HEAVEN HELP MY HEART

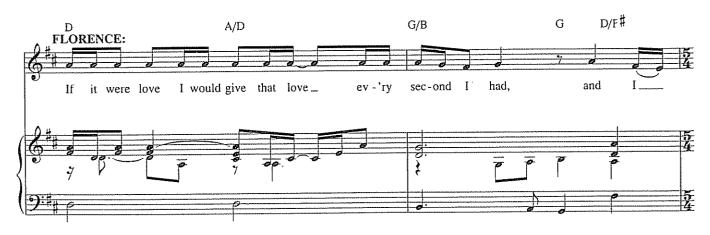
from Chess

Words and Music by BENNY ANDERSSON, TIM RICE and BJORN ULVAEUS





















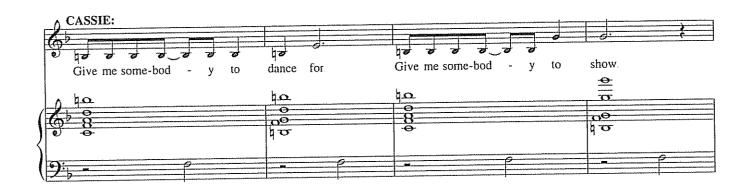


THE MUSIC AND THE MIRROR

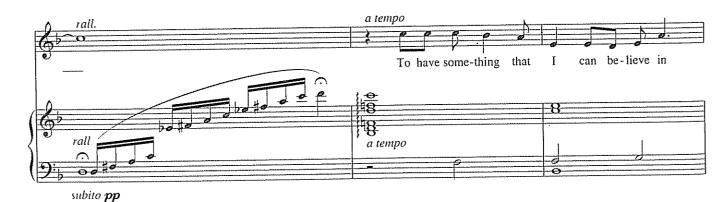
from A Chorus Line

Music by MARVIN HAMLISCH Lyric by EDWARD KLEBAN



















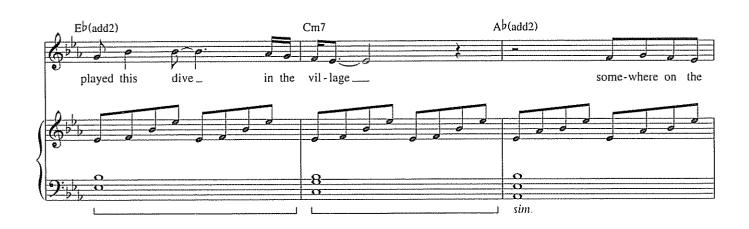


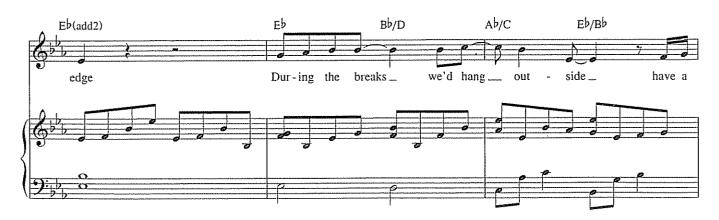


ANGELS, PUNKS AND RAGING QUEENS from Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens

Words by BILL RUSSELL Music by JANET HOOD

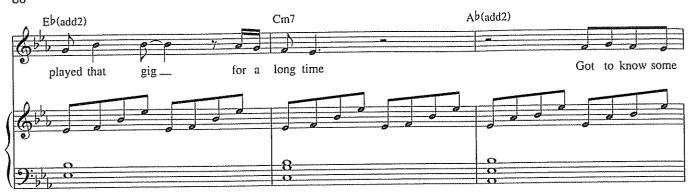


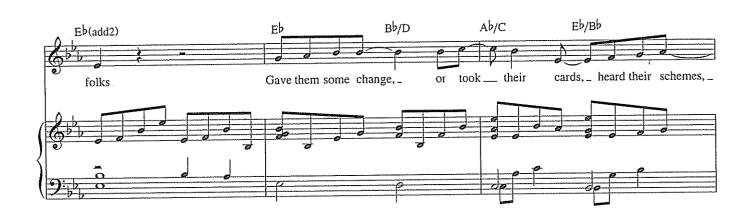


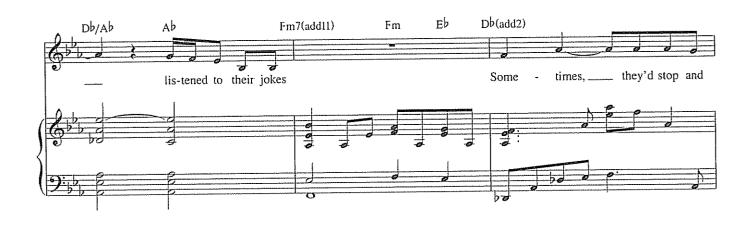


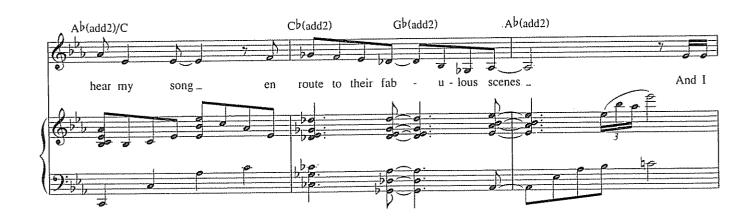














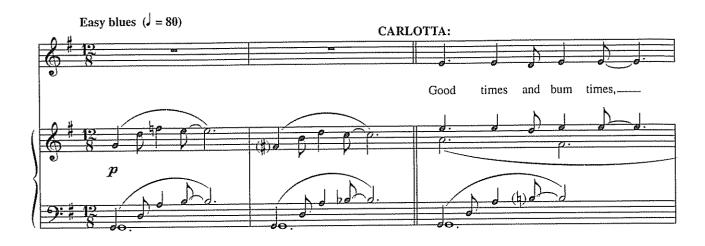


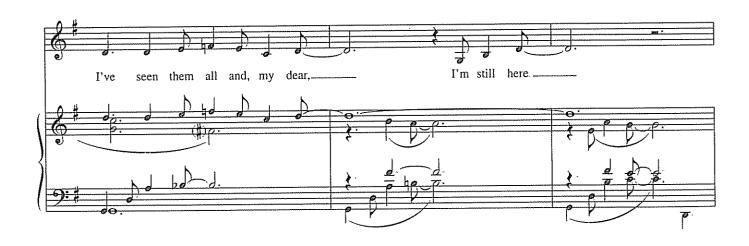


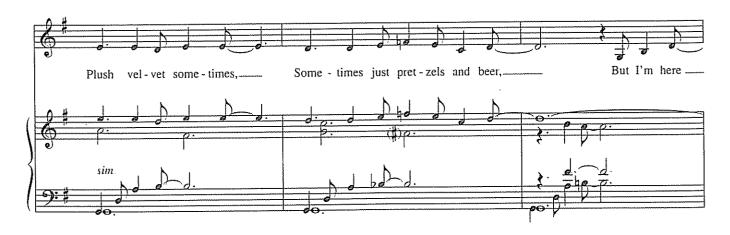
I'M STILL HERE

from Follies

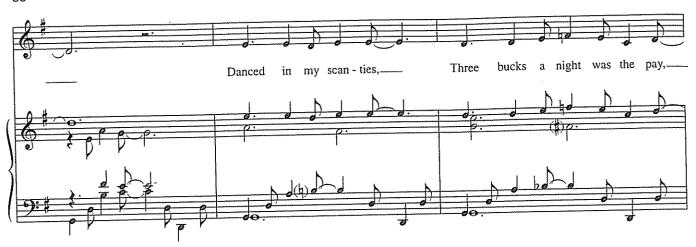
Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM



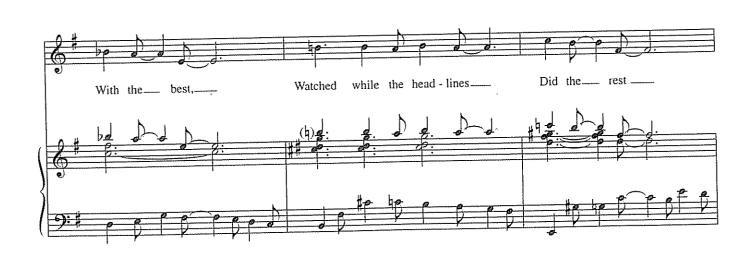


































LIFE WITH HAROLD

from The Full Monty

Words and Music by DAVID YAZBEK

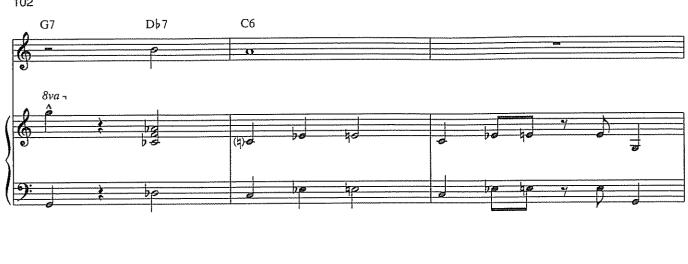


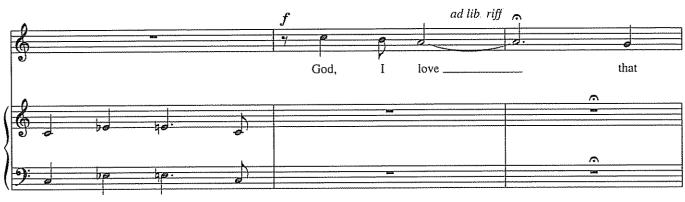


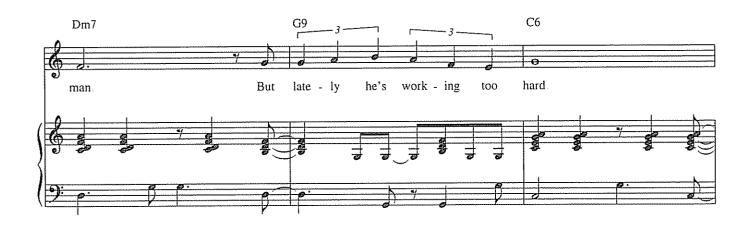


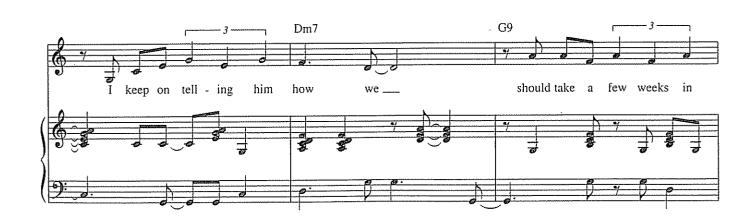
















I WANT TO GO TO HOLLYWOOD

from the Broadway Musical Grand Hotel

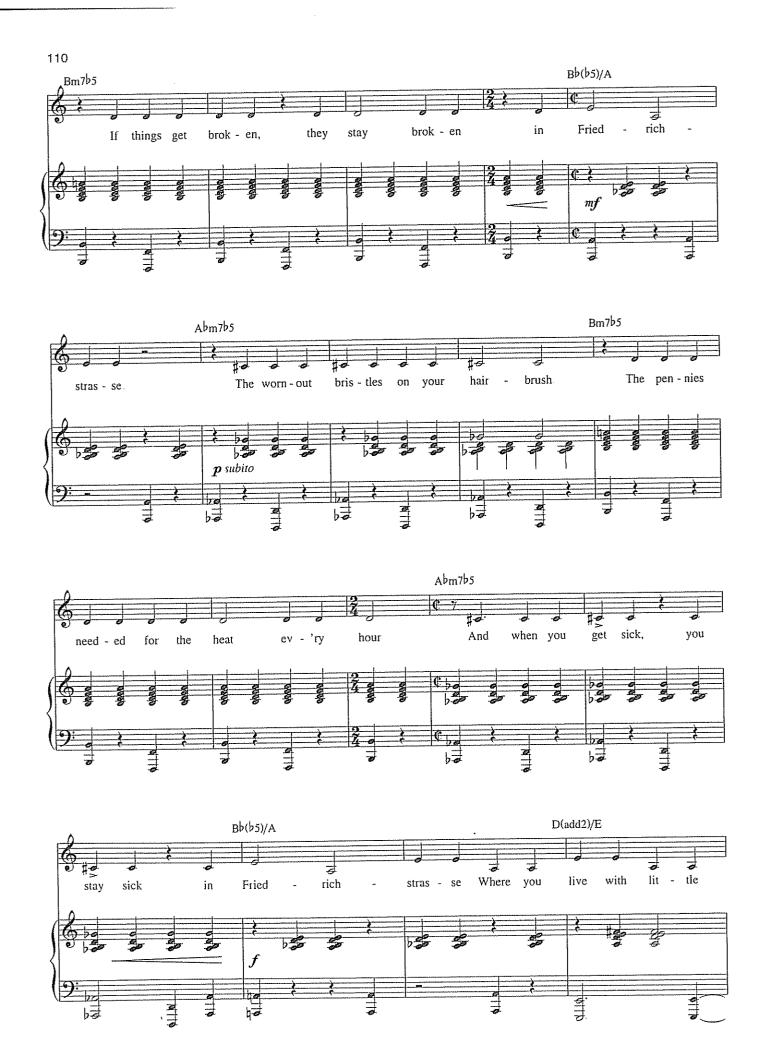


















THERE ARE WORSE THINGS I COULD DO from Grease

Lyric and Music by WARREN CASEY and JIM JACOBS





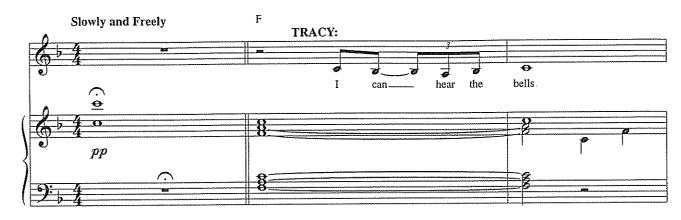


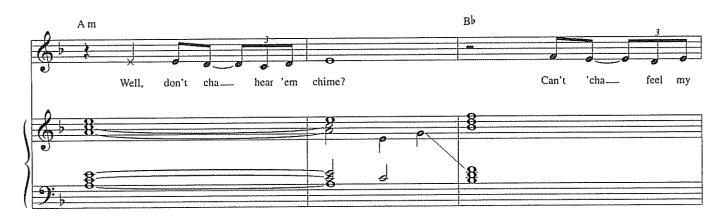


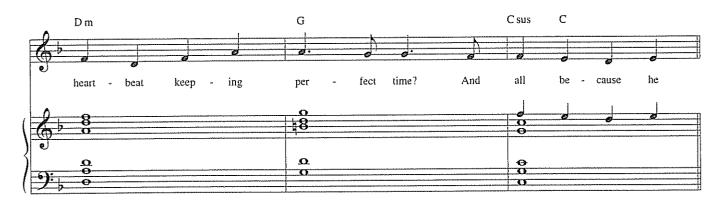
I CAN HEAR THE BELLS

from Hairspray

Music by MARC SHAIMAN Lyrics by MARC SHAIMAN and SCOTT WITTMAN









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MISS BALTIMORE CRABS

from Hairspray

Music by MARC SHAIMAN Lyrics by MARC SHAIMAN and SCOTT WITTMAN



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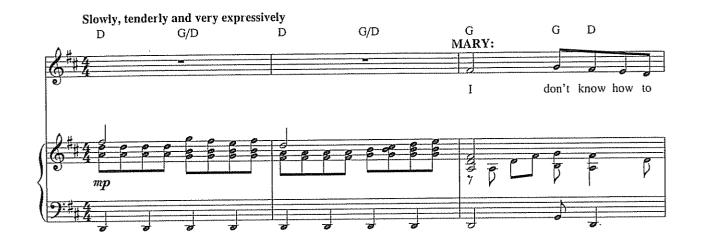


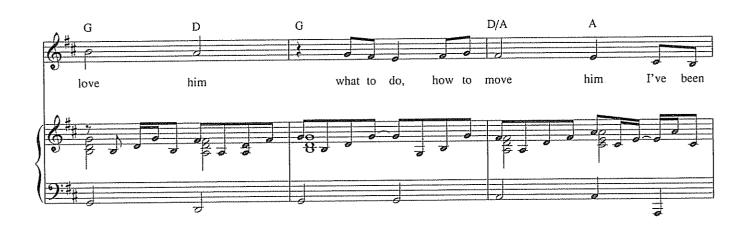


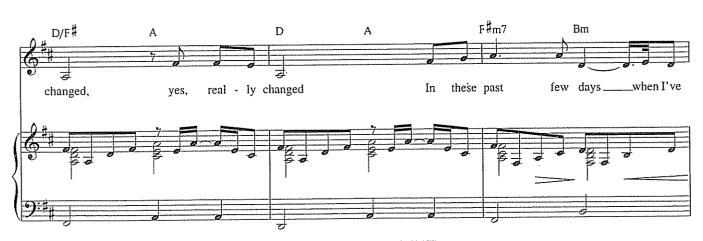
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO LOVE HIM

from Jesus Christ Superstar

Words by TIM RICE Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER







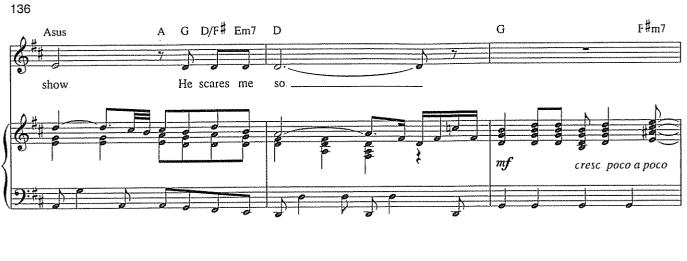


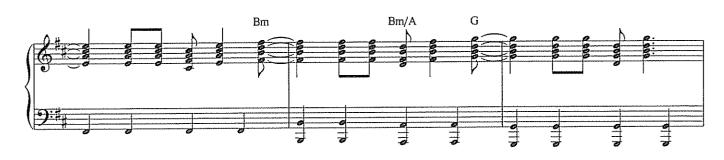




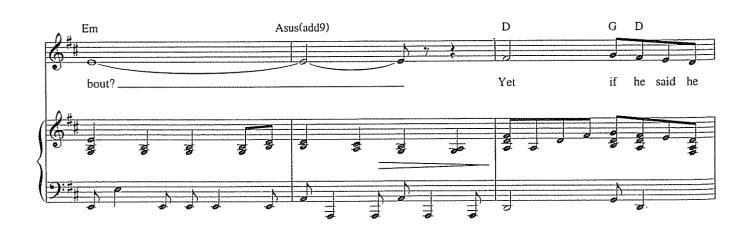










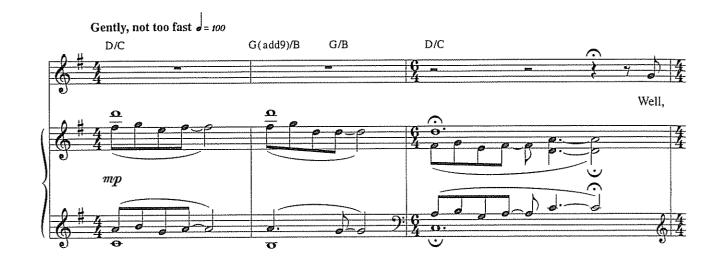


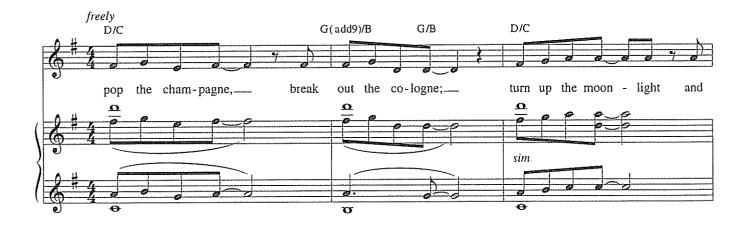


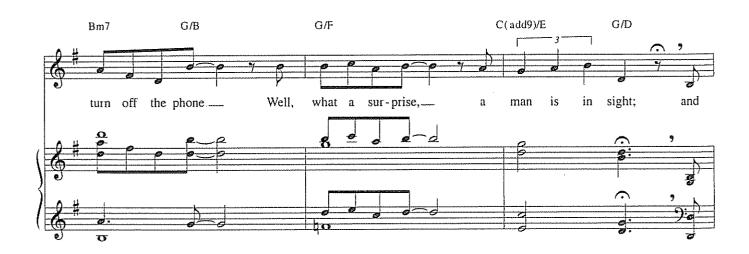
I WILL BE LOVED TONIGHT

from I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

Lyrics by JOE DIPIETRO Music by JIMMY ROBERTS















ģ.

STILL HURTING

from The Last Five Years

Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN



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SEE I'M SMILING

from The Last Five Years

Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN





















SHADOWLAND

Disney Presents The Lion King: The Broadway Musical

Music by LEBO M and HANS ZIMMER Lyrics by MARK MANCINA and LEBO M









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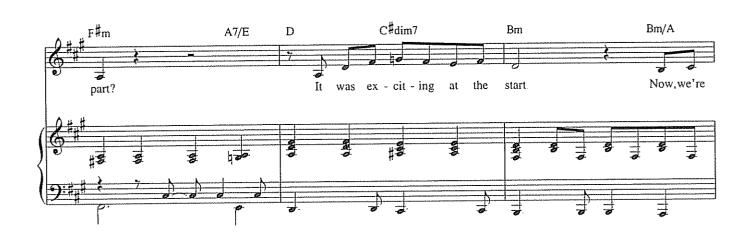


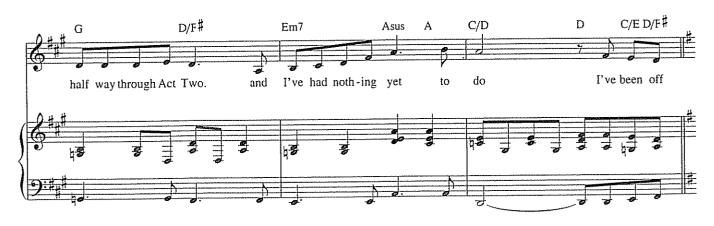


WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MY PART? from Monty Python's Spamalot

Lyrics by ERIC IDLE Music by JOHN DU PREZ and ERIC IDLE







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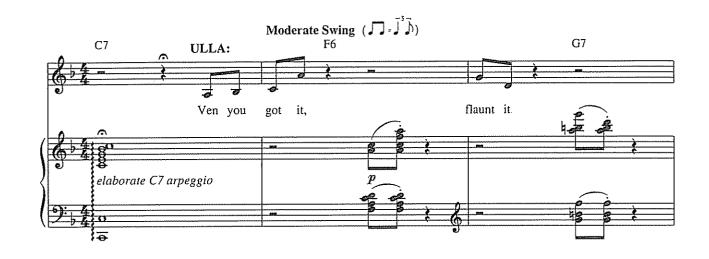


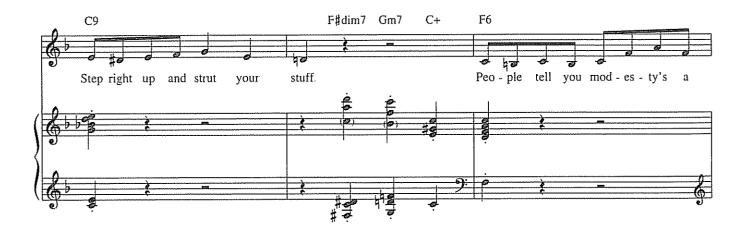


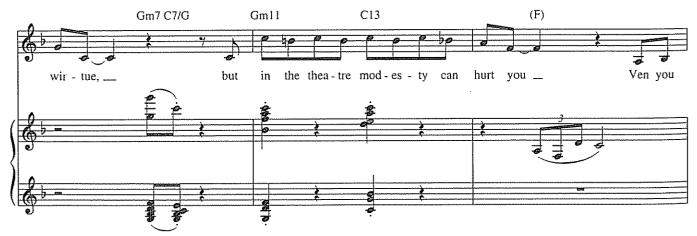
WHEN YOU GOT IT, FLAUNT IT

from The Producers

Words and Music by MEL BROOKS







Ulla sings this song with a Swedish accent in the show.













JUST ONE STEP

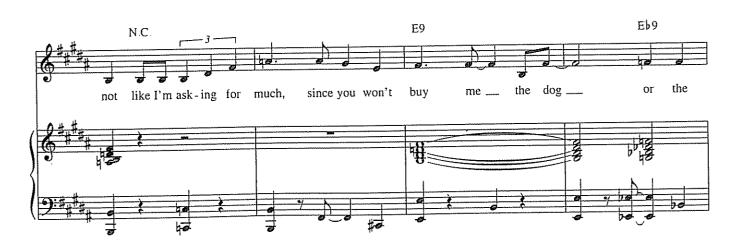
from Songs for a New World

Music and Lyrics by JASON ROBERT BROWN

Moderately, but with an edge







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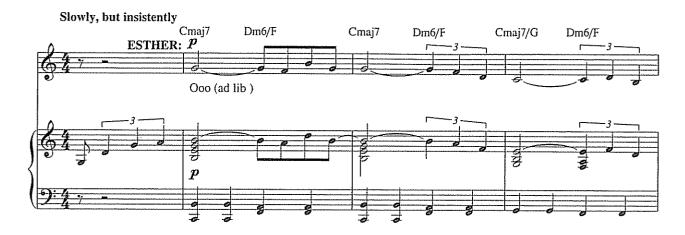


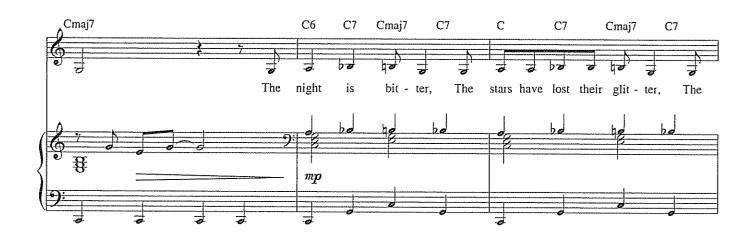


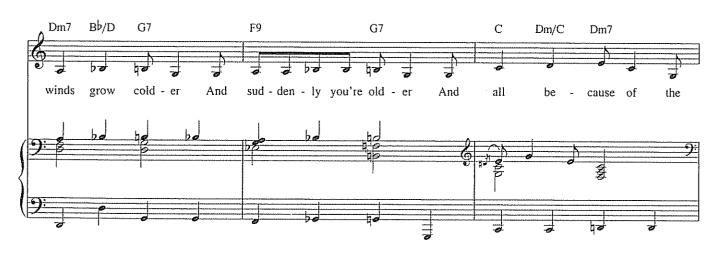
THE MAN THAT GOT AWAY

from the Motion Picture A Star Is Born

Lyric by IRA GERSHWIN Music by HAROLD ARLEN













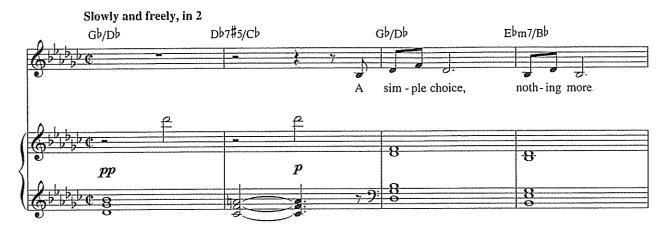


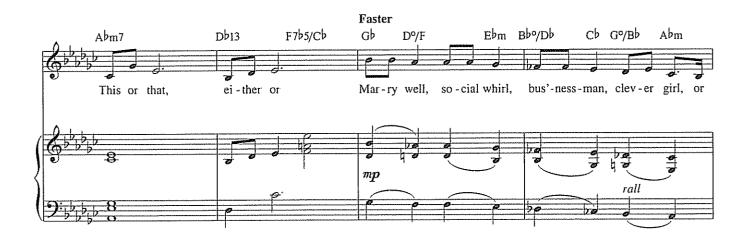


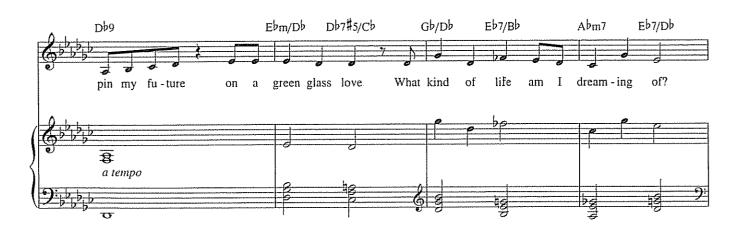
GIMME GIMME

from Thoroughly Modern Millie

Music by JEANINE TESORI Lyrics by DICK SCANLAN

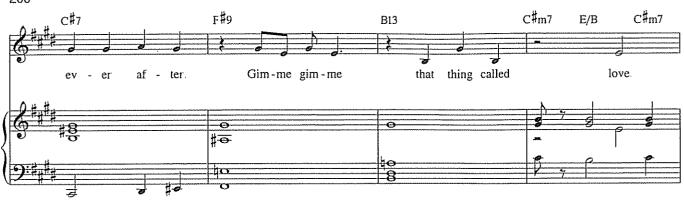


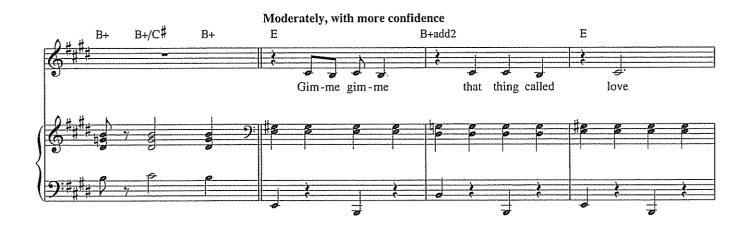




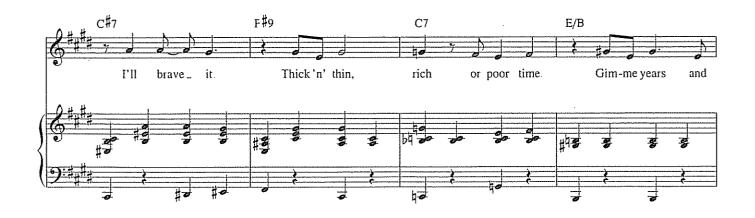
















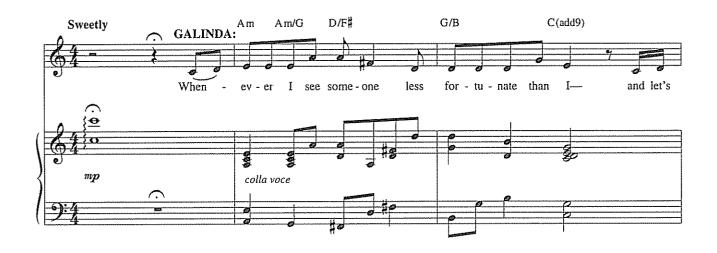


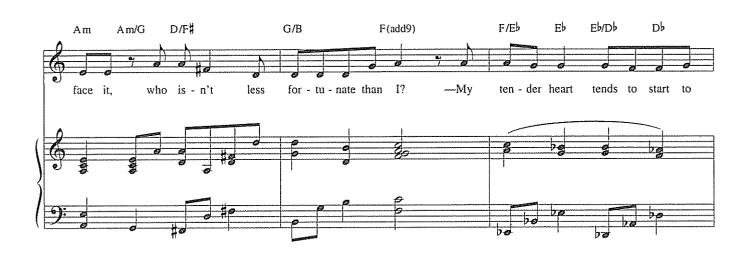


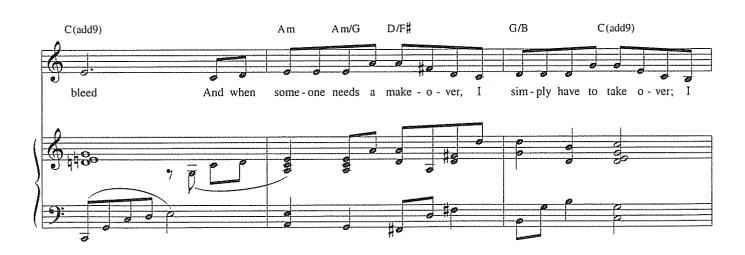
POPULAR

from Wicked

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SCHWARTZ



















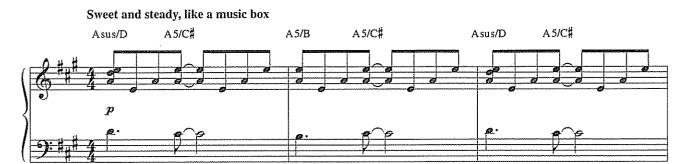


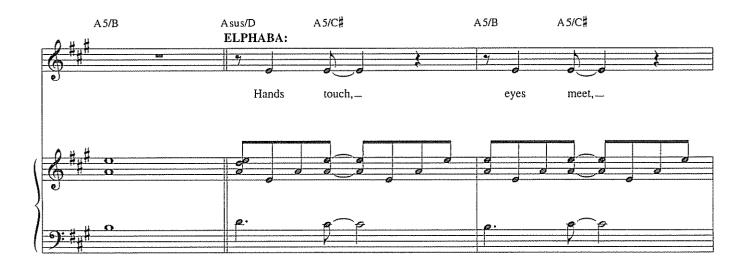


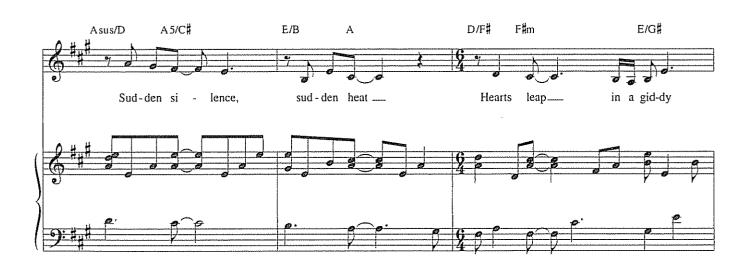
I'M NOT THAT GIRL

from Wicked

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SCHWARTZ











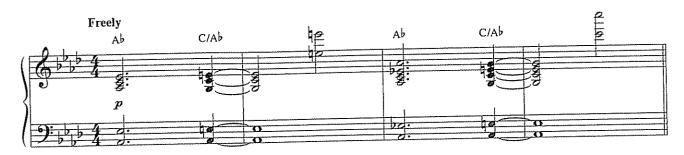


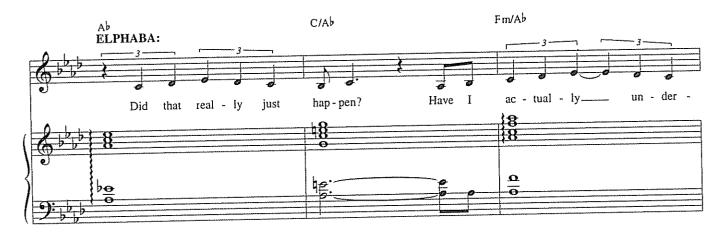


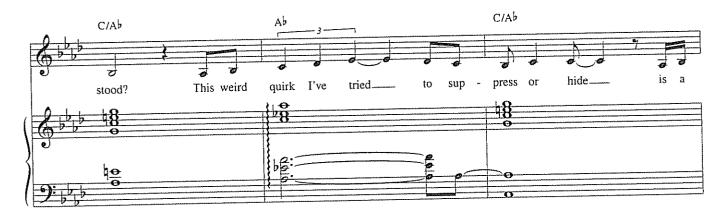
THE WIZARD AND I

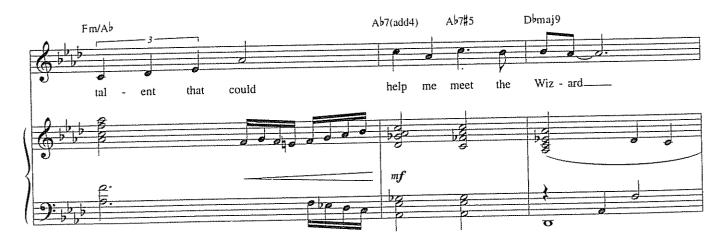
from Wicked

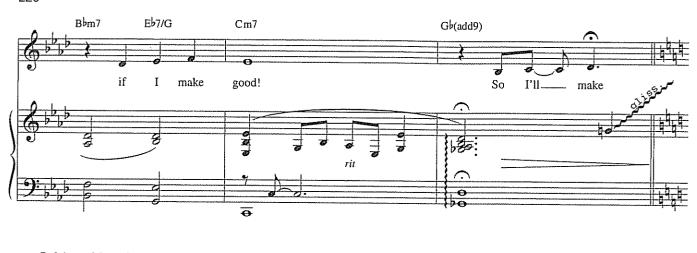
Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

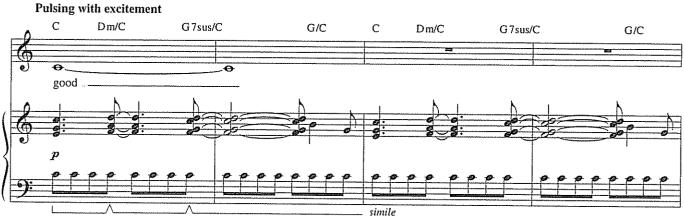


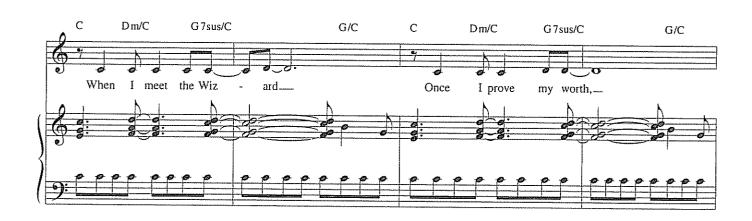




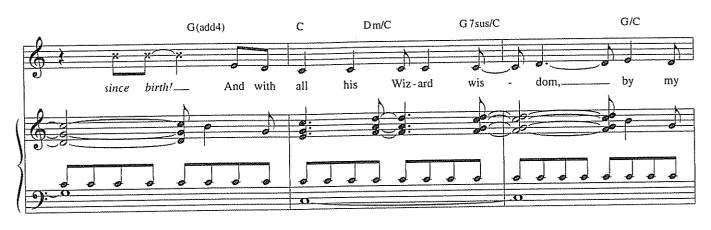


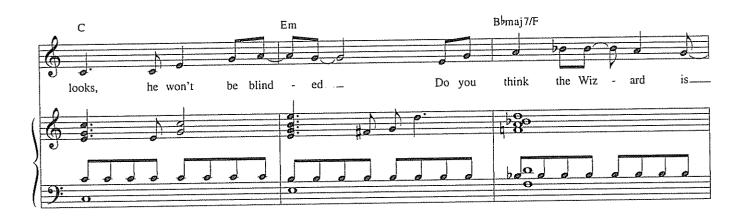


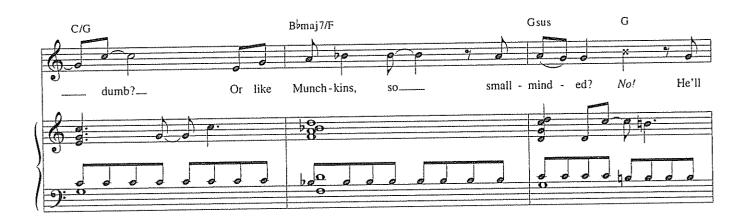


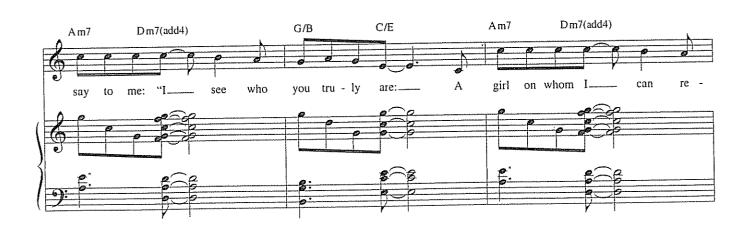






























LOOK AT ME NOW

from The Wild Party

Words and Music by ANDREW LIPPA



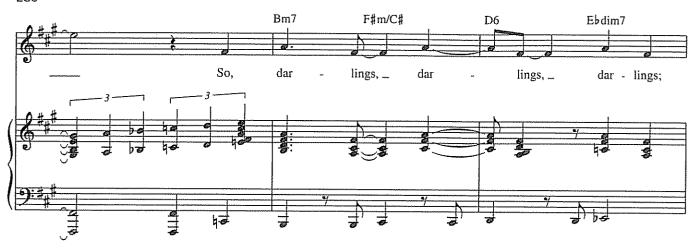


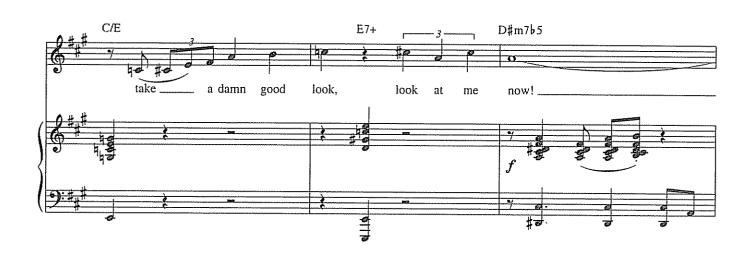


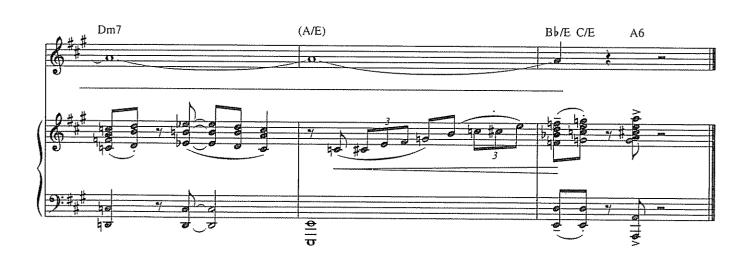












HOW DID WE COME TO THIS?

from The Wild Party

Words and Music by ANDREW LIPPA











SHOPPING AROUND

from Wish You Were Here

Words and Music by HAROLD ROME



















ONE HUNDRED EASY WAYS TO LOSE A MAN

from Wonderful Town

Lyrics by BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN Music by LEONARD BERNSTEIN

