

Stephen Sondheim Life Meryle Secrest

Stephen Sondheim The Stephen Sondheim Encyclopedia Matching Minds with Sondheim The Sondheim Review Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd The ^AOxford Companion to the American Musical Notes Biography Civilization New York The Dramatist The Virgin Encyclopedia of Stage and Film Musicals American Theatre The Antioch Review Plays International The Best Books for Academic Libraries: Music & fine arts Show Music Critical Survey of Drama: Jules Romains - William Trevor Readings on West Side Story The Oxford Companion to American Theatre Meryle Secrest Rick Pender Barry Joseph Rick Pender Thomas S. Hischak Music Library Association Colin Larkin John Donald Kingsley Mary E. Williams Gerald Martin Bordman

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in the first full scale life of the most important composer lyricist at work in musical theatre today meryle secrest the biographer of frank lloyd wright and leonard bernstein draws on her extended conversations with stephen sondheim as well as on her interviews with his friends family collaborators and lovers to bring us not only the artist as a master of modernist compositional style but also the private man beginning with his early childhood on new york s prosperous upper west side secrest describes how sondheim was taught to play the piano by his father a successful dress manufacturer and amateur musician she writes about sondheim s early ambition to become a concert pianist about the effect on him of his parents divorce when he was ten about his years in military and private schools she writes about his feelings of loneliness and abandonment about the refuge he found in the home of oscar and dorothy hammerstein and his determination to become just like oscar secrest describes the years when sondheim was struggling to gain a foothold in the theatre his attempts at scriptwriting in his early twenties in rome on the set of beat the devil with bogart and huston and later in hollywood as a co writer with george oppenheimer for the tv series topper living the hollywood life here is sondheim s ascent to the peaks of the broadway musical from his chance meeting with playwright arthur laurents which led to his first success as co lyricist with leonard bernstein on west side story to his collaboration with laurents on gypsy to his first full broadway score a funny thing happened on the way to the forum and secrest writes about his first big success as composer lyricist writer in the 1960s with company an innovative and sophisticated musical that examined marriage à la mode it was the start of an almost twenty year collaboration with producer and director hal prince that resulted in such shows as follies pacific overtures sweeney todd and a little night music we see sondheim at work with composers producers directors co writers actors the greats of his time and ours among them leonard bernstein ethel merman richard rodgers oscar hammerstein jerome Robbins zero mostel bernadette peters and lee remick with whom it was said he was in love and she with him as secrest vividly re creates the energy the passion the despair the excitement the

genius that went into the making of show after sondheim show a biography that is sure to become the standard work on sondheim s life and art

praise from jesse green new york times chief theater critic arts in the 2023 holiday gift guide from a the director george abbott to y you could drive a person crazy the stephen sondheim encyclopedia by rick pender offers an astonishingly comprehensive look in more than 130 entries at the late master s colleagues songs shows and methods the stephen sondheim encyclopedia is a wonderfully detailed and comprehensive reference devoted to musical theater s most prolific and admired composer and lyricist entries cover sondheim s numerous collaborators from composers and directors to designers and orchestras key songs such as his academy award winner sooner or later dick tracy and major works including assassins company follies sweeney todd and west side story the encyclopedia also profiles the actors who originated roles and sang sondheim s songs for the first time including ethel merman angela lansbury mandy patinkin and bernadette peters featuring a detailed biographical entry for sondheim a chronology of his career a listing of his many awards and discussions of his opinions on movies opera and more this wide ranging resource will attract musical theater enthusiasts again and again

a one of a kind look at stephen sondheim s lifelong obsession with games and puzzles of all kinds

a deep dive into this unique murder filled masterpiece its slimy roots original production characters from killers to lovers to bakers soaring score gripping storytelling and lasting power

here is an engaging and authoritative reference to this highly popular genre the only such book to cover stage film and television musicals in one volume with more than two thousand entries this book offers a wealth of information on musicals performers composers lyricists producers choreographers and much more many musicals written specifically for television are included and many entries follow a work as it moves across genres from stage to film to television the companion also includes cross references a comprehensive listing of recommended recordings and a useful chronological listing of all the musicals described in the book

the magazine of the library of congress

a guide to the greatest shows and films in the history of the musical as well as their stars lyricists and composers over 1600 entries provide facts figures and critical opinion on all aspects of the field

books recommended for undergraduate and college libraries listed by library of congress classification numbers

features of this book include an annotated table of contents to enhance comprehension and facilitate research a chronology of the author s life and career as well as of concurrent historical events and primary and secondary bibliographies

first published in 1984 gerald bordman s oxford companion to american theatre is the standard one volume source on our national theatre critics have hailed its wealth of

authoritative information back stage its fascinating picture of the volatile american stage the guardian and its well chosen illuminating facts newsday now thoroughly revised this distinguished volume once again provides an up to date guide to the american stage from its beginnings to the present completely updated by theater professor thomas hischak the volume includes playwrights plays actors directors producers songwriters famous playhouses dramatic movements and much more the book covers not only classic works such as death of a salesman but also many commercially successful plays such as getting gertie s garter plus entries on foreign figures that have influenced our dramatic development from shakespeare to beckett and pinter new entries include recent plays such as angels in america and six degrees of separation performers such as eric bogosian and bill irwin playwrights like david henry hwang and wendy wasserstein and relevant developments and issues including aids in american theatre theatrical producing by disney and the rise in solo performance accessible and authoritative this valuable a z reference is ideal not only for students and scholars of theater but everyone with a passion for the stage

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