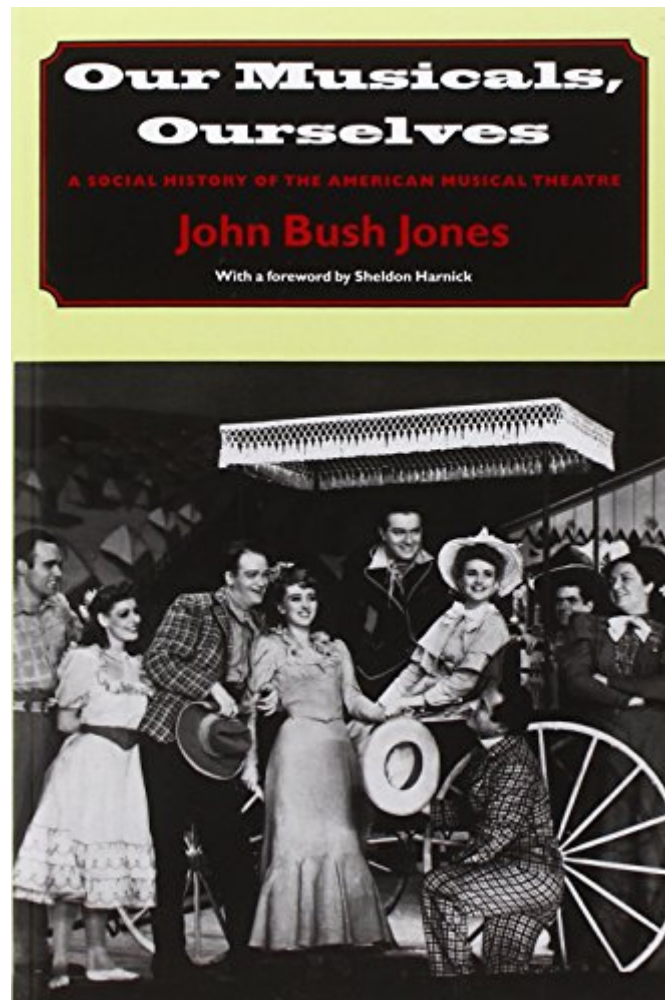


Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre PDF



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Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre by John Bush Jones
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Our Musicals, Ourselves is the first full-scale social history of the American musical theater from the imported Gilbert and Sullivan comic operas of the late nineteenth century to such recent musicals as *The Producers* and *Urinetown*. While many aficionados of the Broadway musical associate it with wonderful, diversionary shows like *The Music Man* or *My Fair Lady*, John Bush Jones instead selects musicals for their social relevance and the extent to which they engage, directly or metaphorically, contemporary politics and culture.

Organized chronologically, with some liberties taken to keep together similarly themed musicals, Jones examines dozens of Broadway shows from the beginning of the twentieth century to the

present that demonstrate numerous links between what played on Broadway and what played on newspapers' front pages across our nation. He reviews the productions, lyrics, staging, and casts from the lesser-known early musicals (the "gunboat" musicals of the Teddy Roosevelt era and the "Cinderella shows" and "leisure time musicals" of the 1920s) and continues his analysis with better-known shows including *Showboat*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Oklahoma*, *South Pacific*, *West Side Story*, *Cabaret*, *Hair*, *Company*, *A Chorus Line*, and many others.

While most examinations of the American musical focus on specific shows or emphasize the development of the musical as an art form, Jones's book uses musicals as a way of illuminating broader social and cultural themes of the times. With six appendixes detailing the long-running diversionary musicals and a foreword by Sheldon Harnick, the lyricist of *Fiddler on the Roof*, Jones's comprehensive social history will appeal to both students and fans of Broadway.

Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre Review

This Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre without we recognize teach the one who looking at it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre can bring any time you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Our Musicals, Ourselves: A Social History of the American Musical Theatre having great arrangement in word and layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.