



Musical Theatre is...

- *It is a performance on stage that combines songs, spoken dialogue, acting and dancing
- *The story and emotions are communicated through music, words, movement and special effects with lights and sound
- *The theatre can be dated back to Ancient Greece over 2500 years ago when actors performed comedies and tragedies. The Romans performed in huge open-air amphitheatres
- *Musicals are performed all round the world in many theatres. There are prestigious theatres in Broadway (New York) and in the West End (London) that put on big budget productions
- *The longest running production in the West End is Mousetrap, running since 1952, and the longest running musical is Les Miserables
- *Opera is a form of theatre in which music, performed by an orchestra, has the leading role



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| Comedy | Entertainment intended to make the audience laugh |
| Tragedy | A play with tragic events that often has an unhappy ending |
| Impresario | Somebody who organises and often financially contributes towards concerts and musicals |

West Side Story ...

*Music by **Leonard Bernstein** and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**. This is a 'must listen to' musical. It is inspired by Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and is set in New York City in the 1950s

Rodgers and Hammerstein...

*These famous composers created a string of popular Broadway Musicals in the 1940s and 1950s (in what is often referred to as the Golden Age of Musical Theatre). These musicals are old but are still really popular and include The Sound of Music, The King and I, South Pacific, Oklahoma! and Carousel

Baron Andrew Lloyd Webber...

- *Lloyd Webber is an English composer and impresario of musical theatre
- *He has composed many musicals that have run for years at the West End and in Broadway. These include: Phantom of the Opera, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar, Starlight Express, Cats and more recently, School of Rock
- *He has received many awards and is one of only fifteen people in the world to receive an Oscar, an Emmy, a Grammy and a Tony—these are very special awards and he has all 4!
- *He set up the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation in 1992 which supports the arts, culture and heritage in the UK

Key songs and names of Musicals...

- Defying Gravity from Wicked
- Tomorrow from Annie
- I Dreamed a Dream from Les Miserables
- America—West Side Story
- All That Jazz—Chicago
- I Still Believe—Miss Saigon
- Circle of Life—The Lion King
- Electricity—Billy Elliot The Musical
- Memory—Cats
- The Music of the Night—Phantom of the Opera
- Seasons of Love—Rent
- Do Re Mi—Sound of Music
- You're the One That I Want—Grease
- Don't Cry for Me Argentina—Evita
- When I Grow Up—Matilda The Musical