



Rodgers & Hammerstein 101

Class 9 • *The Sound of Music* (1959)

OLLI Fall Semester 2019 • Alan Teasley, Instructor

Goals of the Course



You will:

- Be familiar with the 10 Rodgers and Hammerstein stage musicals (and be able to hum at least one song from each!)
- Know about the careers of these men both before and after their partnership
- Understand the innovations that made this team's shows revolutionary in the 1940s and 1950s
- Enjoy Rodgers and Hammerstein's many contributions to the Great American Songbook



- Integrated song, story, and dance “as never before” (Purdum)
- Owned their own publishing house and the rights to all their shows
- Built an extensive casting and producing organization
- Pioneered recording of original cast albums

R&H Chronology

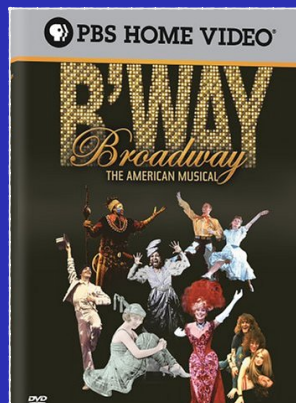
- 1957 *Cinderella* (Live TV)
- 1958 *Flower Drum Song* (Broadway)
- 1959 *The Sound of Music—Today*
- 1960 Hammerstein dies
- 1961 *Flower Drum Song* (film)
- 1962 *State Fair* (2nd film version)
- 1965/1997 *Cinderella* (2nd & 3rd TV versions)
- 1969 *State Fair* (1st stage version)
- 2013 *Cinderella* (1st Broadway production)

- *Broadway on TV*
- *My Fair Lady*
- *The Sound of Music*

Broadway: The American Musical (PBS, 2004)

from Episode 4:
“Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin’” (1943-1960)”

[15:09]



Focus on *The Sound of Music*



- Mary, Julie, Carrie, and Maria
- The familiar tropes of “wise older woman,” “second couple,” and “liberal politics”
- Critical vs. popular reception of the stage production, followed by the phenomenon of the 1965 film and the 2013 live TV broadcast
- Songs on stage, in the film, & on TV
- Hammerstein’s farewell

Three Marias



Mary Martin

Julie Andrews

Carrie Underwood



The Productions

The Sound of Music (1959)



- Source: Maria von Trapp's Memoir, The Story of the Trapp Family Singers
- Lyrics: Oscar Hammerstein II
- Score: Richard Rodgers
- Book: Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse
- Director: Vincent J. Donehue
- Musical Staging: Joe Layton
- Scenic Design: Oliver Smith
- Costume Design: Lucinda Ballard
- Cast: Mary Martin, Theodore Bikel, Patricia Neway, Kurt Kaszner, Marion Marlowe

The Sound of Music (1959): 9 Tony Award Nominations (5 Wins)



- **Best Musical** (tie with *Fiorello!*)
- **Best Actress (Musical): Mary Martin**
- **Featured Actress (Musical): Patricia Neway & the Von Trapp Children** (as a group)
- **Featured Actor (Musical): Theodore Bikel and Kurt Kaszner**
- **Director (Musical): Vincent J. Donehue**
- **Scenic Design (Musical): Oliver Smith**
- **Conductor/Music Director: Frederick Dvorch**

Mary Martin



- 1913-1990
- Three Tony Awards for Best Actress in a Musical:
 - South Pacific (1949)
 - Peter Pan (1954)
 - The Sound of Music (1959)
- Special Tony Award in 1948 for touring in *Annie Get Your Gun* and thereby "spreading theatre for the rest of the country while the originals perform in New York"

The Sound of Music (1965 Film)



- Lyrics: Oscar Hammerstein II (additional lyrics by Richard Rodgers)
- Score: Richard Rodgers
- Screenplay: Ernest Lehman
- Director: Robert Wise
- Cast: Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Peggy Wood, Eleanor Parker, Charmian Carr, Richard Haydn, and Marni Nixon (as a nun, not dubbing!)
- Puppeteers: Bill and Cora Baird

**The Sound of Music (1965):
10 Academy Award Nominations & 5 Wins**



- **Best Picture**
- Best Actress: Julie Andrews
- Supporting Actress: Peggy Wood
- **Director: Robert Wise**
- **Sound: James Corcoran**
- **Film Editing: William Reynolds**
- **Music/Scoring: Irwin Kostal**
- Cinematography (Color)
- Art Direction/Set Decoration (Color)
- Costume Design (Color)

Julie Andrews



- b. 1935
- Tony Award Nominations for Best Actress in a Musical (no wins):
 - My Fair Lady (1956)
 - Camelot (1961)
 - Victor/Victoria (1996)
- Academy Award Nominations (**wins**):
 - **Mary Poppins (1965)**
 - The Sound of Music (1966)
 - Victor/Victoria (1983)

**The Sound of Music Live!
(2013 Television Broadcast)**



- Lyrics: Oscar Hammerstein II (additional lyrics by Richard Rodgers)
- Score: Richard Rodgers
- Book: Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse (adapted by Austin Winsberg)
- Directors: Beth McCarthy-Miller & Rob Ashford (also choreographer)
- Production Design: Derek McLean
- Costume Design: Catherine Zuber
- Cast: Carrie Underwood, Stephen Moyer, Audra McDonald, Laura Benanti, and Christian Borle

**The Sound of Music Live!
(2013 Emmy Nominations & Win)**



- **Outstanding Technical Direction, Camerawork, Video Control for a Miniseries, Movie or a Special (16 technical directors, camera operators, video controllers, and NBC)**
- Outstanding Special Class Program (producers and NBC)
- Outstanding Directing for a Variety Special (McCarthy-Miller, Ashford, and NBC)

Carrie Underwood



- b. 1983
- Winner, *American Idol*, 2005
- Has sold 70 million records worldwide
- 7 Grammy Awards
- 11 Billboard Music Awards
- 13 American Music Awards
- 14 Academy of Country Music Awards



The Songs

The Sound of Music: Songs (Original Stage Production)



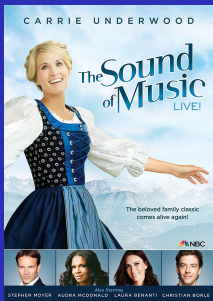
- "Preludium"
- "The Sound of Music"
- "(How Do You Solve a Problem Like) Maria"
- "My Favorite Things"
- "Do-Re-Mi"
- "Sixteen Going on Seventeen"
- "The Lonely Goatherd"
- "How Can Love Survive?"
- "So Long, Farewell"
- "Climb Ev'ry Mountain"
- "No Way to Stop It"
- "An Ordinary Couple"
- "Edelweiss"

The Sound of Music: Songs in the 1965 Film



- "The Sound of Music"
 - "(How Do You Solve a Problem Like) Maria"
 - "My Favorite Things"
 - Added: "I Have Confidence"*
 - "Do-Re-Mi"
 - "Sixteen Going on Seventeen"
 - "The Lonely Goatherd"
 - "How Can Love Survive?" (cut)
 - "So Long, Farewell"
 - "Climb Ev'ry Mountain"
 - "No Way to Stop It" (cut)
 - "An Ordinary Couple" Added: "Something Good"*
 - "Edelweiss"
- *Rodgers lyrics

The Sound of Music: Songs in the 2013 TV Broadcast



- "The Sound of Music"
- "(How Do You Solve a Problem Like) Maria"
- "My Favorite Things"
- (Omitted: "I Have Confidence")
- "Do-Re-Mi"
- "Sixteen Going on Seventeen"
- "The Lonely Goatherd"
- "How Can Love Survive?" (restored)
- "So Long, Farewell"
- "Climb Ev'ry Mountain"
- "No Way to Stop It" (restored)
- "An Ordinary Couple" Kept: "Something Good"
- "Edelweiss"

The Sound of Music: Today's Playlist



- "The Sound of Music" (film 1965)
- "I Have Confidence" (1965)
- "Do-Re-Mi" (1965 film): Part 1, Part 2
- "The Sound of Music (reprise)" (1959)
- "How Can Love Survive?" (2013 TV production)
- "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" (2013)
- "No Way to Stop It" (2013)
- "Something Good" (1965)
- "Edelweiss" (later)

The Rules in Ethan Mordden's "R&H Handbook"*

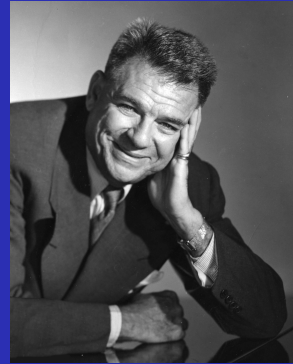
1. Develop each story's community background, culture, mores.
2. Write about people whose lives have meaning.
3. Start uniquely.
4. Anchor the score with character traction.
5. Change your genre from show to show.
6. The second act should last half as long as the first act with twice as much action.
7. [Don't have rules.]

*Anything Goes: A History of American Musical Theatre (2013)

More Information about the "Top 20" Project

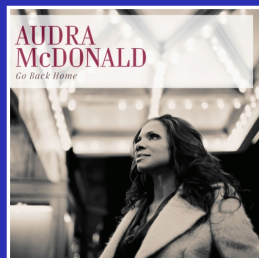
- By the final class, compile a list of (at most) 20 Rodgers and Hammerstein songs you would include on your own "Essential R&H" playlist, album, concert, or revue
- Submit survey by **Tuesday, November 12**, and we will compile an OLLI R&H Master Songlist to be revealed at the last class on November 18.

Reflection on Today's Class



Audio: Hammerstein's Note to Mary Martin
(in reprise of "Sixteen Going on Seventeen")

To play us out . . .



"Edelweiss"
Audra McDonald, 2013