

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
The Broadway Musical

“What is the best Broadway musical comedy score of the year? Make no mistake about it, it is *Beauty and the Beast*. I must say I was knocked out by this one – even though, as a theatergoer, I had to regret that Broadway’s loss has been Hollywood’s gain.”

Frank Rich (in a 1991 New York Times article)

GENERAL

- *Beauty and the Beast*, released in November of 1991, was the first animated feature to be nominated for Best Picture of the Year by the Academy Awards. It lost to *The Silence of the Lambs*.
- *Beauty and the Beast* played 40 performances at the Theatre Under the Stars in Houston, Texas before beginning previews at the Palace Theatre on March 9, 1994
- *Beauty and the Beast* officially opened on Broadway at the Palace Theatre on April 18, 1994 and played there for the first five years of its run, playing its final performance there on September 5, 1999. The production reopened at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre on November 11, 1999.
- As of Sunday, March 7, 2004, *Beauty and the Beast* has had 4,047 performances in front of 5.7 million people on Broadway .
- *Beauty and The Beast* will celebrate its 4,095th performance at this year’s 10th Anniversary on April 18, 2004. It is the longest currently running American musical on Broadway and the 7th longest running musical in Broadway history. On April 21, 2004 it will become the 6th longest running musical in Broadway history, surpassing *Miss Saigon*.
- *Beauty and the Beast* has been performed in 14 countries in 5 languages around the world.
- As of Sunday, March 7, 2004 there have been 17,451 performances of *Beauty and the Beast* in front of over 24 million people around the world, including Broadway.

C

HAIR

- Over 120 wigs are worn onstage every night
- 248 pieces of hair are used onstage every night – including wigs, moustaches and bangs.
- The average number of wig changes for an ensemble member is eight.
- It took 20 pounds of human hair and over 400 man-hours to create the first Beast.
- The Beast's tail alone has seven yards of human hair.
- There are fifty pounds of hairpins ready to go backstage at all times

WARDROBE

- Costume designer Ann Hould-Ward, who designed the costumes for *Into the Woods*, won a Tony® and an American Theatre Wing Design Award for *Beauty and the Beast*.
- The costumes are made of many different materials including vacuform plastic, vinyl, mylar, latex, and spring materials.
- The Beast needs three people to help him into make-up, prosthetics, hair and wardrobe. Originally this process took over three hours before each performance; it now takes only one hour. To help achieve his animal-like appearance, he wears special latex gloves and has special rubber toes glued to the outside of his boots.
- Lumiere's second act headpiece is made of polyurethane and weighs less than a pound.
- Belle's ball gown weighs thirty pounds.
- Madame de la Grande Bouche's costume weighs approximately 25 pounds, the majority of which is supported by a weightlifting belt so the actress carries most of the weight in her legs.
- Over the last ten years, over 86,000 quick changes have been performed in the wings with a total of almost 900,000 costume changes.
- During "Be Our Guest" over 45,000 top hats have appeared onstage.

PROSTHETICS

- The prosthetic make-up was designed by John Dods
- Over 80 prosthetic make-up pieces are used in the show.
- The Beast has used over 4,000 latex noses and 75 sets of feet and hands. The face pieces are thrown away each evening after the hair is removed from them.
- The prosthetics are made of latex with soft poly foam.
- Both The Beast's mask and Babette's ornate second act headpiece are specially crafted for the actor wearing them.

TECHNICAL

- The castle is constructed of wood and steel covered in Styrofoam with a sealer and then painted.
- Over the last 10 years, 948,000 automated deck and fly cues have been called.

SOUND

- Gaston has punched LeFou 35,700 times
- The Beast has roared 40,000 times
- Every cast member has a microphone, all operated on different radio frequencies. However, The Beast has three.
- There are speakers mounted in the castle for localized sound effects

LIGHTING

- There are over 350 lighting cues called by the stage manager per performance. That's almost 1.4 million lighting cues since opening night.
- There are 120 effect patterns used in Natasha Katz' designs.
- Over 300 strobe lights are used in the show.
- There are 59 automated lighting instruments that each hold a computer chip containing 256 color and 12 pattern choices.
- There are more than 1,100 lamps in the "be Our Guest" portals alone; 600 feet of neon are used on the same portals.
- There are enough lighting instruments on the set to light up a football stadium

SPECIAL EFFECTS AND PYROTECHNICS

- Almost 12,000 petals have fallen off of the Enchanted Rose.
- There are 37 special effects used in the show.
- 11 magic tricks designed by Jim Steinmeyer and John Gaughan are used in the show. This team has designed illusions for David Copperfield, Siegfried and Roy and Lance Burton. Mr. Steinmeyer was also the magic consultant for two of Doug Henning's Broadway shows.
- It took a year and a half to develop the The Enchantress' fireball and it is the first known throwable hand-held device of its kind. She can hold the ball of fire in her hand until it burns out without any physical damage.
- Lumiere's hands are made of a flameproof plastic surrounding a flame device that uses one ounce of liquid butane per hand per show. In the last ten years it has burned 700 pounds of butane.

PROPS

- Almost 1,500 beer mugs have been used in the "Gaston" number. It's hard to believe that this showstopper was originally staged with stools.
- Maurice's invention has traveled over 408,500 feet.

THE MUSIC

- Eight songs have been added to the Oscar® winning score. Seven of those were written by Alan Menken and Tim Rice.
- The musical number "Human Again" featured in the second act, was originally written for the film, but dropped in favor of "Something There". When the feature was released into theatres in IMAX form, the number was added.
- The Original Broadway Cast Album was nominated for a Grammy®.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The show received nine Tony® Award nominations:
 - Best Musical
 - Best Score
 - Best Director (Robert Jess Roth)
 - Best Book of a Musical (Linda Woolverton)
 - Best Actor (Terrence Mann)
 - Best Actress (Susan Egan)
 - Best Supporting Actor (Gary Beach)
 - Best Costumes (Ann Hould-Ward; winner)
 - Best Lighting (Natasha Katz)
- Over 1,500 rehearsal hours have been logged.
- The cast has consumed 460,500 Ricola cough drops.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2007 ...

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST'S HISTORIC RUN COMING TO AN END

After enchanting audiences for more than 13 years, Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, the inaugural Broadway musical from Disney Theatrical Productions, will take its final bow at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre on Sunday, July 29. The production will have played 46 previews and 5,464 regular performances.

Schumacher said, "For many theatergoers, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST has been their first introduction to the magic of Broadway musicals, and we're glad to have another six months to allow even more people to see the show before it must end. That's a wonderful legacy for all of us at Disney Theatrical, and we're so proud of the show's record-breaking run on Broadway, throughout the country, and around the world. Though the Broadway production is coming to a close this summer, through our relationship with Music Theatre International (MTI), BEAUTY AND THE BEAST will continue to live on in regional and high school productions around the world."

Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST is the longest-running American musical currently on Broadway and the sixth longest running show of all time. The production has logged more performances than other landmark shows like Miss Saigon; 42nd Street; Fiddler on the Roof; and Hello, Dolly! Around the world, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST has played in a total of 13 countries and 115 cities, making it one of the most successful musicals of all time alongside such titles as Cats, The Phantom of the Opera, and Les Miserables.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST originally opened at the Palace Theatre in 1994 and played there for the first five years of its run. The show subsequently reopened at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre in 1999. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST is the longest running production in the history of both the Palace Theatre and the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST has celebrated record-breaking box office runs in Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Spain and the United Kingdom. In 1999, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST became the first Broadway musical to be performed in Beijing, China in Chinese. The show has been translated into six languages: Chinese, Spanish, Japanese, German, Portuguese and Korean.

