Contemporary Theatre History
Ziegfeld Follies - Musical Comedy Revue, lavish stage performance featuring beautiful showgirls

1907-1931 created by Florenz Ziegfeld
• Broadway History: Ziegfeld Follies
• Watch through 2:30
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXs-YkvhPgs
Gershwin Brothers: American songwriting team, created ‘Porgy and Bess’ and ‘An American in Paris’
George Gershwin: composer & pianist
1898-1937

Ira Gershwin: Lyricist
1896-1983
• Tony Awards 1992, ‘Crazy for You’
• Watch 0:45 through 3:00
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJo8eu4OvKg
Rodgers and Hammerstein: Musical Theatre team, created ‘Oklahoma’ and ‘Cinderella’
Richard Rodgers: composer 1902-1979

Oscar Hammerstein II: Lyricist/dramatist 1895-1960
Oklahoma Broadway Musical
Starring...Wolverine! (Hugh Jackman)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNEUtN21cuU
Stephen Sondheim:
American composer & lyricist, wrote ‘West Side Story’ and ‘Into the Woods’
Sondheim’s Awards:

- 8 Tony Awards
- 8 Grammy Awards
- Academy (Oscar) Award
- Pulitzer Prize
- Laurence Olivier Award
- 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom
- Broadway and London Theatre Namesake
Sweeney Todd: 2006 Tony Awards
Watch 1:00-2:30 (or more)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N7UOTuntLMk
Bob Fosse: American choreographer and director, choreographed ‘Sweet Charity’ and ‘Chicago’ 1927-1987
Bob Fosse Awards:

- 8 Choreo Tony Awards
- Tony Award for Directing
- Oscar Award for Directing
- 1973 Oscar, Emmy, Tony
• Video ‘All That Jazz’
• From Broadway Musical Chicago
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=icbkV8rIQA8
Andrew Lloyd Weber: English composer for theatre and film, composed ‘Phantom of the Opera’ and ‘Cats’
Weber Awards:

- EGOT
- 7 Tony Awards
- 3 Grammy Awards
- Academy Award
- 7 Olivier Awards
- Golden Globe Award
- 2006 Kennedy Center Honoree
- Star on Hollywood Walk of Fame
- 1992 Knighthood of the British Empire
• Starlight Express, 1987 Tony Awards
• Watch 2:00 through end
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-xDkApRVUY
The Tony Awards:
Awards that recognize excellence in Live Theatre on Broadway

given by American Theatre Wing and The Broadway League

‘The Antionette Perry Awards for Excellence in Broadway Theatre’
2013 Tony Award Opening Number
Neil Patrick Harris

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ne2KoHAaE8A
Harold (Hal) Prince:
American Producer and Director, directed ‘Cabaret,’
‘Sweeney Todd,’ ‘Phantom of the Opera’

• 21 Tony Awards
Hal Prince Awards

• 10 Drama Desk Awards
• National Medal of the Arts
• Kennedy Center Honoree
• 40+ Broadway Shows
• Lifetime Achievement Tony
William Ivey Long: American costume designer for ‘Young Frankenstein’ and ‘Cinderella’
William Ivey Long

• 17 Tony Nominations
• 6 Tony Awards
• 70+ Broadway Shows
• Raleigh, NC Native
• Studied at UNC-CH
Tony Awards 2013
Watch 1:30 through 2:40
(then watch again)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcP1cV3nBZI
Howell Binkley: American lighting designer for ‘Avenue Q’ and ‘Hamilton’
Howell Binkley

- 2 Tony Awards
- 10 Tony Nominations
- 50+ Broadway Shows
- Winston Salem, NC Native
- ECU Graduate
• Hamilton Tony Awards
• Watch 2:15 through end (worth it)
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5VqyCQV1Tg
A Raisin in the Sun: First Broadway Play by an African American Female Playwright, set in Chicago during segregation
Lorraine Hansberry: (1930-1965)
playwright of ‘A Raisin in the Sun,’
worked on Civil Rights Movement
August Wilson

• 2 Pulitzer Prize Awards
• Tony Award for Fences
• Tony Award for Jitney (revival)
• 4 NY Drama Critic’s Circle Awards
• Drama Desk Award
Fences, James Earl Jones, Denzel Washington

LANGUAGE WARNING

Two clips of same scene, different actors

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jE2dDmMGfa4
Angels in America: Two part play, examining homosexuality and AIDS in 1980’s America

• The Millennium Approaches
• Perestroika
Tony Kushner
playwright of Angels in America
Angels in America Clips from Broadway Revival
Starring Andrew Garfield, Nathan Lane
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7KluwCfBDs
Rent: Rock Musical, tells the story of young artists in NYC, living under shadow of HIV/AIDS epidemic

- Based on Puccini’s opera ‘la boheme’
- Won a Pulitzer and Four Tony Awards
Jonathan Larson: composer and playwright of ‘Rent,’ died the night before the off Broadway premiere
Rent 1996 Tony Awards

LANGUAGE WARNING

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sn4PkIXOQjU
Tennessee Williams:  
*Thomas Lanier Williams III, 1911-1983*  
Wrote plays based in the American South,  
dealt with emotional and intimacy issues
Tennessee Williams Plays

The Glass Menagerie 1944

Streetcar Named Desire 1947

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof 1955
A Streetcar Named Desire movie clip
Marlon Brando
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6TrgQxf3lk
Neil Simon: Playwright & screenwriter, most combined Tony and Academy Award nominations of any writer
1927-2018
Neil Simon Plays

Barefoot in the Park 1963

The Odd Couple 1965

Sweet Charity (book) 1966
Neil Simon Clips

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NhmHmecJtvY