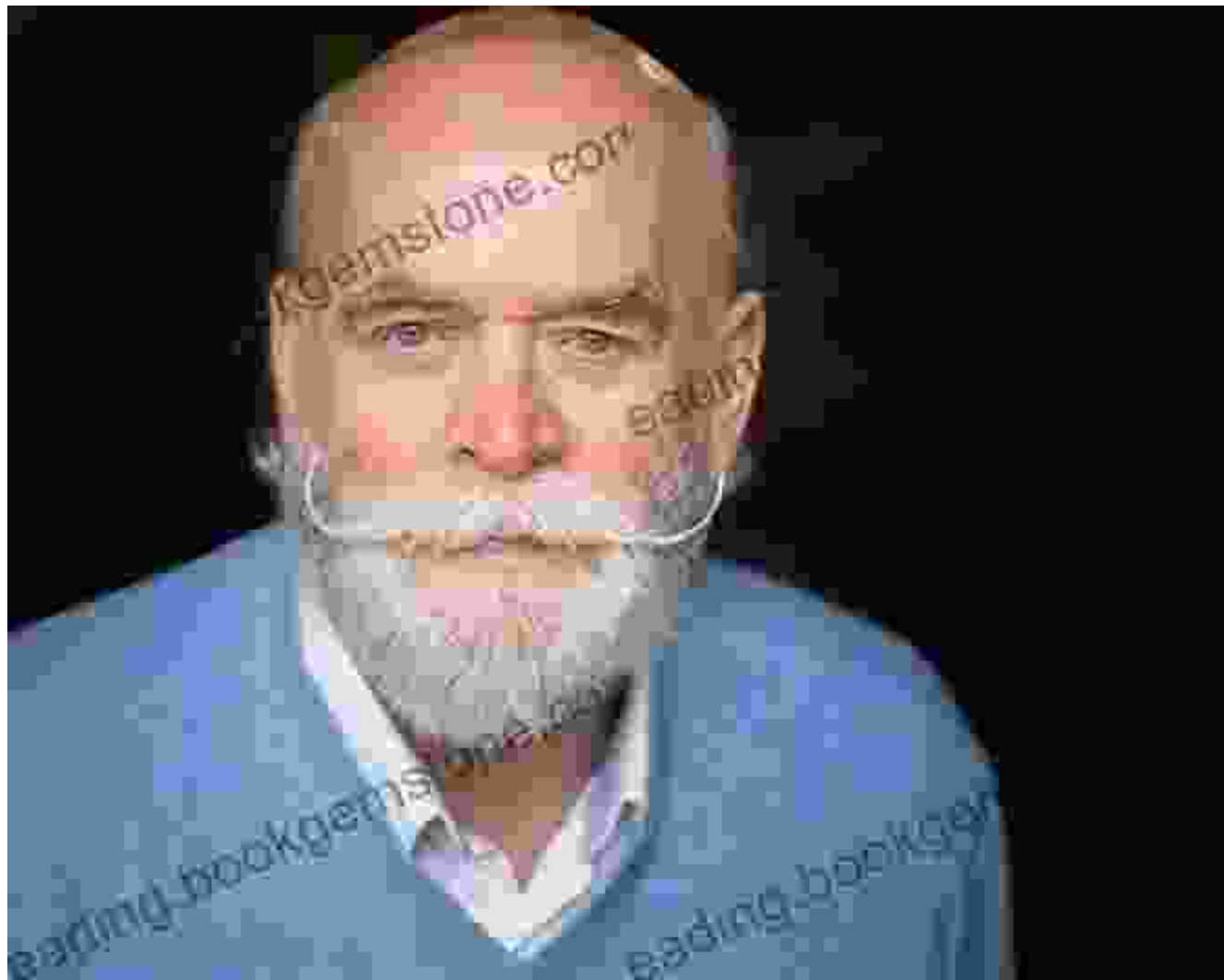


Putting Up a Show: The Extraordinary Journey of Robert Condon



Putting Up A Show by Robert Condon

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2960 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 27 pages

Lending : Enabled



In the annals of Broadway history, few figures have left an imprint as enduring as that of Robert Condon. A self-taught dancer and choreographer, Condon rose from humble beginnings to become one of the most celebrated artists of his time. His groundbreaking work revolutionized the art of musical theater, forever changing the landscape of American entertainment.

Early Life and Influences

Robert Condon was born in Brooklyn, New York, on June 20, 1934. His passion for dance emerged at an early age, inspired by the vibrant rhythm and energy of the streets. Despite limited formal training, Condon's natural talent and determination propelled him forward.

Growing up in a working-class neighborhood, Condon was exposed to a diverse range of musical influences. From the infectious rhythms of jazz to the heartfelt melodies of Irish folk music, these sounds seeped into his consciousness and shaped his artistic sensibility.

Breakthrough on Broadway

In 1957, Condon's career took a pivotal turn when he was cast as a dancer in the original Broadway production of "West Side Story." The show's groundbreaking choreography by Jerome Robbins ignited Condon's imagination and further fueled his passion for dance.

Condon's talent soon caught the attention of renowned choreographer Bob Fosse. In 1961, Fosse selected him to assist in the creation of the

choreography for "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." This collaboration marked the beginning of a long and fruitful creative partnership.

Signature Style and Innovations

Condon's choreography became synonymous with a distinctive style that blended elements of jazz, ballet, and modern dance. His signature moves were characterized by their fluid grace, energetic athleticism, and witty playfulness.

One of Condon's most innovative contributions to musical theater was his use of the ensemble. He saw the chorus not merely as a backdrop for the principals but as an integral part of the storytelling, creating dynamic and visually stunning dance numbers that advanced the plot and heightened the emotional impact of the show.

Collaboration with Stephen Sondheim

Another defining moment in Condon's career came when he teamed up with legendary composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim. Their first collaboration, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" (1962), showcased Condon's ability to create sophisticated and witty dance sequences that perfectly complemented Sondheim's complex musical score.

The duo's subsequent collaborations, including "Company" (1970), "Follies" (1971), and "A Little Night Music" (1973), further cemented Condon's reputation as one of Broadway's most innovative and sought-after choreographers.

Beyond Broadway

Condon's influence extended far beyond the stage. He choreographed numerous films, including "All That Jazz" (1979), "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" (1982), and "Chicago" (2002). His work in film earned him two Academy Award nominations for Best Choreography.

Condon was also a dedicated teacher and mentor to aspiring dancers and choreographers. He taught at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center and the Juilliard School, passing on his knowledge and passion for the art form to future generations.

Legacy and Impact

Robert Condon left an indelible mark on the world of musical theater. His groundbreaking choreography changed the perception of dance in Broadway productions, elevating it from a supporting role to an essential element of the storytelling and emotional impact.

Condon's legacy continues to inspire and influence dancers and choreographers worldwide. His innovative style and unwavering dedication to the art form have ensured his place as one of the most influential figures in Broadway history.

Robert Condon's journey to becoming a Broadway legend is a testament to his passion, determination, and extraordinary talent. From his humble beginnings in Brooklyn to his groundbreaking collaborations with some of the greatest artists of the 20th century, Condon's life and work stand as an inspiration to all who dare to pursue their dreams.

Through his innovative choreography and dedication to the art form, Condon left an enduring legacy that continues to shape the world of musical theater today. His name will forever be etched in the annals of Broadway history, a symbol of the transformative power of dance and the indomitable spirit



Putting Up A Show by Robert Condon

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2960 KB

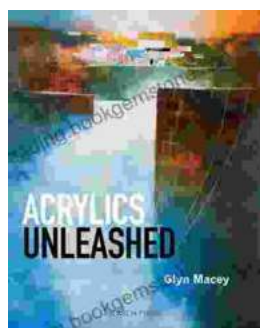
Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 27 pages

Lending : Enabled

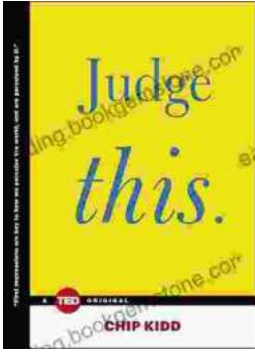
FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



Acrylics Unleashed: Exploring the Creative Potential of Acrylics with Glyn Macey

Welcome to the vibrant world of acrylics, a medium that captivates the imagination with its versatility, expressiveness, and infinite...



Judge This: The Unforgettable Book Covers of Chip Kidd

Chip Kidd is one of the most influential book cover designers of our time. His work is characterized by its wit, intelligence, and originality. He has designed...