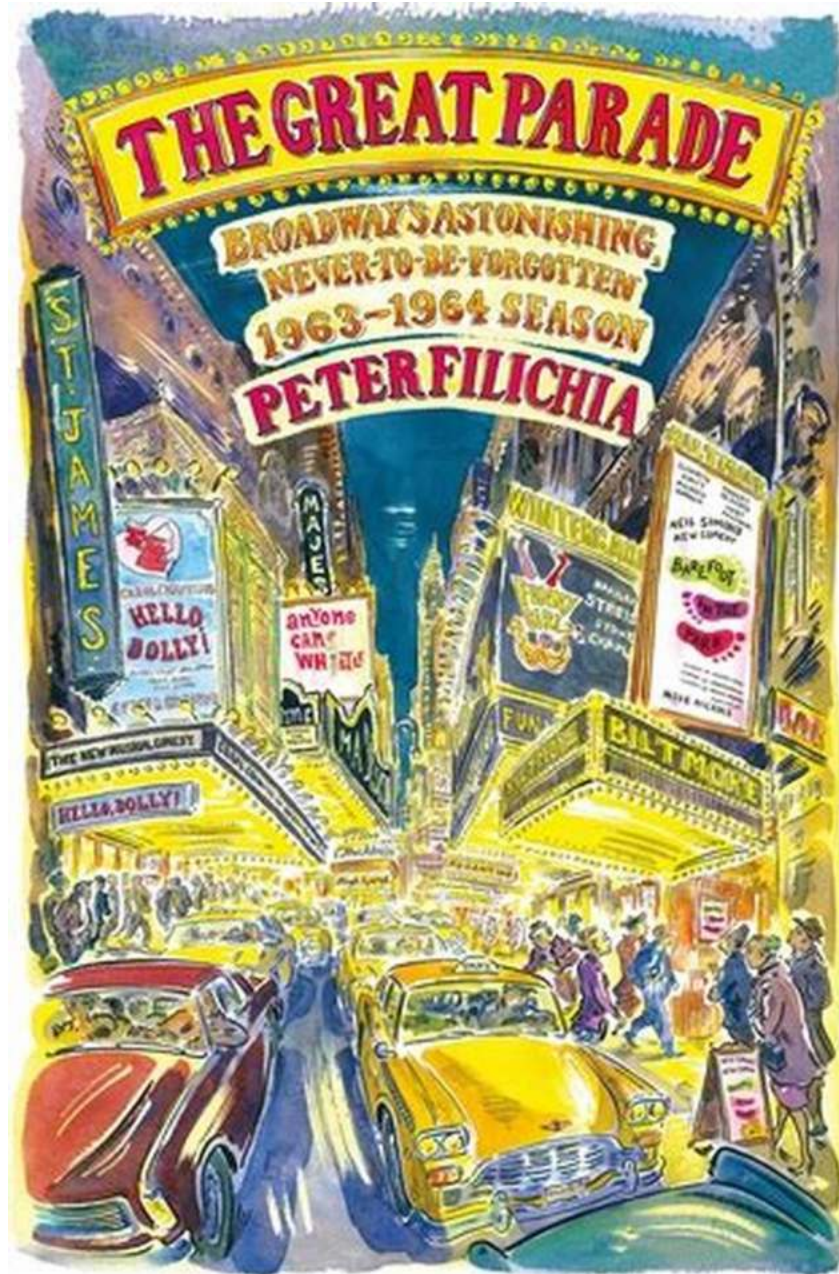


# Broadway Astonishing Never To Be Forgotten 1963-1964 Season: A Journey Through Time



The Broadway season of 1963-1964 was a remarkable time in the history of American theater. It brought forth an array of groundbreaking productions, unforgettable performances, and landmark moments that continue to shape and inspire the theater industry today. This article takes you on a journey back in time

to explore the astonishing highlights of that season, which will forever hold a place in Broadway's rich legacy.

## The Unforgettable Productions

The 1963-1964 season witnessed the rise of several iconic productions that captivated audiences and left indelible impressions. One of the standout shows of that time was "Funny Girl," a musical that showcased the extraordinary talent of Barbra Streisand in her Tony-winning role as Fanny Brice. The show not only propelled Streisand to superstardom but also featured memorable songs like "People" and "Don't Rain on My Parade," which have since become Broadway classics.



### The Great Parade: Broadway's Astonishing, Never-to-Be-Forgotten 1963-1964 Season

by Peter Filichia (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
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Another unforgettable production was "Hello, Dolly!" starring the incomparable Carol Channing. This production became a cultural phenomenon and ran for an astonishing 2,844 performances. Channing's portrayal of the charismatic and

meddling matchmaker, Dolly Gallagher Levi, became legendary in the annals of Broadway history.

The gripping drama "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams also debuted during that season, leaving audiences moved by its emotionally charged performances. The play explored themes of family dynamics, memory, and dreams, setting the stage for profound introspection and discussions.

## **Unforgettable Performances**

Alongside the groundbreaking productions, the 1963-1964 season witnessed exceptional performances that would forever be etched in the minds of theatergoers. Julie Andrews starred as the enchanting Mary Poppins in the musical of the same name, showcasing her remarkable vocal range and stage presence.

Equally impressive was the performance of Zero Mostel as Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof." Mostel's larger-than-life portrayal of the lovable dairyman captured the hearts of audiences and earned him a Tony Award for Best Actor in a Musical. His energetic delivery of songs like "Tradition" and "If I Were a Rich Man" added an unparalleled spark to the show.

Furthermore, the 1963-1964 season introduced audiences to Angela Lansbury's incredible versatility on Broadway. She starred in two different productions, "Anyone Can Whistle" and "Mame," displaying her range as both a comedic and dramatic actress. Lansbury garnered critical acclaim for her performances, solidifying her status as one of Broadway's finest talents.

## **Landmark Moments and Legacy**

The 1963-1964 Broadway season was not only witness to awe-inspiring performances and exceptional productions but also marked several notable milestones and significant moments. One such moment was when "She Loves Me" debuted, which marked the beginning of the celebrated collaboration between composer Jerry Bock and lyricist Sheldon Harnick.

The season also saw the premiere of "Barefoot in the Park" by Neil Simon, which became one of the most successful plays of its time, running for over 1,500 performances. Simon's wit and character-driven storytelling cemented his place as one of America's most beloved playwrights.

Furthermore, the 1963-1964 season witnessed the emergence of actor Alan Arkin, who made his Broadway debut in "Enter Laughing." Arkin's hilarious portrayal of a young aspiring actor and his journey into the world of theater left audiences in stitches, foreshadowing his future success in the film industry.

The legacy of the 1963-1964 Broadway season continues to shape the theater landscape today. Many of the productions from that time have been revived and continue to enthrall audiences all over the world. The performances of Barbra Streisand, Carol Channing, and Angela Lansbury paved the way for future generations of talented actresses, leaving an indelible impact on the industry.

## **In**

The Broadway season of 1963-1964 was a remarkable period that showcased some of the most unforgettable productions, performances, and moments in the history of American theater. From the rise of Barbra Streisand's stardom to Carol Channing's iconic portrayal of Dolly Levi, the season left an everlasting impact on Broadway's legacy. The performances and achievements of that time continue to

inspire and shape the theater industry today, ensuring that the astonishing 1963-1964 season will never be forgotten.



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It was the Broadway season when Barbra Streisand demanded "Don't Rain on My Parade" and Carol Channing heard the waiters at the Harmonia Gardens say "Hello, Dolly!". From June 1, 1963 through the final day of May 31, 1964, theatergoers were offered 68 different productions: 24 new plays, 15 new comedies, 14 new musicals, 5 revivals of plays, 3 revues, 3 plays in Yiddish, 2 in French, 1 double-bill and even 1 puppet show. Peter Filichia's *The Great Parade* will look at what a Broadway season looked like a half-century ago analyzing the hits, the flops, the trends, the surprises, the disappointments, the stars and even how the assassination of JFK and the arrival of the Beatles affected Broadway. *The Great Parade* is a chronicle of a Broadway season unprecedented in the star power onstage: Barbara Streisand, Carol Channing, Claudette Colbert. Colleen Dewhurst, Hal Holbrook, Mary Martin, Christopher Plummer, Robert Preston, Julie Harris, Jason Robards, Jr., Carol Burnett, Tallulah Bankhead, Alec Guinness, Kirk Douglas, Albert Finney, Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward, Richard Burton, Mary Martin, Beatrice Lillie, Hermione Gingold, Robert Redford and many more. Neil Simon and Stephen Sondheim burst on to the Broadway stage with *Barefoot in the Park* and *Anyone Can Whistle*. The '63-'64 season was one of Broadway's greatest and in *The Great Parade*, Peter Filichia gives us another classic.



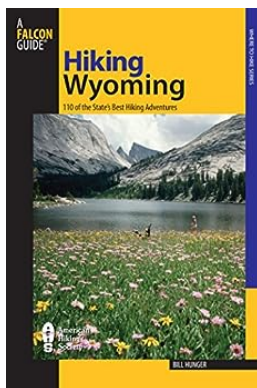
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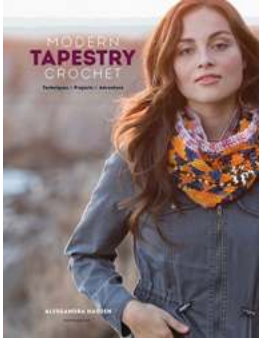
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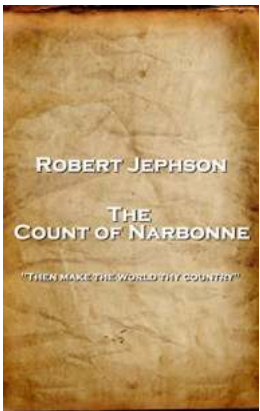
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