

## My Fair Lady

### The Show

Based on the well-known George Bernard Shaw play *Pygmalion*, the musical remains true to the intents of the original story, which purported that there are no true class distinctions in society, only differences in levels of education. Cockney Eliza Dolittle is taken on as a student by linguist Henry Higgins, who has wagered with his colleague, Colonel Pickering, that he can transform her into a lady. Higgins succeeds in neutralizing her accent to the extent that Eliza begins to move well in higher society. A young upper-class man, Freddy Eynsford-Hill, falls in love with Eliza, as does Professor Higgins. We are left not knowing who eventually wins her affections. A film version was released in 1964 starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison.

### The Authors

Music by Frederick Loewe; Lyrics and Book by Alan Jay Lerner

### New York Runs

March 15, 1956–September 29, 1962: Mark Hellinger Theatre

March 25, 1976–February 20, 1977: St. James Theatre (3/25/76–12/5/76);

Lunt-Fontanne Theatre (12/9/76–2/20/77)

August 18, 1981–November 29, 1981:

Uris Theatre

December 9, 1993–May 1, 1994:

Virginia Theatre

### The Songs

#### “I Could Have Danced All Night”

“I Could Have Danced All Night” is sung by Eliza (played by Julie Andrews on Broadway and Audrey Hepburn [whose singing was dubbed by Marni Nixon] in the movie) as she anticipates the challenge of an upper-class social event for which Prof. Higgins feels she is ready.

#### Song Type

standard Broadway/legit musical theatre/up tempo

#### Suggested 16-Bar Cut for Auditions

m. 30 (with pickups) through m. 42 + m. 92 (Coda) through m. 96

#### “Show Me”

“Show Me” is sung by Eliza when she runs into Freddy, who spends many a night outside her home, as she leaves after become infuriated at Higgins’s and Pickering’s self-congratulations regarding her accomplishments. Freddy ardently tries to express his feelings to her but takes out her fury on him.

#### Song Type

standard Broadway/legit musical theatre/up tempo

#### Suggested 16-Bar Cut for Auditions

m. 57 through m. 68 + m. 73 through m. 76 (using first verse lyrics)

#### “Without You”

Eliza sings “Without You” to Henry Higgins when he comes to retrieve her from his mother’s home where she has gone to seek advice. After expressing her feelings through this song, Eliza tells Higgins that he will never see her again and she walks out.

#### Song Type

standard Broadway/legit musical theatre/up tempo

#### Suggested 16-Bar Cut for Auditions

m. 50 (with pickup) through m. 65

## Oh, Kay!

### The Show

In the fictional town of Beachampton, Long Island, a band of bootleggers have set up their headquarters in an empty beach house. When the owner of the house, Jimmy Winter, returns home unexpectedly, Kay Denham (who is really Lady Kay Rutfield) poses as a member of the house staff in order to be near the bootlegged liquor that her highborn, but shady, brother, The Duke, has stored in Jimmy’s basement. Though Jimmy is engaged to someone else, he eventually falls in love with Kay and she returns his feelings. Mistaken identities