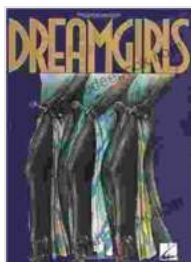


Dreamgirls' Susan Crabtree: A Musical Force Whose Performance Captivated and Inspired



In the vibrant tapestry of Broadway musicals, few productions have left an indelible mark quite like "Dreamgirls." This Tony Award-winning smash hit, which premiered in 1981, has captivated audiences with its infectious melodies, heart-wrenching story, and unforgettable characters.



Dreamgirls by Susan Crabtree

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 28497 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled

Print length	: 416 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported
Paperback	: 110 pages
Item Weight	: 13.4 ounces
Dimensions	: 9 x 0.3 x 12 inches



Among the talented ensemble that brought "Dreamgirls" to life was Susan Crabtree, whose portrayal of Michelle Morris remains an iconic performance in musical theater history. With her powerhouse vocals and commanding stage presence, Crabtree breathed life into the character of an ambitious young singer who dreams of stardom.

A Journey from Opera to Broadway

Crabtree's path to Broadway was an unconventional one. Born in Sioux City, Iowa, she initially pursued a career in opera, earning a degree from the University of Northern Iowa. However, it was a chance encounter with "Dreamgirls" that sparked a new direction in her life.

In 1981, Crabtree attended a workshop for "Dreamgirls" in New York City. Impressed by her powerful voice and undeniable stage presence, the show's creators offered her the role of Michelle Morris.

Embodying Michelle Morris

Michelle Morris is a complex and multifaceted character. She is a gifted singer with a burning desire to succeed, but she is also flawed and vulnerable. Crabtree embraced the character's complexities, bringing depth and nuance to her performance.

In the iconic song "I Am Changing," Michelle sings of her transformation from a naive dreamer to a seasoned show business veteran. Crabtree's rendition of the song is both soaring and vulnerable, capturing Michelle's journey of growth and self-discovery.

Critical Acclaim and Legacy

Crabtree's performance in "Dreamgirls" garnered widespread critical acclaim. She won the 1982 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical, solidifying her status as one of Broadway's brightest stars.

The legacy of "Dreamgirls" and Crabtree's performance continues to this day. The musical has been revived on Broadway multiple times, and a film adaptation was released in 2006. Crabtree's portrayal of Michelle Morris has become synonymous with the character, inspiring countless aspiring performers.

An Enduring Influence

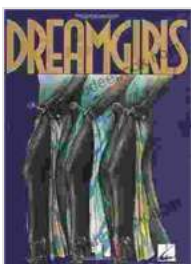
Beyond her groundbreaking performance in "Dreamgirls," Crabtree has continued to captivate audiences with her versatility and talent. She has appeared in numerous Broadway productions, including "Follies," "Jelly's Last Jam," and "Ragtime."

Crabtree's passion for the arts extends beyond the stage. She is a vocal advocate for young performers and has taught master classes and workshops around the country. Her dedication to mentoring and inspiring the next generation of musical theater stars is a testament to her enduring impact on the industry.

A Masterful Performer and a Role Model

Susan Crabtree's performance as Michelle Morris in "Dreamgirls" is a master class in musical theater. Her powerful vocals, commanding stage presence, and deep understanding of the character have left an unforgettable mark on audiences worldwide.

As a performer and a role model, Crabtree continues to inspire and captivate. Her legacy as one of Broadway's greatest talents will undoubtedly endure for generations to come.



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