Top 5 London Musicals and Their Star performers

by Hannah Hill

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London's most exciting theatrical experiences are often booked up in advance but sometimes the major shows hold back tickets for that evenings show. For quality views book in advance though. The sights possible on the London Stage rival the astonishing architecture of London itself. As much as standing in wonder outside St. Paul's gives you goosebumps and is a gorgeous reminder of the city and the country's heritage, the West end musicals are similarly exhilarating. They create tender drama whilst being fantastic entertainment. They are perfect for dates and for entertaining tired children at the end of a days sight-seeing.

Pieces like We Will Rock You, the musical based on the era defining music by Freddy Mercury and Brian May. Glam rock provides a delicious nights entertainment. The opportunity to bring out your inner glamour diva or rock god and join hundreds of people in a night's festivity celebrating the best of the seventies.

The second most popular musical in London is The Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre. This production is difficult to compare anything to. It has the most extraordinary use of the theatre space with beautiful and sculptural costumes which convey the strength and honour found in the animals of the African Savannah. The story based on Shakespeare's Hamlet stands strong, stirringly expressed in abundant and luscious colour by fantastic actors.

The worldwide smash of the film version of Billy Elliot is more than paid tribute to in this musical. The story is of a humble boy rising through class restriction to fight ignorance and succeed in making his family proud. Elton john has written an uplifting and emotional score to this loving depiction of a young man's journey in the eighties in the North of England. Billy Elliot has a love of ballet and risks ridicule and his relationship with his father to stand by his passion and fight for success in a foreign world.

For 25 years The Phantom of the Opera has reigned supreme over the West end with its passionate drama and frightening themes. The story is of a recluse who hides in the Paris Opera and brings the theatre folk to fear him whilst falling in love with the beautiful singer Christine. Phantom is a tour de force of musical theatre.

Thriller is a tribute to the brilliant and iconic music of Michael Jackson and the Jackson 5. This is a celebration of Jackson's music, theatricality and his astonishing journey to stardom. The mysterious life of the King of Pop is laid out with hysterical drama and enthusiasm. It enthrals audiences and leaves them dancing.

The West end is glowing with confidence. These five shows alone preview a vibrant side to London. The emotion that these dramatic experiences take you to is a valuable part of London's culture. The musical theatre in the capital of the UK is big emotional and bold, these are a few of the best.

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Hannah Hill - About Author:
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