Contents

Foreword, by Geoffrey Block  ix
Acknowledgments  xiii

Introduction  1

CHAPTER 1. Forty-Two Years of Musicals  12

CHAPTER 2. The Divinely Decadent Lives of Cabaret  35

CHAPTER 3. Chicago: Broadway to Hollywood  77

CHAPTER 4. Fred Without John and John Without Fred  103

CHAPTER 5. Kiss of the Spider Woman: Sex, Politics, and the Diva Musical  150

CHAPTER 6. Flops and Second Chances: Flora, the Red Menance; The Happy Time; Zorba; 70, Girls, 70; The Rink; and Steel Pier  170

CHAPTER 7. Divas or Anti-Divas?: The Act and The Woman of the Year  229
CHAPTER 8. Musicals Abandoned and Imagined  239

CHAPTER 9. “A Tough Act to Follow”: Curtains and Three New Shows  258

Appendix  307
Notes  315
Index  345
Credits  363