

It's time to "Brush Up Your Shakespeare!" Broadway's musical comedy knockout, *KISS ME, KATE*, features music and lyrics by Cole Porter and book by Samuel and Bella Spewack. *KISS ME, KATE* is directed by Michael Blakemore, choreographed by Kathleen Marshall, with music direction by Paul Gemignani, sets by Robin Wagner, costumes by Martin Pakledinaz, lighting by Peter Kaczorowski and sound design by Tony Meola.

The musical is playing at the Martin Beck Theatre at 302 West 45th Street. A national tour is scheduled to begin in New Haven, CT in June 2001.

*KISS ME, KATE* is one of Broadway's most beloved musicals. Featuring a score that's completely classic and a story that's totally timeless, it's also a musical about the theatre. Set backstage during an out-of-town tryout for a musical based on Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew", egotistical actor-producer Fred Graham and his ex-wife, Lilli Vanessi bicker and romance their way through Porter's most famous theatre songs. And just like Shakespeare's Petruchio and Kate - whom they play on stage in the play-within-a-play - it's a fight to the finish in a classic battle of the sexes!

A subplot involves actress Lois Lane and her romance with actor Bill Calhoun who has a weakness for gambling.