

What the Critics are Saying About Ragtime!

“RAGTIME is stunning! A triumph for the stage! RAGTIME combines big social themes, imaginative staging and emotionally involving storytelling in a way that has all but vanished from the American musical.”

--Richard Zoglin, TIME MAGAZINE

“RAGTIME is great theatre! An impressive achievement! So rich and heart-rending you are likely to spend all three hours of its duration fighting back tears. A pageant of American stories... RAGTIME has the rare distinction of being timely, even as it promises to be timeless.”

--Laurie Winer, LOS ANGELES TIMES

“The best musical of the year!”

--David Patrick Stearns, USA TODAY

“A ravishing pageant. The music reaches to match the visual grandeur. A mighty roster of theater artists bring RAGTIME’s metaphors to life.”

--Ben Brantley, THE NEW YORK TIMES

“A magnificent rebirth of E.L. Doctorow’s exuberant historical fantasia. An ingenious production full of show-stopping vaudeville turns, sports and play worlds. Everything about RAGTIME is big – a big cast, a big concept and a big victory for the musical theater collaboration. A powerful theatrical experience.”

--John Lahr, THE NEW YORKER

“RAGTIME successfully leaps onto the musical stage. A blue-ribbon Broadway creative team beautifully focuses the story with breakthrough performances by its large cast. A fascinating mirror of the 1990s.

--David Patrick Stearns, USA TODAY

“The new musical RAGTIME is magnificent in scope and munificent in spirit! The most thematically ambitious of all

American musicals – it's grandly conceived and grandly executed!"

--Charles Isherwood, VARIETY

"The next international hyper-hit! Seldom have I seen a more finely staged show or one that better catches the spirit of a rich and fascinating original."

--Benedict Nightingale, THE LONDON TIMES

"RAGTIME is a rarity! The score is stirring, heartfelt, and richly melodic! Epic musical theatre, emotional and expansive. RAGTIME sets its sights on the sky and then proceeds to soar. Truly wondrous!"

--Mike Kuchwara, ASSOCIATED PRESS

"An absolutely stunning and brilliant production and a major creative accomplishment! RAGTIME, as thrilling an original musical as the end of this century has yet produced, is a work outstanding for the beauty of its design, for the high artistry of its production and for the depth and daring of its vision."

--Richard Christiansen, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"A powerfully populist score, instantly and pleurably familiar. Inventive staging drives the great narrative forward, and delivers show-stoppers along the way.

--Kate Taylor, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

"I have seen the future of the Broadway musical, and it's RAGTIME! Unassailably brilliant! A work of unity and power! Stand and cheer for the intelligence and vision and talent that have brought this masterpiece to the stage! Make no mistake: When they write the history of the 20th century musical theatre, the final glorious chapter will have to go to RAGTIME"

--Richard Ouzounian, CBS RADIO

"RAH-RAH-RAGTIME...Big and epic! An impressive achievement and a marvelous work! A show that seamlessly spans our century, don't be surprised if RAGTIME lives on into the next century!"

--Vit Wagner, THE TORONTO STAR

“There are few works in contemporary musical theatre to rival RAGTIME! Lushly, lavishly and masterfully adapted for the stage. A theatrical juggernaut!”

--John Coulbourn, THE TORONTO SUN

“RAGTIME has built-in razzle-dazzle, high romance, random poetry, a richly emotional score and a people’s army of big voices. RAGTIME comes as close to thinkers’ theatre as a musical is ever likely to get!”

--Pat Donnelly, THE MONTREAL GAZETTE

“The most exciting new musical in 10 years! Superb musical theatre, thrillingly told with vigor, melody and showmanship. Accomplishes what a great musical should. Filled with the wondrous momentum of a parade – you’re hooked, eager for what’s next, and helpless to resist.”

--Kenneth Jones, THE DETROIT NEWS

“RAGTIME thumps the emotional receptors...You’ll only fail to tingle to it if you don’t have a spine!”

--Lawrence Devine, THE DETROIT NEWS

“A brilliantly conceived creation. Terrence McNally has done a remarkable job (that encompasses an astonishing amount of Doctorow’s kaleidoscopic narrative). A consistently melodic score by Ahrens and Flaherty. Inspired musical staging created by a high-powered creative team. A knock-out!”

--Michael Sommers, NEWHOUSE NEWSPAPERS

“A super-major stage musical! A gorgeous spectacle with an excellent cast. The direction and choreography are brilliant.

--Liz Smith, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST