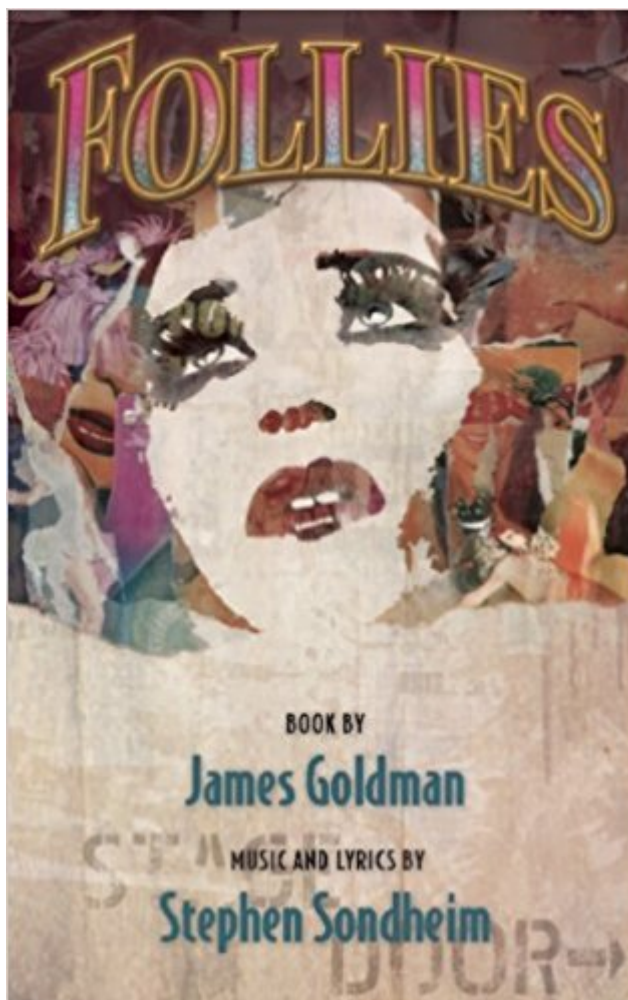


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Follies: New Edition



Synopsis

"A landmark musical. . . . A work of art."#151;The New York TimesOn the eve of a once-glorious theater's destruction, all of life's might-have-beens take center stage as two jaded couples glamorize the old days in what proves to be a shattering experience. This classic musical by visionaries Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman returned to Broadway in fall 2011 starring Bernadette Peters, Jan Maxwell, and Elaine Paige. Stephen Sondheim is the lyricist for West Side Story and Gypsy and the composer/lyricist for Sunday in the Park with George, Company, A Little Night Music, Sweeney Todd, and many others. James Goldman was a playwright, novelist, lyricist, and screenwriter. His plays include The Lion in Winter; They Might Be Giants; Blood, Sweat and Stanley Poole; and the musical A Family Affair.

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Customer Reviews

This is the same script used in the 2001 production, minus the Bolero d' Amour and with full credits for each major production. The current production's ending is not the same as the 1971 version but it is an improvement over the 2001 ending. This volume gives you the 2001 ending. I wish the Random House 1971 script was in print. It contained all the brilliant and often caustic dialogue. All this is the 2001 version with a new cover!

FOLLIES is one of Stephen Sondheim's greatest Broadway musical achievements. This publication reworks the original and matches the script of the recent Kennedy Center and Broadway revival that

starred Bernadette Peters, Ron Raines, Danny Burstein and Jan Maxwell. Though not as raw and searing as the original libretto perhaps, it still bites and hits home hard with nostalgic fervor. It's great to have this, if for no other reason than to have the song lyrics on paper to enjoy and treasure. Highly recommended.

As another reviewer has commented this is merely the already extant 2001 edition of the script, repackaged with a new cover that reflects the most recent revival's poster art. This is NOT the text and libretto as used in the 2011 Broadway Revival. This is the text of the 2001 Broadway Revival which has been noted in by several reviewers as a weaker production. The "changes" made to justify this as a "2nd edition" are impossible to find, other than the new cover art. I have compared this with the 2001 edition and cannot find any differences. The text of Follies has been revised every time by its author, James Goldman, with the most complete version of the text being the original publication from the 1970s. This is still available second-hand on (yes it can cost a lot) but every now and then a copy shows up at an affordable price. I highly recommend buying that edition. It is a shame that the publishers could not be bothered to source the text from the latest production, which from many accounts had a very vibrant text.

I got the original 1971 libretto very cheaply on . It seems that over the years the authors have cut some of the weird, distinctive touches - such as Sally dashing into the party with an umbrella and then asking if she can keep the sash she is given - and replaced it with more ordinary material. I don't know why. I checked the original out from the library and read it at 14. It made perfect sense to me, even the tough stuff.

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