

Adding machine play pdf

I'm not robot!

1923 play by Elmer Rice For other uses, see Adding machine (disambiguation). The Adding Machine is a 1923 play by Elmer Rice; it has been called "... a landmark of American Expressionism, reflecting the growing interest in this highly subjective and nonrealistic form of modern drama."[¹] Plot The author of this play takes us through Mr. Zero's trial, execution, excursion and arrest going into the afterlife. During the whole series of this episodic journey Mr. Zero is surprisingly oblivious to his deepest needs, wants and desires. The story focuses on Mr. Zero, an accountant at a large, faceless company. After 25 years at his job, he discovers that he will be replaced by an adding machine. In anger and pain, he snaps and kills his boss. Mr. Zero is then tried for murder, is found guilty and hanged. He wakes up in a heaven-like setting known as the "Elysian Fields." Mr. Zero meets a man named Shrdlu, then begins to operate an adding machine until Lieutenant Charles, the boss of the Elysian Fields, comes to tell Zero that he is a waste of space and his soul is going to be sent back to the Earth to be reused. The play ends with Zero following a very attractive girl named Hope off stage. Success The play was an influence on the Tennessee Williams play *Stairs to the Roof*.[²] Years later, it was adapted into a 1969 film of the same name, written and directed by Jerome Epstein and starring Milo O'Shea, Phyllis Diller, Billie Whitelaw and Sydney Chaplin.[³] In 1989, Chicago's Hystopolis Productions adapted Rice's play for puppets;[⁴] the production was hailed for its visual design.[⁵] In September 1992 this production went on to be featured at the First International Festival of Puppet Theater presented at The Public Theater in New York which was a co-production of Joseph Papp and the Jim Henson Foundation.[⁶] The Adding Machine remains part of Hystopolis' professional repertoire.[^{citation needed}] Musical adaptation Main article: Adding Machine (musical) In 2007, the play was adapted into a musical entitled Adding Machine with a score by Joshua Schmidt and book by Jason Loewith and Schmidt. The musical debuted in Illinois at the Next Theatre Company in 2007. It then opened Off-Broadway at the Minetta Lane Theatre on February 25, 2008, after previews that started February 8. In September 2016 the musical was produced at the Finborough Theatre in London England.[⁷] References ^ Beard, M. Toten (2007). "Elmer Rice". In Cody, Gabrielle H.; Sprinchorn, Evert (eds.). *The Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*, Volume 2. Columbia University. ISBN 978-0-231-14424-7.^ Billington, Michael (October 11, 2001). "Theatre review: Stairs to the Roof" – via www.theguardian.com.^ The Adding Machine at IMDb ^ Bowen, Joseph (July 19, 2003). "The Adding Machine: American business and the advent of technology". Centerstage. Retrieved 2011-02-06. Review of the Hystopolis production.^ Helbig, Jack. "Chicago's Other Puppet Theater". Chicago Reader.^ Gussow, Mel (September 16, 1992). "Theater in Review" – via NYTimes.com.^ Jones, Kenneth (February 8, 2008). "Adding Machine, a Hit Musical in Chicago, Bows in NYC Feb. 8". Playbill. Archived from the original on April 17, 2008. Further reading Manus, Willard (July 28, 1999). "Adding Machine Marks 76th Birthday at Heliotrope, July 29". Playbill. External links The Adding Machine at the Internet Broadway Database This article on a play from the 1920s is a stub. You can help Wikipedia by expanding it.vte Retrieved from " Adding MachineWorld Premiere RecordingMusicJoshua SchmidLyricsJason Loewith Joshua SchmidtBookJason Loewith Joshua SchmidtBasisPlay The Adding Machine by Elmer RiceProductions2007 Illinois 2008 Off-Broadway 2009 Washington D.C. 2010 Boston2011 Los Angeles2011 Vancouver (Canadian Premiere) Adding Machine is a musical with music by Joshua Schmidt, and book and lyrics by Schmidt and Jason Loewith. It is an adaptation of Elmer Rice's 1923 play of the same name. The show opened in 2007 in Illinois before moving off-Broadway in 2008. The show was nominated for numerous Lucille Lortel and Drama Desk awards. Background Adding Machine is a musical adaptation of Elmer Rice's 1923 play The Adding Machine. The original play has been called the "gimlet-eyed Expressionist classic about the soul rot of conventionality;" it relates the story of an "antihero," Mr. Zero, who murders his boss after he has been replaced by an adding machine after 25 years on the job.[¹] Loewith conceived a musical adaptation after learning of the Kurt Weill musical based on a second Rice play Street Scene. After some years, Loewith was able to attract composer Joshua Schmidt to the project; Schmidt composed the music, and wrote the libretto and book together with Loewith.[²] Schmidt met Loewith because he was the artistic director of company at Next Theater.[³] Schmidt explained why his show had such a small band: "At Next Theater, we had a 15-by-5 space for the orchestra — a shoebox with a very low ceiling. My experience had taught me how to get a lot out of a little. I approached it with this combination in mind from the moment of conception. I didn't cut it back to make it fit our space. I created a full blown, challenging score for three instruments. It's not a matter of compensating for instruments that aren't there."[³] Productions The musical premiered in 2007 at the Next Theater in Illinois in a production directed by David Cromer and starring Joel Hatch, Cyrilla Baer, and Amy Warren.[⁴] The Chicago production was recognized with a Jeff Award for best musical.[⁵] It opened Off Broadway at the Minetta Lane Theatre on February 25, 2008; it was again directed by David Cromer, with many of the original cast members.[⁶][⁷][⁸] The New York-based critic Adam Feldman reviewed the musical enthusiastically, noting that "Schmidt and Loewith's adaptation cleaves to the bones of Rice's play but also fleshes it out in a superbly varied score" and "Adding Machine does what Zero literally cannot imagine: It alchemizes mediocrity into excellence."[¹] The production received six Lucille Lortel Award nominations, more than any other show in the 2008 season,[⁹] and won for Outstanding Musical (among others).[¹⁰] The show was produced in Washington, DC in 2009 at The Studio Theatre with Jason Loewith directing. It then was produced by the SpeakEasy Stage Company in Boston in March and April 2010, at the Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts. Cincinnati's Know Theatre produced it in their 2009–2010 season. In Los Angeles, it was produced by the Odyssey Theater Ensemble in early 2011.[¹¹] The production was directed by Ron Sossi; Clifford Morts and Kelly Lester played Mr. and Mrs. Zero. In Milwaukee, it was produced by the Skylight Music Theatre in 2011.[¹²] A new production was staged as the Australasian Premiere by Underground Productions based in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. The production was staged for a limited season at the Schonell Theatre at the University of Queensland, St Lucia campus. The production opened in September 2014 for a 3-week season.[¹³][¹⁴] The cast featured Chris Kellett as Mr. Zero, Gabriella Flowers (Mrs Zero) and Taylor Davidson (Daisy Devore), with Music Direction by Benedict Braxton-Smith. Song list Listing based on the compilation at CastAlbum.com.[¹⁵] Prelude Something to Be Proud Of Harmony, Not Discord Office Reverie Moving Up In Numbers In Numbers (Reprise) I'd Rather Watch You The Party Zero's Confession Ham and Eggs Didn't We? I Was A Fool The Gospel According to Shrdlu Death March A Pleasant Place Shrdlu's Blues Daisy's Confession I'd Rather Watch You (Reprise) Freedom! Freedom! (Reprise) The Music of the Machine Cast (New York) Cyrilla Baer as Mrs Zero Joel Hatch as Mr Zero Amy Warren as Daisy Devore Joe Farrell as Shrdlu Jeff Still as Boss/Fixer/Charles Adinah Alexander as Mrs Two Nilfer Clarke as Mrs One Roger E. DeWitt as Mr Two Daniel Marcus as Mr One Swings: Randy Blair and Ariela Morgenstern Awards and nominations 2008 Lucille Lortel Awards Outstanding Musical (winner) Outstanding Director, David Cromer (winner) Outstanding Lead Actor, Joel Hatch (winner) Outstanding Featured Actress, Amy Warren Outstanding Costume Design, Kristine Khanishu Outstanding Lighting Design, Keith Parham (winner) Drama Desk Awards (nominations) Outstanding Music (Schmidt) Outstanding Director of a Musical, Amy Warren Outstanding Music (Schmidt) Outstanding Lyrics (Loewith and Schmidt) Outstanding Book of a Musical Outstanding Set Design of a Musical (Takeshi Kata) Outstanding Lighting Design (Keith Parham) Outstanding Sound Design (Tony Smolenski IV) Outer Critics Circle Awards Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical (winner) Outstanding New Score (winner) Outstanding Director Of A Musical (nominee) Outstanding Featured Actress In A Musical (Amy Warren) (nominee) References ^ a b Feldman, Adam (February 27, 2008). "Adding Machine". Time Out: New York. Archived from the original on 30 March 2008. Retrieved 2008-04-06.^ Israel, Robert (March 11, 2010). "Playwright Jason Loewith's Gamble on 'Adding Machine' Pays Off". Edge.^ a b Composer Josh Schmidt, on "The Adding Machine" x Urban Milwaukee ^ Isherwood, Charles (February 28, 2007). "An Audience-Friendly Theatrical Town, Chicago Is". The New York Times. Archived from the original on October 23, 2014. Retrieved 2008-04-06.^ The Luckless Office Drone's Life, and Afterlife, of Benumbed Desperation Charles Isherwood, New York Times February 26, 2008.^ Jones, Kenneth (February 8, 2008). "Adding Machine, a Hit Musical in Chicago, Bows in NYC Feb. 8". Playbill. Archived from the original on 2008-04-17. Retrieved 2008-05-06.^ Sommer, Elyse (February 23, 2008). "A CurtainUp Review: Adding Machine", Curtain Up. Retrieved 2011-02-22.^ Finkle, David (February 26, 2008). "Adding Machine". Theatermania. Archived from the original on October 17, 2008. 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