

The Life and Times of Cy Coleman: Applause Books

Cy Coleman, an iconic figure in the world of music and musical theater, left an enduring legacy that continues to captivate audiences worldwide. This comprehensive biography delves into the life and times of this remarkable artist, providing a detailed account of his creative journey from his early years to his ascent as a Broadway legend. Drawing on extensive research, personal accounts, and exclusive interviews, this book offers an intimate portrait of the man behind some of the most beloved and enduring musical compositions of our time.



You Fascinate Me So: The Life and Times of Cy Coleman (Applause Books) by Morwenna Assaf

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 7793 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 512 pages



Early Life and Influences

Coleman was born on September 14, 1929, in New York City. His early life was marked by exposure to a vibrant musical environment, with his father being a successful violinist and his mother an accomplished pianist. Coleman's prodigious talent for music manifested itself at a young age, and

he began playing the piano by ear at the age of three. Throughout his childhood and adolescence, he immersed himself in various musical styles, including classical, jazz, and popular music.



Breakthrough and Broadway Success

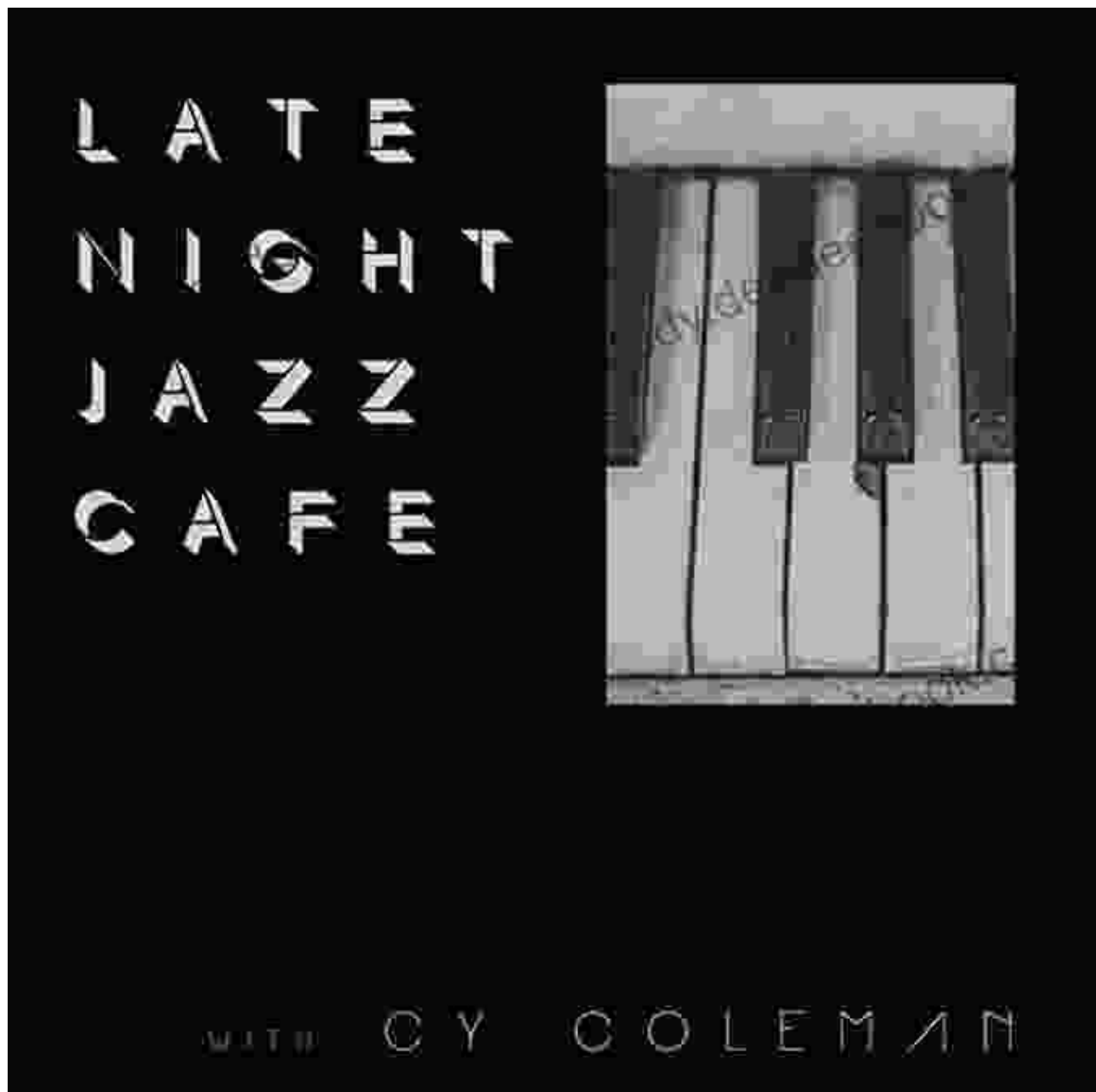
Coleman's breakthrough came in the early 1950s when he collaborated with lyricist Carolyn Leigh on the Broadway musical "Wildcat." The show's success launched Coleman's career as a composer and lyricist, and he went on to create numerous hit musicals, including "Sweet Charity," "Little Me," "Seesaw," and "On the Twentieth Century." Coleman's music was characterized by its infectious melodies, witty lyrics, and sophisticated jazz-infused orchestrations.



Jazz and Film Scores

In addition to his work in musical theater, Coleman also made significant contributions to the world of jazz. He composed and arranged several acclaimed jazz albums, including "Cy Coleman Plays Cy Coleman" and "The Cy Coleman Trio Plus One." His music was also featured in numerous films, including "Father Goose," "The Heartbreak Kid," and "The Great

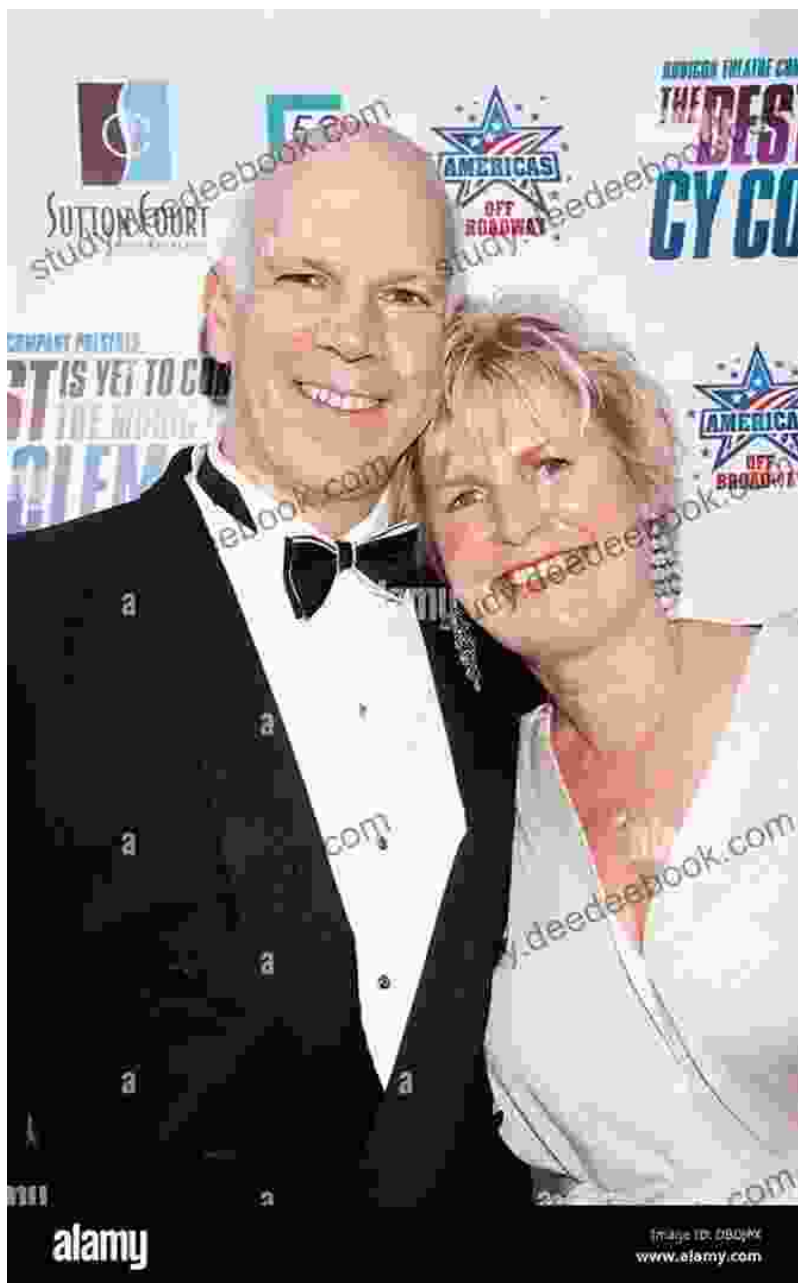
Muppet Caper." Coleman's versatility as a composer extended beyond Broadway and jazz, encompassing a wide range of genres.



Personal Life and Legacy

Beyond his professional achievements, Coleman was also known for his charismatic personality and generous spirit. He was a mentor to countless young artists and actively supported various charitable organizations.

Coleman's personal life was marked by both triumph and adversity, including the tragic loss of his beloved wife, Shelby, in 1997. Despite these challenges, Coleman continued to create music until his passing in 2004.



Critical Acclaim and Awards

Throughout his career, Coleman received numerous awards and accolades for his contributions to music. He won nine Grammy Awards, two Tony

Awards, and an Oscar. His music has been performed by countless artists worldwide, and his songs have become timeless classics. Coleman's legacy as a composer and lyricist continues to inspire and entertain audiences of all generations.

Cy Coleman was a true musical visionary whose exceptional talent and passion for his craft left an indomitable mark on the world. This biography provides a comprehensive account of his life and times, offering readers a deep appreciation for the artistry and humanity of one of the most beloved composers and lyricists in American history. Through his music, Coleman's spirit and legacy will continue to inspire and delight generations to come.



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