

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Early Life

- Andrew Lloyd Webber was born in Kensington, London, England
 - Elder son of William Lloyd Webber
 - Composer and organist
 - Jean Hermione Johnstone
 - Violinist and pianist
- His younger brother, Julian Lloyd Webber, is a renowned solo cellist

- Lloyd Webber started writing his own music at a young age
 - a suite of six pieces at the age of nine
- He also put on "productions" with Julian and his Aunt Viola in his toy theatre
 - Which he built at Viola's suggestion
- Later, he would be the owner of a number of West End theatres, including the Palace
- His aunt Viola, an actress, took him to see many of her shows
- He originally set music to Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats at the age of 15

- In 1965 Lloyd Webber was a Queen's Scholar at Westminster School
 - Studied history for a term at Magdalen College, Oxford
 - He abandoned the course in Winter 1965 to study at the Royal College of Music
 - To pursue his interest in musical theatre

- Lloyd Webber's first collaboration with lyricist Tim Rice was *The Likes of Us*
 - Which was a musical based on the true story of Thomas John Barnardo
 - Although composed in 1965, it was not publicly performed until 2005
 - A production was staged at Lloyd Webber's Sydmonton Festival
- In 2008, amateur rights were released by the National Operatic and Dramatic Association in association with the Really Useful Group
 - The first amateur performance was by a children's theatre group in Cornwall called "Kidz R Us". Stylistically,

- The Likes of Us is fashioned after the Broadway musicals of the 1940s and 1950s
 - it opens with a traditional overture comprising a medley of tunes from the show
 - The score reflects some of Lloyd Webber's early influences
 - Particularly Richard Rodgers, Frederick Loewe, and Lionel Bart
 - It is markedly different from the composer's later work
 - Later work tends to be closer in form to opera than to the Broadway musical

- In 1968, Rice and Lloyd Webber were commissioned to write a piece for the Colet Court preparatory school
 - Resulted in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*
 - A retelling of the biblical story of Joseph in which Lloyd Webber and Rice humorously mimicked a number of musical styles
 - Elvis-style rock'n'roll, Calypso and country music
 - *Joseph* began life as a short cantata that gained some recognition with a favourable review in *The Times*
- For its subsequent performances, Rice and Lloyd Webber revised the show and added new songs to expand it to a more substantial length
- This culminated in a two-hour-long production being staged in the West End

- In 1969 Rice and Lloyd Webber wrote a song for the Eurovision Song Contest called "Try It and See,"
 - Was not selected
 - With rewritten lyrics it became "King Herod's Song" in their third musical, Jesus Christ Superstar
- Lloyd Webber collaborated with Rice once again to write Evita
 - A musical based on the life of Eva Perón
- As with Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita was released first as a concept album
 - The song "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" became a hit single
- The musical was staged at the Prince Edward Theatre in a production directed by Harold Prince

- Evita was a highly successful show that ran for ten years in the West End
 - It transferred to Broadway in 1979
 - Rice and Lloyd Webber parted ways soon after Evita
- Lloyd Webber embarked on his next project without a lyricist
 - Turned instead to the poetry of T. S. Eliot
- Cats (1981) was to become the longest running musical in London
 - It ran for 21 years before closing
- On Broadway, Cats ran for 18 years
 - The record would ultimately be broken by another Lloyd Webber musical, The Phantom of the Opera

- Lloyd Webber also premiered The Phantom of the Opera in 1986
 - Inspired by the 1911 Gaston Leroux novel
- He wrote the part of Christine for his then-wife Sarah Brighten
 - She played the role in the original London and Broadway productions alongside Michael Crawford as the Phantom
- The production was directed by Harold Prince
 - Had also earlier directed Evita
- Charles Hart wrote the lyrics for Phantom with some additional material provided by Richard Stile
- It became a hit and is still running in both the West End and on Broadway
 - In January 2006 it overtook Cats as the longest-running musical on Broadway
 - On 11 February 2012, Phantom of the Opera played its 10,000th show on Broadway

Awards

- 1996 – Academy Award for Best Original Song - "You Must Love Me" from Evita
- 1997 – Golden Globe for Best Original Song - "You Must Love Me" from Evita
- Grammy Awards
 - 1980 – Best Cast Show Album for Evita
 - 1983 – Best Cast Show Album for Cats
 - 1986 – Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Composition for Requiem
 - 1990 – Grammy Legend Award

- Tony Awards

- 1979 – Best Musical for Evita
- 1980 – Best Original Score for Evita (award shared with Tim Rice)
- 1983 – Best Musical for Cats
- 1983 – Best Original Score for Cats
- 1988 – Best Musical for The Phantom of the Opera
- 1995 – Best Musical for Sunset Boulevard
- 1995 – Best Original Score for Sunset Boulevard

- Olivier Awards

- 1978 - Best Musical for Evita
- 1981 - Best Musical for Cats
- 1986 - Best Musical for The Phantom of the Opera
- 2008 - Society's Special Award

Other Awards

- 1988 - Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Orchestrations for The Phantom of the Opera
- 1993 - Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for live theatre
- 1995 - Praemium Imperiale
- 1995 - Songwriter's Hall of Fame
- 2006 - Kennedy Center Honors
- 2008 - Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service
- 2009 - American Theatre Hall of Fame
- 14 Ivor Novello Awards from the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors



JOSEPH
AND THE
AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR.
DREAMCOAT

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamboat

- *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* is a musical or operetta
 - Lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
 - The story is based on the "coat of many colors" story of Joseph from the Book of Genesis
- This was the first Lloyd Webber and Rice musical to be performed publicly
- The show has little spoken dialogue
 - It is completely sung-through
- By 2008 more than 20,000 schools and amateur theatre groups had successfully put on productions

- *Joseph* was first presented as a 15-minute pop cantata at Colet Court School in London in 1968
 - Recorded as a concept album in 1969
- After the success of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph* received stage productions beginning in 1970
 - Got expanded recordings in 1971 and 1972
 - Underwent various transformations and expansions
- The musical was produced in the West End in 1973, and in its full format was recorded in 1974
 - Opened on Broadway in 1982
 - Followed by several major revivals and a 1999 straight-to-video film
 - Starring Donny Osmond

Characters

- Narrator: A woman (in original productions, a man), not of the time or place of the action. The Narrator tells the story through word and song, guiding the audience gently through the story of Joseph and his brothers, usually gives meaning to the story with her/his words.
- Jacob: The father of twelve sons, his favourite being Joseph. At times he may appear unfair and shallow, but he is, more importantly, the prophet who recognises the future and the calling of Joseph, thus saving the House of Israel. Usually doubles as Potiphar.
- Joseph: Eleventh son of Jacob. Obviously his father's favourite. Joseph early on shows a talent for interpreting dreams and telling the future. This gets him into trouble with his brothers when he predicts his future will include ruling over the other eleven. However, it saves his life when in Egypt he correctly interprets Pharaoh's dreams. In the end he has risen to a great position of power, but he still forgives his brothers and brings his family to Egypt to partake of the bounty he has accumulated there.
- Ishmaelites: Men of the desert, they buy Joseph as a slave, take him to Egypt, and sell him to Potiphar.

- Potiphar: A powerful and rich Egyptian, Potiphar purchases Joseph and puts him to work in his household, where he soon realises that Joseph is honest, hard-working, and a great addition to his pool of help. When he grows suspicious of Mrs. Potiphar and Joseph, however, he grows angry and has Joseph thrown into prison. Usually played by the actor playing Jacob.
- Mrs. Potiphar: Beautiful and scheming, Mrs. Potiphar tries to seduce Joseph, but is unsuccessful. However, she does manage to rip off much of his clothing just as her husband comes into the room, thus condemning him to prison. Also plays one of the wives.
- Baker: One of Pharaoh servants, the Baker is in prison with Joseph who correctly interprets his dreams and predicts that he will be put to death. Played by one of the brothers.
- Butler: Another of Pharaoh servants, the Butler is also in prison with Joseph who also correctly interprets his dreams, this time that he will be released and taken back into Pharaoh's household. It is the Butler who tells Pharaoh about Joseph and his uncanny ability with dreams. Played by one of the brothers.

- Pharaoh: The most powerful man in Egypt. Pharaoh is considered a god on earth. When Joseph interprets his dreams, he promotes him to one of the highest positions in his government. Pharaoh is portrayed as an Elvis Presley-style figure.
- Joseph's Eleven Brothers: Although acting usually as a group, they each have their own different personalities, talents, and flaws. As a group they sell Joseph into slavery. The brothers also double as Egyptians and servants of Potiphar.
 - Reuben: Eldest son of Jacob. Takes the lead on "One More Angel in Heaven"
 - Simeon: Second son of Jacob. Takes the lead on "Those Canaan Days"
 - Levi: Third son of Jacob.
 - Judah: Fourth son of Jacob. Takes the lead on "Benjamin Calypso".
 - Dan: Fifth son of Jacob.
 - Naphtali: Sixth son of Jacob.
 - Gad: Seventh son of Jacob.
 - Asher: Eighth son of Jacob.
 - Issachar: Ninth son of Jacob.
 - Zebulun: Tenth son of Jacob.
 - Benjamin: Twelfth son of Jacob. Joseph accuses him of stealing the golden cup.

- The Wives: The wives of Jacob. The actresses playing the wives also double as Egyptians and servants of Potiphar.
- Adult chorus
- Children's chorus

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR



Jesus Christ Superstar

- Jesus Christ Superstar is a 1970 rock opera
 - Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice
- The musical started as a rock opera concept album before its Broadway debut in 1971
- The musical is sung-through
 - No spoken dialogue
- The story is loosely based on the Gospels' accounts of the last week of Jesus's life
 - beginning with the preparation for the arrival of Jesus and his disciples in Jerusalem and ending with the crucifixion
 - It highlights political and interpersonal struggles between Judas Iscariot and Jesus that are not present in the Bible narratives

- The musical opened on Broadway on October, 12 1971 at the Mark Hellinger Theatre
 - Directed by Tom O'Horgan
 - The show closed on June, 30 1973 after 711 performances
 - The production received mixed reviews
- The Broadway show and subsequent productions were condemned by some religious groups

- Some Christians considered such comments to be blasphemous
 - The character of Judas too sympathetic and some of his criticisms of Jesus offensive
- At the same time, some Jews claimed that it bolstered the antisemitic belief that the Jews were responsible for Jesus' death
 - By showing most of the villains as Jewish
 - and showing the crowd in Jerusalem calling for the crucifixion
- The musical was banned in South Africa for being "irreligious"
- A 1972 production of the play was banned in the Hungarian People's Republic for "distribution of religious propaganda"

- During filming of Fiddler on the Roof, Barry Dennen, who played Pilate on the concept album, suggested to Norman Jewison that he should direct Jesus Christ Superstar as a film
 - After hearing the album, Jewison agreed
- The film was shot in Israel and other Middle Eastern locations in 1972
- The film was very popular earning North American rentals of \$10.8 million in 1973
 - Years later the film was still popular, winning a 2012 Huffington Post competition for "Best Jesus Movie"

Characters

- Jesus Christ - Title role, leader of the twelve disciples, a man, called the "Son of God" and the "King of the Jews."
- Judas Iscariot - One of the twelve apostles of Jesus; concerned for the poor and the consequences of Jesus's fame.
- Mary Magdalene - A female follower of Jesus who finds herself falling in love with him.
- Pontius Pilate - Governor of Judea who foresees the events of Jesus's crucifixion from beginning to aftermath in a dream and finds himself being presented with that very situation.

Characters

- Caiaphas - One of the main antagonists of the show. High priest who sees Jesus as a threat to the nation.
- Annas - One of the main antagonists of the show. Fellow priest at the side of Caiaphas who is persuaded by Caiaphas into seeing Jesus as a threat.
- Peter - One of Jesus's twelve apostles; denies Jesus three times upon the night of Jesus's arrest to save himself.
- Simon Zealots - One of Jesus's twelve apostles; urges Jesus to lead his followers into battle against the Romans.
- King Herod - The King of Galilee; Jesus is brought to him for judgment after first being taken to Pilate.



EVITA

Evita

- Travelling late to a meal one night in 1973 Rice heard the end of a radio show about Eva Perón which intrigued him
 - As a child stamp collector, he had been fascinated by her image on the Argentine stamps
 - He was unaware of her significance in Argentina's history
 - The more Rice investigated Eva Perón the more fascinated he became by the woman
 - He went so far as to travel to Buenos Aires to research her life
 - He even named his first daughter after her

- Rice suggested the idea of a musical based on the subject to Lloyd Webber
 - Although the idea of writing a score including tangos, pasos dobles, and similar Latin flavours intrigued him, Lloyd Webber ultimately rejected the idea
- After working on a different musical, Lloyd Webber returned to Rice
 - They began developing Rice's proposed musical
- The authors of the 1996 book *Evita: The Real Life of Eva Perón* claim the musical was based on Mary Main's biography *The Woman with the Whip*
 - Which was extremely critical of Eva Perón

- When the recording was released, Lloyd Webber had sent a copy to the renowned American director Harold Prince
 - Invited him to become involved with the eventual staging
 - Prince agreed, but he advised them that he could not take on any new commitments for the next two years
- Prince began working on the project in May of 1978
 - He requested a song he could stage to chart Perón's rise to power
 - Rice and Lloyd Webber responded with the musical chairs number "The Art of the Possible"
 - During which military officers are eliminated until only Perón remains

- Evita opened at the Prince Edward Theatre on 21 June 1978
 - Closed on 18 February 1986
 - Had 3,176 performances
- This production won The Society of West End Theatre (S.W.E.T) award as Musical of the Year
 - Elaine Paige, who played Eva, won the award for Performance of the Year in a Musical
- The Broadway production opened at the Broadway Theatre on September, 25 1979
 - Closed on June, 26 1983
 - Had 1,567 performances

Awards

- Drama Desk Awards
 - Outstanding Musical
 - Outstanding Lyrics - Tim Rice
 - Outstanding Music - Patti LuPone
 - Outstanding Actress in a Musical - Bob Gunton
 - Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical - Harold Prince
- Outer Critics Circle Award
 - Best Lyricist - Tim Rice

Awards

- Tony
 - Best Musical
 - Best Original Score - Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice
 - Best Book of a Musical - Tim Rice
 - Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Musical - Patti LuPone
 - Best Performance by a featured Actor in a Musical - Mandy Patinkin
 - Best Direction of a Musical - Harold Prince
 - Best Lighting Design - David Hersey



CATS

Cats

- Cats is a musical composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber
 - Based on Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T. S. Eliot
 - Produced by Cameron Mackintosh
- The songs of the musical are comprised of Eliot's verse set to music by the composer
- Andrew Lloyd Webber began composing the songs in late 1977
 - Premiered the compositions at the Sydmonton Festival in 1980
 - The concert was attended by T.S. Eliot's wife, Valerie Eliot and she loved the songs that Webber had composed
 - She gave her blessing for the songs to be adapted into a musical stage play
 - She actually rejected Disney, who also wanted to adapt the book into a musical

- Rehearsals for the musical began in early 1981 at the New London Theatre
 - The Eliot estate asserted that they write no script and only use the original poems as the text
 - the musical had no identified plot during the rehearsal process
 - Caused many actors to be confused about what they were actually doing
 - An unusual musical in terms of its construction
- The show is completely told through music
 - Virtually no spoken dialogue in between the songs.

- Dance is also a key element in the musical
 - Especially during the 10-minute Jellicle Ball dance sequence
- The set, consisting of an oversized junk yard, remains the same throughout the show
 - No scene changes
- Andrew Lloyd Webber's eclecticism is very strong in this show
 - musical genres range from classical to pop, music hall, jazz, rock and electro-acoustic music
 - As well as hymn-like songs such as "The Addressing of Cats"

- Cats premiered in the West End at the New London Theatre on May 11, 1981
- The musical was produced by Cameron Mackintosh and Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Really Useful Group"
 - directed by Trevor Nunn, with associate director and choreographer Gillian Lynne, design by John Napier, and lighting by David Hersey
 - The conductor was Harry Rabinowitz
- It played a total of 8,949 performances in London
 - Its final performance in London's West End was on its 21st birthday, 11 May 2002
 - Broadcast on a large screen in Covent Garden to the delight of fans who could not acquire a ticket for the final performance
- It held the record as London's longest running musical until 8 October 2006, when it was surpassed by Les Misérables

- The show made its debut on Broadway on 7 October 1982, at the Winter Garden Theatre
 - Same production team
- On 19 June 1997, Cats became the longest-running musical in Broadway history with 6,138 performances
 - It closed on 10 September 2000, after a total of 7,485 performances
 - Its Broadway record was surpassed on 9 January 2006 by The Phantom of the Opera
 - It remains Broadway's fourth-longest-running show in history
- Andrew Lloyd Webber stated that when the original show was produced, it cost £900,000, but on Broadway, it cost \$5,000,000

- In 1998, Lloyd Webber produced a video version of Cats
 - Based upon the stage version
- It was directed by David Mallet
 - Choreography and musical staging by the show's respected original creator Gillian Lynne in London's Adelphi Theatre
- Released on VHS and DVD
 - Also broadcast on television worldwide
- Andrew Lloyd Webber and others on the production team for the film wanted to keep the feeling that viewers watching the film could still get the sense of seeing the show live
 - Having all views be facing the stage
 - Also getting multiple views of the set, with several close-ups

Characters

- Alonzo – An elegant black and white tom often considered the 'second-hand-man' to Munkustrap
- Bombalurina – A saucy red female, confident and outgoing as suits her bright red coloring
- Bustopher Jones – A fat cat, a '25 pounder', Bustopher "dresses" in a smart suit and spats
 - As the upper class "St James' Street Cat", Bustopher spends his time at Gentlemen's clubs, socialising with London's high society
- Demeter – She is skittish and shy
 - Macavity tries to kidnap her after she exposes him in the guise of Old Deuteronomy, but Munkustrap and Alonzo rescue her

- Grizabella – The former Glamour Cat who has lost her sparkle and now only wants to be accepted by her former friends and family
- Gus: The Theatre Cat – The retired Theatre Cat who is now very old and ill and can no longer perform
- Jellylorum – Named after T.S. Eliot's cat. A mature female who watches out for the kittens, and cares for Gus
- Jemima – A young, innocent and curious kitten, she is instrumental in the acceptance of Grizabella and sings to encourage her to continue
- Jennyanydots – The old Gumbie cat, she sits all day and rules the mice and cockroaches at night

- Macavity the Mystery Cat – The character is the show's only real villain
 - A literary allusion to the Sherlock Holmes character Professor Moriarty
- Mr. Mistoffelees/Quaxo – A young tom who has magical powers including the ability to create flash explosions
 - His is a dance role only; his song is actually sung by the Rum Tum Tugger
- Mungojerrie – Male half of a pair of troublesome tabby cats, notorious "cat-burglars", Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer
- Rumpleteazer – Female half of a pair of notorious "cat-burglars", Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer
- Munkustrap – A black and silver tom who is leader and protector of the Jellicle tribe

- Old Deuteronomy – The lovable patriarch of the Jellicle Tribe
 - He is very old and usually slow-moving
- The Rum Tum Tugger – The ladies' tom. His temperament ranges from clownish to serious, and always flirtatious, especially towards Bombalurina
- Rumpus Cat – The great spiky haired brave cat with glowing red eyes, as mentioned in 'The Awefull Battle of the Pekes and the Pollicles'
 - Seen as a super hero figure amongst the Jellicles
- Skimbleshanks – The railway cat, an active orange tabby cat who lives on the trains and acts as an unofficial chaperone
- Victoria – A white kitten who is extremely gifted in dancing. The "official" Jellicle Ball begins with her solo dance
 - She is the first to accept Grizabella

- The video version of Cats is slightly different from the stage production of Cats
- The show has been shortened somewhat, with several sections having been cut down or removed altogether
 - The Gumbie Cat tap-dance sequence
 - A large part of the Mr. Mistoffelees dance sequence
 - Parts of Macavity: The Mystery Cat
 - The first part of Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer
 - The entirety of "Growltiger's Last Stand" was also cut because filming overran
 - as well as due to the age of Sir John Mills, the actor playing Gus/Growltiger

- The production is primarily based on the London West End production
 - all the music used were re-orchestrated versions of the West End versions
 - If there was a conflict between the West End and international/Broadway productions, the West End version prevailed
 - However, to add appeal for international audiences, some names were replaced with their international/Broadway counterparts

- The musical centres on the "Jellicle Tribe"
 - a tribe of cats who meet once a year at the Jellicle Ball, where they rejoice with their leader, Old Deuteronomy
- During the Jellicle Ball, only one of the cats will be selected by Old Deuteronomy
 - To go to the Heaviside Layer, be reborn, and come back to a different life just before dawn
 - Which is known as a "Jellicle Life"
 - The cats who may be considered for this honour, introduce themselves