

Advanced Singing - HPCB7004

Tomos James Jones (2100376)

List of Repertua:

Name:	Show:	Composer/Artist:	Year:
I Won't Send Roses	Mack & Mabel	Jerry Herman	1974
Unredeemable	Spirited	Pasek & Paul	2022
30/90	Tick Tick Boom	Johnathon Larson	23, May, 2001
Getting There	Fugitive Song Cycle	Chris Miller	9, May, 2008
On The Street Where You Lived	My Fair Lady	Frederick Loewe & Andre Previn	1964
Castle On The Hill	N/A	Ed Sheeran	6, January, 2017
Meant To Be Yours	Heathers	Keving Murphy & Laurence O'Keefe	1988
All I Care About	Chicago	John Kander	1975 (Movie in 2002)
Cry For Me	Jersey Boys	Bob Gaudio	4, October, 2005
Michael In The Bathroom	Be More Chill	Joe Tracz	5, June 2015
Jealous	N/A	Labrynth	23, November, 2014

During my time this term, I had the privilege to work with Michael Morwood to help me with Acting Through Song, And I've worked with Lorraine Mahoney with Estill Vocal Training to help with Technicality with my singing. I've always had challenges arise when trying to turn a song into a story, and this might be a personal struggle that I will hopefully overcome soon. Working with Michael and Lorraine has helped with inspiring me with different song choices, ways to help the characters journey and how to approach a new song.

The first song is Called ***I Won't Send Roses***, From the *Mack & Mabel*. The story takes us back to the "when movies were movies" period of silent film. Based on the true story of Mack Sennett, the director, and Mabel Normand, his star and lover. *Mack*, who is narrated by himself in flashbacks, starts the show as a broken man. In the late 1930s, his admired silent two-reel comedies were no longer popular with viewers. Talkies have made the silent film industry obsolete, and *Mack* feels obligated to sell his Hollywood studio. He reflects on the past while by himself on stage, remembering his early life in New York, his rise to fame in Hollywood, and his turbulent relationship with *Mabel*. *Mabel* ended up being

famous after *Mack* found her working as a sandwich delivery girl.¹ *Mack* as a character is a workaholic who drinks whisky. He is a self-centred, egotistical man with hints of melancholy and longing. He is a control freak who hides his tender side.² Jerry Herman wrote the music and lyrics for the musical, while Michael Stewart wrote the book. Robert Preston and Bernadette Peters featured in David Merrick's initial Broadway staging of the musical in 1974. It did not win any of the eight Tony Awards that it was nominated for, including Best Musical. Regarding the score by Jerry Herman, there was no nomination. The songs were well received, despite the fact that the first production ended after just eight weeks, later productions, especially ones in the UK, have been successful.³ On November 7, 1995, a major production run of 270 performances opened at London's Piccadilly Theatre. The book was dramatically revised and included a happy ending with Mabel returning to Mac's arms at the final curtain call. The show was directed by Paul Kerrison and choreographed by Michael Smuin. The cast included Howard McGillin as Mac, Caroline O'Connor as Mabel, Kathryn Evans, and Alan Mosley

The second song is called ***Unredeemable*** from the movie Musical *Spirited*. The plot of *Spirited* revolves around the *Spirit of Christmas Present* and his attempts to transform *Clint Briggs'* arrogant behaviour. The ghosts devise a scheme to show Briggs the wrong path with the aid of the *Spirits of Christmas Past* and *Future*.⁴ the Spirit of Christmas Present is about to move on from Clint and leave him with The Spirit of Yet-To-Come before this song is sung in the story. But Clint makes him face his own doubts about whether he was really redeemed because Scrooge passed away just three weeks after meeting the Ghosts. Clint persuades him to retire and try living on Earth once more. *Spirited* is a Christmas musical comedy film in the United States that was written, produced, and directed by Sean Anders and John Morris in 2022. On November 11, 2022, it was released in a few theatres. On November 18, 2022, Apple TV+ released it for streaming. Critics complimented the film for its original songs, Ferrell and Reynolds' performances, and their chemistry, but they also criticised it for not being any better than early book adaptations. On September 20, 2019, it was announced that Sean Anders and John Morris of Daddy's Home were attached to write and direct the film, as well as produce under their Two Grown Men production company with Will Ferrell and Jessica Elbaum of Gloria Sanchez Productions and Ryan Reynolds And George Dewey of Maximum Effort The following month, it was announced that Apple had won the bidding war for the film rights It was also reported that over \$60 million was spent on talent for the film, which was later increased to \$75 million. Along with the original announcement, Ferrell and Reynolds took on the lead roles. Both actors earned \$20 million for their roles in the film. On February 8, 2021, Octavia Spencer joined the cast, with Reynolds confirmed as the lead and Ferrell as the Ghost of Christmas Present In June, Sunita Mani was cast as the Ghost of Christmas Past. Principal photography for the film

¹ StageAgent. (n.d.). *Mack & Mabel (Musical) Plot & Characters*. [online] Available at: <https://stageagent.com/shows/musical/2278/mack-mabel>.

² rdg. (n.d.). *Mack and Mabel*. [online] Available at: <https://rdg.org/productions/mack-and-mabel#:~:text=Mack%20Sennett%20%2D%20Wally%20Walters>.

³ Wikipedia. (2024). *Mack and Mabel*. [online] Available at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mack_and_Mabel.

⁴ Staff, B.P. (2022). *Spirited - A KIDS FIRST! Movie Review* | *Birminghamparent.com*. [online] birminghamparent.com. Available at: <https://birminghamparent.com/directory/article/spirited-a-kids-first-movie-review/#:~:text=Spirited%20follows%20the%20story%20of>.

began on July 6, 2021, in Boston, representing Manhattan. On October 18, 2021, Reynolds announced that filming had ended.⁵

The third song is called **30/90** from the musical *Tick Tick Boom*. The creator of *Rent*, Johnathon Larson, presents an intimate, personal pop/rock musical, *Tick, Tick... Boom!*, which centres on the life of struggling composer Jon, who feels that his life is going nowhere. Jon, who is about to turn thirty and still works as a waiter, is terribly afraid that he won't be able to "make it" on Broadway. As Jon's best friend Michael quits acting and becomes a highly successful Madison Avenue corporate executive, and as his girlfriend Susan declares that she wants to get married and move out of the city, the temptation to succeed or give up only increases. As time passes and Jon's new musical *SUPERBIA* has a fantastic workshop but no prospects, he begins to question whether his friends may be correct and it's time to give up. *Tick, Tick... Boom!*, a film by Jonathan Larson that offers an intimate look into the life of an artist, follows a man's effort to define success according to his own standards.⁶ Under the title *Boho Days*, Jonathan Larson's workshop version of the play debuted on September 6, 1990, at the Off-Broadway venue Second Stage Theatre. After the Second Stage workshop, Larson reworked the piece and gave it a new title: *Tick, Tick... Boom!* It was then presented with him as the performer in November 1991 at the Village Gate (produced by his college friend Victoria Leacock), and later in 1992 and 1993 at New York Theatre Workshop's "O Solo Mio" fests. Presenting the show as a "rock monologue" was a novel approach to theatre at the time for Larson. A young producer named Jeffrey Seller saw the performance and developed an admiration for Larson's work.⁷ Jon is shown in the film as empathetic, imaginative and ambitious. He writes songs and puts his heart and soul into them. "Louder Than Words" is a song that perfectly captures him: "Why should we blaze a trail when the well-worn path seems safe and so inviting? ...Actions speak louder than words." To pursue his goals, Jon is prepared to take any and all risks. Whatever transpires with his musical, that is something to be extremely proud of.⁸

The Fourth song is **Jealous** by the Artist *Labrinth*. Labrinth wrote the heartbreaking song "Jealous" in Nashville alongside Josh Kear and Natalie Hemby. The song was made available in 2014 as the follow-up to his album *Take Me to the Truth*. One of Labrinth's parents, who abandoned the family when he was four years old, is the subject of the song. According to Labrinth, he wrote the song with his family's feelings in mind at the time, but he also intended for it to speak to anyone who has ever been abandoned, betrayed, or suffered a loss. Labrinth's song "Jealous" beautifully conveys the anguish and complexity of losing a loved one. This song is for everyone who has ever hoped for someone to return to them or felt envious of someone else's happiness. This song demonstrates how deep stories and feelings may be told with just a few words and a catchy melody.⁹ Timothy Lee McKenzie (born 4 January 1989), better known by his stage name Labrinth, is an English singer, rapper, songwriter, and record producer. Labrinth signed a record deal with Simon Cowell's Syco Music record label in 2010, initially working with British rapper Tinie Tempah. He

⁵ Wikipedia. (2024). *Spirited (film)*. [online] Available at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spirited_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spirited_(film)).

⁶ StageAgent. (n.d.). *Tick, Tick... Boom! (Musical) Plot & Characters*. [online] Available at: <https://stageagent.com/shows/musical/1671/tick-tick-boom>.

⁷ Wikipedia Contributors (2019). *Tick*. [online] Wikipedia. Available at: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tick>.

⁸ www.charactour.com. (n.d.). *I'm a match to Jonathan Larson from Tick, Tick... Boom!* [online] Available at: <https://www.charactour.com/hub/characters/view/Jonathan-Larson.Tick-Tick-Boom.webp#:~:text=Personality>.

⁹ Makoy, L. (2024). *Jealous by Labrinth Song Meaning*. [online] Medium. Available at: <https://medium.com/@ki90grq8y/jealous-by-labrinth-song-meaning-3f2d823ea402>.

emerged as a featured artist; uncredited on the single "Pass Out", but later officially appeared on "Frisky." And in September, he released his first solo single, "Let the Sun Shine." All three songs ranked in the top five of the UK Singles Chart