



**Smithsonian Institution**

*National Museum of African American History and Culture*

## **Playbill for The Pajama Game**

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#### WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST.

BARBARA McNAIR (Babe) singer, nightclub entertainer, star of motion pictures and television, author, tennis enthusiast and avid skier, has been acclaimed as one of the world's ten most beautiful women by the International Society of Cosmetologists. She achieved Broadway stardom when she took over the role of the high fashion model opposite Richard Kiley in Richard Rodgers' No Strings. On the screen she starred opposite Sidney Poitier in The Call Me Mr. Tibbs. Miss McNair was born in Chicago, but raised in Racine, Wisconsin. After majoring in music at UCLA she came to New York to get started in show business and eventually got an engagement at the Village Vanguard. A week's stint on the Arthur Godfrey T.V. Show led to a variety of offers, and Barbara was well launched on her career. She made her Broadway debut in The Body Beautiful, then became hostess on her own T.V. Variety show, Schaefer Circle. If He Hollers Let Him Go was her first major film, followed by Change of Habit with Elvis Presley, Harold Robbins' Stiletto and Venus in Furs. Her T.V. dramas have ranged from McMillan & Wife to Mission Impossible and she has guest starred on every major variety program. As a supper club entertainer she has charmed and delighted audiences in the Persian Room of New York's Plaza Hotel, the Century Plaza in Los Angeles and the Riviera in Las Vegas, among many others. She recently turned author with her first book, The Complete Book of Beauty for the Black Woman.

CAB CALLOWAY (Hines) was the model George Gershwin used to create the character of Sportin' Life for Porgy and Bess, but previous commitments kept him out of the original production and it wasn't until the 1952 revival that Broadway heard him singing "It Ain't Necessarily So" and the other Gershwin classics. Born in Rochester, New York, Cab Calloway received most of his education in Baltimore, later attended Creighton Law School in Chicago. However, the prospective barrister

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soon found himself moonlighting at a South Side nightclub to finance his legal studies. Those were abruptly terminated when he was engaged to take over the baton of a Chicago band known as The Alabamians. The success of this venture brought the group to New York, where Mr. Calloway accepted a starring role in his first Broadway show, *Connie's Hot Chocolate*. Scarcely had that musical run its course but he was headlining at Harlem's Cotton Club, the first of many night clubs made cheerier by the high spirited presence of Cab Calloway. Outstanding among his motion pictures were *The Singing Kid* with Al Jolson, *Stormy Weather*, *St. Louis Blues*, and *The Cincinnati Kid*. Through the years he has appeared in more than 250 television shows and recently co-starred with Pearl Bailey as Horace Vandergelder in *Hello, Dolly*. Throughout his stage, nightclub, radio and television careers Cab has been identified by the scat-singing that is his own particular trademark. An audience of many millions in all those media know him by his loud and cheery, clear and happy "Hi-De-Ho," a phrase that he has been obliged to forego for the duration of his engagement in *The Pajama Game*.

HAL LINDEN (Sid) received both the Tony Award and the Variety Critics Circle Award as Best Actor in a Musical for his performance as Mayer Rothschild in *The Rothschilds*. He repeated that performance in both San Francisco and Los Angeles, then starred for NBC-TV on their *Movie of the Week*, *Mr. Inside/Mr. Outside*. His T.V. credits also include roles in *The FBI* and *Ghost Story*, among others. Mr. Linden began his theatrical career as a saxophone player with the bands of Sammy Kaye, Bobby Sherwood and Boyd Raeburn. A native New Yorker, born and raised in the Bronx, he attended the High School of Music and Art, Queens College and CCNY. After blowing his horn for twelve years, he turned to acting, serving his apprenticeship in the theatre as standby to the star in a number of successful musicals. He got his first big chance when he replaced Sydney Chaplin opposite Judy Holliday in *Bells Are Ringing*, playing the part for several months on Broadway and a season on tour. Outstanding among his other early musicals were *On A Clear Day . . .*, *Wildcat*, *Subways Are For Sleeping* and the off-Broadway revival of *Anything Goes*. He played the heavy in *Illya Darling*, the snake in *The Apple Tree*, and was starred in *The Education of Hyman Kaplan* and the recent Broadway revival of *Three Men on a Horse*, and *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*. Mr. Linden is the father of three daughters, Amelia, Jennifer and Nora, and a son, Ian. Mrs. Linden is the former actress Frances Martin, now a student at Fordham University.

SHARRON MILLER (Gladys) last played on Broadway in the award-winning musical, *Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope*. Prior to that she appeared off Broadway in *Say When* (directed by Zoya Leporska), *Love Me, Love My Children* and *Hark*. Her other credits include City Center revivals of *How to Succeed in Business* and *Where's Charley* and New York Shakespeare Festival productions of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Peer Gynt*. Earlier Miss Miller toured America, Europe and Africa with the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. She appeared on television in Sweden; in these States she had a running part on *Secret Storm* and was a guest soloist on NET's *Black New World*. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Sharron writes short stories and poetry in French and Hebrew. She learned the latter tongue while living in Israel.

WILLARD WATERMAN (Hasler) has had vast experience in theatre, television, and motion pictures and will be remembered for his Great Gildersleeve character on radio and television. He last played on Broadway with Angela Lansbury in the long-running musical, *Mame*. He also appeared with Eve Arden in the West Coast production of *Auntie Mame*, the comedy from which the musical was derived. Mr. Waterman

starred in the National company of How to Succeed in Business Without  
Really Trying and

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