

**New York, 1863.**

*An accidental society held the promise  
of what America could be.*

# PARADISE SQUARE

**A New Musical**

**Depicting a remarkable yet virtually unknown moment in American history, this will certainly be the groundbreaking new musical of 2022.**



Meet the citizens of **PARADISE SQUARE**, a local saloon amid the dangerous streets of the Five Points, the notorious 19th-century lower Manhattan slum. Irish immigrants settled alongside free-born Black Americans and those who escaped slavery. The unification between the communities took its most enthusiastic form with boisterous dance contests on the floors of the neighborhood bars and dance halls. It is here in the Five Points where tap dancing was born, as Irish step dancing exuberantly competed with Black American Juba.

**PARADISE SQUARE** has been in development by Garth Drabinsky, the three-time Best Musical Tony Award® winner, for seven years. In an extraordinary confluence of art and real life, this story, set in New York City over 150 years ago, mirrors much of what the US is experiencing today. It remembers another moment when the country was divided over immigration, racial tension and sociopolitical differences.

This galvanizing account of racial harmony undone by a country at war with itself is helmed by director Moisés Kaufman (*I Am My Own Wife*, *The Laramie Project*) and two-time Tony Award®-winning choreographer Bill T. Jones (*Spring Awakening*, *Fela!*). The score is by the team of Grammy and Emmy Award winner Jason Howland (*Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, *Little Women - The Musical*) and Nathan Tysen (*Amélie*, *Tuck Everlasting*) and features original songs as well as a reimagining of the songs of Stephen Foster, who was writing and living in the Five Points at the time.

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Groups 10+  
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