



# Gershwin's Magic Key

produced by  
 **Classical Kids**  
Music Education

Music by  
**GEORGE GERSHWIN**

Lyrics by  
**IRA GERSHWIN**

Created & Directed by  
**PAUL PEMENT**

**TBD** as George Gershwin  
**TBD** as "Kid"  
&  
**TBD** on Piano

Written by  
**WILL MARTIN, ELIZABETH WHEELER & PAUL PEMENT**

Production Advisor: **KEVIN COLE**

Music Supervisor: **WILL MARTIN**

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## MUSICAL EXCERPTS

1. Overture from *Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite in Five Parts: I*
2. "Swanee" (Gershwin - Wodehouse)
3. Fugue subject from *Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite in Five Parts: I*
4. "I Got Plenty O'Nuttin" from *Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite in Five Parts: II*
5. "Strike Up The Band" (Gershwin - MacPherson)
6. "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" (Norworth and Tilzer)
7. "I'll Build a Stairway to Paradise"
8. "Nice Work If You Can Get It" (Gershwin - Bennett)
9. Period Medley: "Oh, You Beautiful Doll" (Ayer) & "Baby Face" (Akst)
10. "Rialto Ripples" (Gershwin - Tyzik)
11. Humoresque op. 101 no. 7 (Dvorak - Trinkaus)
12. *Second Rhapsody (New York Rhapsody)*
13. "Promenade" (Gershwin - Berkowitz)
14. *An American in Paris*
15. "Summertime" & "Bess, You Is My Woman Now" from *Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite in Five Parts: I & II*
16. "Oh Lord, I'm On My Way" from *Catfish Row: Symphonic Suite in Five Parts: V*
17. *Concerto in F: III*
18. Medley from "Oh, Kay!" (Gershwin-Warner)
19. "Second Prelude" (*Blue Lullaby*)
20. *Cuban Overture*
21. "I Got Rhythm" (Gershwin - Bennett)
22. "Fascinating Rhythm" (Gershwin-Warner)
23. *Rhapsody in Blue*

## GUEST ARTISTS

### Classical Kids LIVE!

Classical Kids LIVE! is produced by Classical Kids Music Education, a Chicago-based not-for-profit organization that works to enrich communities through direct access to culturally significant venues, professional artists and organizations, and high-quality theatrical concert productions, while fostering new appreciation for classical music and music history. In combination with the Classical Kids Teaching Edition, Classical Kids LIVE! serves as one of the world's best educational outreach and community engagement programs contributing to the long-term health of classical music. Having received more awards and honors than any other entity of its kind, Classical Kids is proud to say, "We're making a difference!" Join our newsletter at [ClassicalKidsLive.com](http://ClassicalKidsLive.com).

***"Far And Away the Best for Introducing Children to Classical Music!"***

- Boston Herald

***"One of the Most Completely Wondrous Examples of Children's Entertainment Ever!"***

- Billboard

***"Art Made Accessible: Nobody Does it Better than Classical Kids!"***

- Entertainment Weekly

***"The Best Way to Unlock the Mind and Heart of a Child to the Wonders of Musical Masterpieces!"***

- New York Daily News



## PLOT SYNOPSIS

The story tells of a chance meeting on the streets of New York City between a poor newspaper boy and the great American composer, George Gershwin. The orchestra magically weaves Gershwin's greatest hits into the drama as the master composer shares historical anecdotes about his life and musical passion. A bonding friendship develops as they explore the vast melting pot of American music and discover the key to unlocking the boy's own musical potential. Family and student audiences will be captivated by over twenty of Gershwin's most popular compositions from classical compositions including *Porgy & Bess*, *American in Paris*, *Cuban Overture*, *Concerto in F* and *Rhapsody in Blue* to popular hits from the American Songbook including *I Got Rhythm*, *Swanee*, *Someone to Watch Over Me*, and *Fascinating Rhythm*.

## PRODUCTION NOTES

Endorsed by the Gershwin Family Interests and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, Gershwin's Magic Key is the first-ever *educationally-entertaining* theatrical symphony concert exposing

children and their parents to the extraordinary life and musical masterpieces of one of the greatest American composers of all time! Classical Kids LIVE! produces and performs this fully directed theatrical production with full symphony orchestra and includes a featured pianist, 2 professional actors and an onsite director. The production also includes full score and all musician parts, period costumes, props, lighting & sound coordination. The music is magically woven into the drama as two actors share their anecdotes and observations based on true incidents from the composer's life. Presenting history, drama, music and fun, this engaging concert is an ideal addition to any children's education program or family concert series. The performance is approximately 50 minutes in length and is recommended for audiences age five and up.

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

### Paul Pement – Creator and Director



Paul serves as Executive & Artistic Director of Classical Kids Music Education, a non-profit arts organization focused on introducing children (and their parents) to the lives and musical masterpieces of the great classical composers. A BFA in theatre from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and professional experience as an actor, singer, dancer, director, choreographer and stage manager have enabled Paul to achieve success with Classical Kids LIVE! programming - the “gold-star” leader in the field for creating theatrical family concerts presented by professional symphony orchestras throughout North America and abroad. Production titles include

*Beethoven Lives Upstairs*, *Mozart’s Magnificent Voyage*, *Vivaldi’s Ring of Mystery*, *Tchaikovsky Discovers America* and the newest in the series, *Gershwin’s Magic Key* - the first-ever symphony concert production that introduces new generations to the extraordinary legacy of the great American composer, George Gershwin.

TBD – George Gershwin

TBD – “Kid”

TBD – Featured Pianist, Production Advisor

### Elizabeth Wheeler – Co-Writer



Elizabeth joins the creative team of *Classical Kids* as a contributing writer. Her first young adult novel, *Asher’s Fault*, won the National Federation of Women’s Press and Illinois Women’s Press Association Young Adult Creative Fiction Book of the Year. Her second novel, *Asher’s Shot*, received accolades from USA Today, and her final book in the trilogy, *Asher’s Out*, is scheduled for release through Bold Strokes Books in July 2015. Elizabeth is driven by a quest to unleash the authentic human experience in literature, on the stage, and in life. As an educator, she is touched and inspired by the real-world examples of how students, facing adversity, assimilate the lessons learned from those experiences to persevere and transform into triumphant adults. As an advocate for storytelling in the print and digital world, Elizabeth has spoken at international and regional educational conferences. She is a graduate of the University of Florida and the inaugural novel writing program at the University of Chicago's Graham School.