



'Where did you get that hat?'

AND OTHER MUSIC HALL ACTIVITIES!

We hope that you enjoyed the dance to Joseph J. Sullivan's 1888 comic song 'Where Did You Get That Hat?', sung here by English comedian Stanley Holloway. The song was popular in the English Music Halls and became a favourite by the turn of the century.

In case you would like a bit of extra help with learning the choreography to the song, we have put together the table below for the Introduction into the Chorus (the most important bit!), breaking down the counts with a brief description of the steps to help you along!

The lyrics are included in the counts section, so please do feel free to sing along with the Chorus!

INTRODUCTION INTO CHORUS

Counts	Choreography
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,	□ Wait in start position, facing back of room, standing on right leg, left leg crossed over, left hand on hip, right hand balancing hat on head.
7	☐ Turn towards right shoulder to face the front
8	☐ Lift hat up in air
1, 2, 3, 4, Where did you get that hat	 Travelling towards right diagonal, right foot heel, left crossing behind x4 as right arm circles hat round, left hand extending front to side
5,6,7,8 Where did you get that tile?*	 Repeat travelling to left diagonal, left foot heel, right foot crossing behind x4, passing hat from right to left hand and bringing hand up to left diagonal (keep your focus on the hat!)

*19th Century slang for 'hat'- it sits on your head like a tile on a roof!



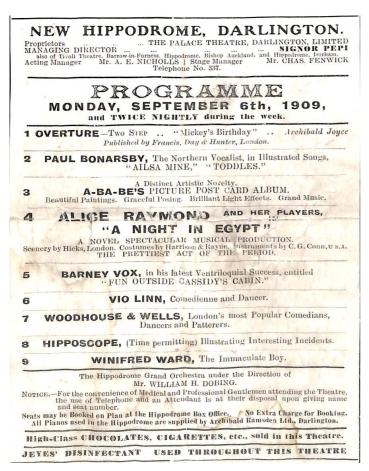
COUNTS	CHOREOGRAPHY
1, 2, 3,	 Step out to left side with left foot, hat up to left diagonal, shake your right hand
4	☐ Drop hat and catch with right hand
Isn't it a knobby one	
5, 6, 7	 Point hat to right diagonal, shaking left hand, weight on right leg with knee bend, left leg crossed behind
(and) 8	☐ Circle hat round to the front to close feet to face the left diagonal, hat coming to right hip
In just the proper style	
1, 2, 3, 4,	 Spring to the left, cross right foot in front and exchange weight, repeat to right as hat moves from
I should like to have one	right hip to left hip on counts 1 & 3.
5, 6, 7, 8	4x skips on the spot, weight forwards, holding hat with both hands and swinging it from side to side with
Just the same as that	elbows up
1, 2, Where 'ere I go	☐ Cut hat across from right hip to left hip at same time as right hand to look out over horizon changing direction of focus on each count
3	
3, 4	 Change hat to right hand to flourish hat as if greeting someone, leaning to right side
They shout 'Hello!'	
5, 6, 7, 8	☐ Walking in a small circle around yourself, hat in hand and swinging arms
'Where did you get that hat?'	



AND NOW... FOR SOME OTHER MUSIC HALL ACTIVITIES!

Don't have a hat at home? Why not make your own?
Ever wondered what the stage inside a Music Hall might look like? Have a go at making your own miniature version using cardboard, old pieces of material and other bits and bobs you might find at home!
If you have enjoyed learning this dance, why not make your own Music Hall inspired choreography? Here are some links to video footage to give you some inspiration:
Judy Garland & Gene Kelly Ballin' the Jack: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWryDF_yyH0&list=PLD4ClQQq2r1Hejnt13OKuTZ9M3NFS3ook
Vaudeville 1902 – 1904 Assorted Dance Scenes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AL-maEqF_w8&list=PLD4ClQQq2r1Hejnt13OKuTZ9M3NFS3ook&index=3
Direct from the British Music Hall – Wilson & Keppel <i>The Sand Dance:</i>
Direct from the British Music Hall – Wilson & Keppel <i>The Sand Dance:</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_i_ASLjkT0&pbjreload=10

Music Hall at the Hipp



Opening in 1907 as the New Hippodrome and Palace Theatre of Varieties the original shows at the Hippodrome were Music Hall and Variety productions. Each show contained 9-10 different acts, with each show performed twice nightly, six days a week, with the acts changing every week. Through our archives we can name 2,053 individual performers who appeared at the Hippodrome in the theatres variety years, 1907 to 1949.

An important feature of these shows was music, often starting with Theatre resident orchestra- The Hippodrome grand Orchestra performing the Overture, a musical introduction to a production. The orchestra could then support other acts in the bill such as dancers or singers; throughout the 1930s and 1940s big band groups were popular and would play well know versions of songs on the radio.

There were lots of different types of Music Hall and Variety acts including dancer, singers, animal acts, magicians and comedians. There were also more unusual performances which include acrobats, electricity and short film clips; the Hippodrome had several spectacular acts a part of a Music Hall show such as Le Diablo in 1907 who on the stage would be "looping the devil's wheel and riding on the outside of the wheel whilst the wheel is in motion and dashing down a steep incline of 45 degrees into a net" or the Masa Hirukawa Troupe, a "sensational balancing act" when audience were invited to "see the amazing wire walk from the gallery to the stage".

What would your act be?

