BARNUM

COSTUME PLOT

Time: 1835 through 1880

The action takes place all over America and major Capitols of the World

This Costume Plot is based on the original Broadway production and is meant only as a guide to color and feeling of costumes.

**Act I – Bridgeport Conn.**

**“There’s a Sucker Born Ev’ry Minute” 1835**

**Charity Barnum**: White cotton blouse with long sleeves and tight cuffs. Fitted Jacket, with locket on right side. Long skirt, with petticoat.

**Barnum**: Stripped shirt, white collar, open at neck with rolled up sleeves, ascot, brocade vest, tweed pants.

**Chorus:**

**Women:** Various day attire including skirts, blouse, camisoles, bloomers, shawls, hats, purses,

**Men**: Various attire including knickers, suspenders, caps, pants, vest, neckband shirts,

**“Thank God I’m Old” 1835**

**Charity Barnum:** repeat

**Barnum**: repeat

**Chorus:** repeat

**Joice Heth:** A very old woman, dark dress, oversized and hike at waist with rope. Bloomers, mob-cap, baggy tights, and men’s boots.

**Amos Scudder:** Dark Brown Frock Caot, with cuffs and collar, striped pants, shirt with winged collar, ascot and black top hap.

**“The Colors of My Life” 1842**

**Charity:** Dress of the time period, with full petticoat

**Barnum:** Black frock coat with cuffs and collar, winged collared shirt, vest, pants

**Chorus Women**: Some dressed as waitresses with aprons, other as customers with dresses and feathered hats

**“One Brick at a Time” 1842**

**Charity:** Repeat dress from previous scene

**Barnum:** Repeat minus the frock coat

**Chorus Men**: Colorful abstract checked overalls, with period poet shirts, and hats to give the costumes a clown like, building crew appearance

**Chorus Women:** repeat first scene daywear

**“Museum Song” 1842**

**Barnum:** repeat

**“I Like Your Style” 1842**

**Charity:** Repeat first outfit without jacket and sleeves rolled up. Leaves stage for **Quick Change** into a very simple pale evening gown.

**Barnum:** Repeat and add frock coat back on

**Amos Scudder:** repeat

**Mrs. Stratton:** Very plain dress, (dowdy middle class New England appearance)

**Sherwood Stratton:** Dark grey frock suit with vest, high collar, white shirt, and cravat. Also dowdy.

**“Bigger Isn’t Better – London 1842**

**Tom Thumb**: Royal blue uniform with bright gold accessories – belt, epaulets, buttons, collar, cuffs, and striped pants

**Beefeaters**: Traditional red, black and gold uniforms but elongated for actors to use with stilts.

**Railroad Station – New York City 1850**

**Charity:**  Dress of the period with Jacket

**Barnum:** Frock Coat ensemble with pants, shirt, cravat, vest, hat

**Susan B Anthony:** Drab color Period Suit with small dark hat

**Julius Goldschmidt:** Expensive looking grey frock suit with velvet color, brocade vest, cravat, top hat, watch chain, handkerchief, spats.

**Chorus Women:** Suffragettes with blouses, skirts, hats, shawls, etc

Chorus Men: Suffragettes but with comical touches, brighter bloomers, shawls, oversized hats, etc.

**“Love Makes Such Fools of Us All” 1850**

**Jenny Lind (arrival):** Elegant pale silk dress, rich and elaborate, with lace and embroidery, matching parasol, gloves and hat.

**Barnum:** repeat Frock suit

**Chorus Men:** Platform Bearers

**After Concert:**

**Jenny Lind:** repeat

**Charity:** Elegant Evening Gown, with lace shawl

**Barnum:** Elegant black frock suit

**Chorus Men:** Elegant frock suits with top hats and canes

**Jenny Lind Apartment 1850**

**Jenny Lind:** Corset, bloomers, full white peignoir

**Barnum:** Black pants, white shirt, continues to dress into frock suit during scene

**“Out There” Tight Wire Number 1850**

**Jenny Lind:**  repeat corset and bloomers only

**Barnum:** repeats first change without vest and frock coat

**Chorus:** Basic circus outfits

**ACT II**

**“Come Follow the Bank” 1850’s**

**Barnum**: White underwear shirt, oversized overalls, clown attire (or optional ring master look with red jacket,black pants, top hat, etc)

**Chorus – The Band:** complete band uniforms, pants, jackets, hats with plumes, etc.

**Chorus – Women:** repeat – some in basic circus attire, some if basic day attire

**Chorus – Men** – repeat either circus attire or basic day attire

**“Black of White” 1869**

**Charity:** Grey silk full dress with high collar, trimmed in black jet beading

**Barnum**: frock suit, with grey striped pants, vest, white shirt, black cravat

**Lead Female Dancer:** Black and White striped cake-walk dress, with petticoats,black tights, black feather hairpiece.

**Lead Male Dancer**: Black pants, Black and white striped vest, white shirt, black flwoing tie, black derby, spats

**Chorus Women (Citizens of Bridgeport):** white choir like robes

**Chorus Men:** Black pants, vest in various shades of greys andblack, white shirts, black cravats, black top hats

Note: at the end of this numer most chorus members repeat their costumes from “One Brick at a Time”

**Scene with US Senators 1871**

**Barnum:** Repeat Black and white costumes

**Senators:** Repeat the Black and White Chorus ensembles adding Frock Coats

**“The Prince of Humbug” 1871**

**Barnum:** repeat Black and White costume

**“Join the Circus” 1880**

**Barnum:** White jodphers, white silver vest, white ruffled shirt, red ringmaster coat, with black velvet collar, black top hat, black boots

**Bailey:** Royal Blue tail suit with red vest, white shirt with cravat, top hat with sequined band.

**Chorus:** Costumed as circus performers, acrobats, clows, jugglers, etc. in shades of red, white and blue with trim of silver and gold.