

Herbert Keyser

biography

About the author of
Geniuses of the American Musical Theatre
(Applause Cinema & Theatre Books,
a division of Hal Leonard, 2009)



AUTHOR, LECTURER, PERFORMER, activist, humorist, philanthropist, world traveler and practicing physician Dr. Herbert Keyser has enjoyed a passionate love affair with the American musical theatre for over half a century. Growing up in a loving but impoverished family with two deaf parents, he embarked on a career in show business as a senior in high school after auditioning for a local TV station, later subsidizing his college tuition performing in commercials and Borsht Belt resorts.

His entertainment career derailed by acceptance into med school, he spent the next part of his life as a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist, heading one of the largest ob-gyn departments in Long Island and serving as a Lt. Col in the US Army Medical Corp during the war in Vietnam.

With a passion for social justice equaling his passion for theatre, he became an activist, whistle-blower, and author, publishing *Women Under the Knife: A Gynecologist's Report on Hazardous Medicine* and *Prescription for Disaster: Healthcare in America*. His love for travel and fine cuisine spawned two additional volumes: *Two Drifters....Off to See the World*, a memoir of his hilarious adventures in world travel from his home base in Provence; and *A Chautauquan Searches Paris For The Best Tarte au Citron*, tracing a trail through the kitchens of 14 of the most famous pastry chefs in France as they teach him how to make their signature lemon tart.

His latest book *Geniuses of the American Musical Theatre*, set for release in October 2009, sprang from a wildly popular series of lectures he presented over four years aboard Crystal Cruise Lines. He has been interviewed by Regis Philbin and Ted Koppel and appeared on CNN, HBO, and scores of local radio and television programs. He and his wife Barbara have homes in San Antonio, New York City and the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. Proud father of six children and grandfather of ten, he has delivered over 8000 babies.

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