The Gershwins’ Porgy & Bess

Porgy ................. Willard White
Bess .................. Cynthia Haymon
Crown .................. Gregg Baker
Serena .................. Cynthia Clarey
Maria .................. Marietta Simpson
Sporting Life ........... Damon Evans
Clara .................. Paula Ingram (sung by Harolyn Blackwell)
Jake .................. Gordon Hawkins (sung by Bruce Hubbard)
Mingo .................. Barrington Coleman
Robbins ................. D. Alonzo Washington (sung by Johnny Worthy)
Jim .................... Curtis Watson
Peter, The Honey Man ... Mervin Wallace
Lily .................... Maureen Brathwaite
Undertaker ............. Autris Paige
Annie .................. Yolanda Grant (sung by Paula Ingram)
Frazier ................. William Johnson
Scipio .................. Andre Harriott
Neighbour .............. Linda Thompson
Nelson/The Crab Man ... Colenton Freeman
Strawberry Woman ...... Camellia Johnson
Detective .............. Alan Tilvern
Coroner ................ Billy J. Mitchell
Mr. Archdale .......... Ted Maynard
Policeman .............. Ron Travis
Jasbo Brown ......... Wayne Marshall
Dancers ................. Steve Agyei / Bruce Leader

The Glyndebourne Chorus
Chorus Master: Craig Rutenberg

Voices in Solo Sextet (Act II, Scene IV): Paula Ingram, Camellia Johnson,
Linda Thompson, Michael Forest, Raemond Martin, Autris Paige

The Gershwin’s musical masterpiece Porgy and Bess is one of America’s greatest works. This production was adapted for the screen by Trevor Nunn and Yves Baigneres. It was directed by Trevor Nunn and is based on his highly successful staging of the original Glyndebourne Festival Opera production in 1986/87, which was remounted at Covent Garden in the autumn of 1992 with most of the original cast. Immediately after that performance the production was moved to the giant stage at Shepperton Studios, with much expanded sets and lighting. It was then recorded using EMI’s original award-winning soundtrack.

First performed in 1935, and based on the play ‘Porgy’ by DuBose and Dorothy K. Heyward, Porgy and Bess has achieved worldwide renown through such memorable songs as ‘Summertime’, ‘It ain’t necessarily so’, ‘I got plenty o’ nuttin’, ‘Oh Lawd, I’m on my way’ and many more, set to Gershwin’s moving symphonic score.

Act I, Scene 1
1 Introduction, Jasbo Brown solo, chorus ...
2 Summertime ...
3 Oh, nobody knows when the Lawd is goin’ to call ...
4 Lissen to yo’ daddy warn you ... A woman is a sometime thing ...
5 Here's the ol' crap shark! ...
6 Here comes Big Boy! ...
7 Jesus, he's killed him! ... That you, Sportin’ Life? ...

Act I, Scene 2
8 Where is brudder Robbins?
9 A saucer-burying set-up, I see ... 
10 Oh, the train is at the station ...

Act II, Scene 1
11 Oh, I'm agoin' out to the Blackfish banks ...
12 Oh, I got plenty o' nuttin' ...
13 Mornin', Lawyer, lookin' for somebody? ...
14 Bess, you is my woman now ...
15 Oh, I can't sit down ...

Act II, Scene 2
16 I ain't got no shame ... 
17 It ain't necessarily so ...
18 Crown! ... Oh, what you want wid Bess? ...

Act II, Scene 3
19 Honey, dat's all de breakfast I got time for ...
20 ‘Take yo’ han’s off me ...
21 Oh, dey’s so fresh an’ fine ...
22 Porgy, Porgy, dat you there, ain’t it? ...
23 Why you been out on that wharf so long, Clara? ...

Act II, Scene 4
24 Oh, Doctor Jesus ...
25 One of dese mornings you goin’ to rise up singin’ ...
26 Oh, dere’s somebody knockin’ at de do’ ...
27 Jake’s boat in de river, upside down ...

Act III, Scene 1
28 Clara, Clara, don’t you be down-hearted ...
29 Summertime ... (Porgy kills Crown) ...

Act III, Scene 2
30 Wait for us at the corner ...
31 Listen: there's a boat dat's leavin' soon for New York ...

Act III, Scene 3
32 It's Porgy comin’ home ...
33 Here Mingo, what's de matter wid you all? ...
34 Oh Lawd, I'm on my way ...