

'Shout!' Is New York City-Bound

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Wait a minute. Something must be wrong. This isn't a Kravis crowd.

People jumping up from their seats and clapping and singing along? No one dashing for the exits to beat the rush to the parking garage?

But then a production like *Shout!* doesn't come along every day. Who'd a thunk a revue based on British girl singers of the '60s would evoke such emotion. From its premiere June 13 to its closing tonight, the show has been sold out. Producers hope for a similar response on July 11, when it opens off-Broadway at the Julia Miles Theatre.

If it can make it here, producers surmise, it can make it anywhere. Kravis honchos hope *Shout's* success will attract more productions for pre-New York trial runs, even if *Shout* won't look quite the same in New York. The big-blobbed, shag-carpeted mod set will remain, but . . .

"We're working on the opening," producer **Victoria Lang** said. "And we're working on some lines. We went to Palm Beach to see where the laughs land. If one doesn't work we cut it. Some got some really uproarious laughs that we didn't think would be as funny."

Like the line about **Paul McCartney** getting married 40 years ago.

And two songs may go, one of which has a very poignant moment that didn't play that way. But the company was most surprised by the reaction at the end as most of the audience stood and danced and sang along to *Shout*.

"I didn't really expect it, but women have been crying, and men too," Lang said. "It's really ringing true. One woman left the theater and went out to clear her eyes. My husband took her out. She got back in for the ending which is fun.

"But this was a time of self-discovery. It seems to resonate with the women who were growing up then."

Next up for the Kravis, the Florida premiere of **Judy Gold's** *25 Questions for a Jewish Mother*. After a July 27-Aug. 5 trial run, it goes to Chicago and then Los Angeles before returning to New York for its commercial off-Broadway run.

