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hot stuff

PIECE OF MY HEART: THE BERT BERNS STORY The little-known biography of the '60s composer who wrote more than 50 pop hits in 17 years, has been made into a new musical at Pershing Square Signature Center, 480 W. 42nd St. Before he died at 38, Berns wrote such icons-of-a-certain-age as "Hang on Sloopy" and "Cry Baby." In previews before opening July 21. Tickets are \$31.50-\$99.50. Call 212-279-4200 or visit pieceofmyheartmusical.com

— LINDA WINER