

Songwriting Teams of the 30s and 40s, their Songs & Musicals + some from 50s & 60s

The list of songs and musicals only represent a fraction of what was written by these people. Only the most popular has been listed. For example, Irving Berlin wrote hundreds of songs and contributed to many more musicals. Have also included old style Middle of the Road (MOR) songwriters from the 50s and 60s who wrote musicals or movie/TV themes.

The singers performing these songs include Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Ethel Merman, Betty Hutton, Howard Keel, Donald O'Connor, Rosemary Clooney, Vera Ellen, Gordon McRae, Gene Kelly, Shirley Jones, Mitzi Gaynor, Julie Andrews, Cab Calloway, Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers

Most musicals appearing live on **Broadway(B)** before being made into a **film(f)**. If only one date listed then that is for the film.

George(music) and Ira Gershwin(lyrics):

Songs: "I Got Rhythm"(1930), "Embraceable You"(1928), "Someone To Watch Over Me"(1926), "It Ain't Necessarily So"(1935), They Can't Take That Away From Me"(1937), "Nice Work If You Can Get It"(1937)

Musicals: "Girl Crazy"(1930), "Porgy and Bess"(1935), "Funny Face"(B:1927 & f:1957), "An American In Paris"(f:1951)

Music compositions by George: "Rhapsody in Blue"(1924), "An American In Paris"(1928)



Richard Rodgers (music) & Lorenz Hart d.1943 (lyrics):

Songs: "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered"(1940), "The Lady Is A Tramp"(1937), "My Funny Valentine"(1937), "Blue Moon"(1934);

Musicals: "Pal Joey"(B:1940 & f:1957), A Connecticut Yankee (1927 stage only)", "Babes In Arms"(B:1937 & f:1939)

Oscar Hammerstein II (lyrics) and Jerome Kern d. 1945 (music):

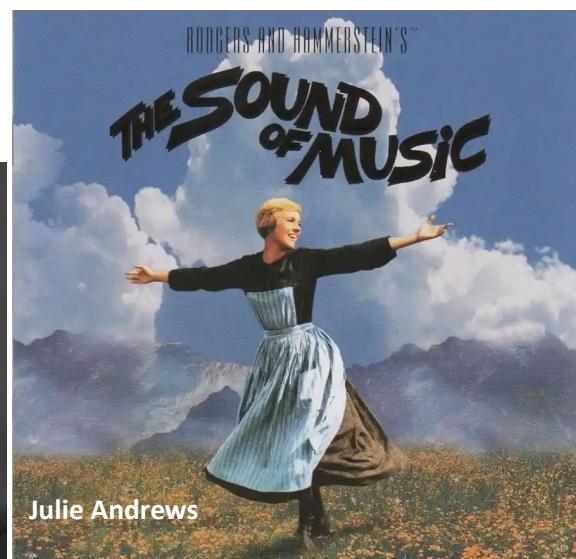
Songs: "Ol Man River"(1927)", "The Last Time I Saw Paris"(1940)

Musical: "Showboat"(B:1927 & f:1951)

The early deaths of both Jerome Kern and Lorenz Hart is probably what result in the team Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Richard Rodgers d. 1979 (music) & Oscar Hammerstein d. 1960 (lyrics): entire **musicals** like "Oklahoma"(B:1943 & f:1955), "Carousel"(B:1945 & f:1956), "State Fair"(f:1945), South Pacific"(B:1949 & f:1958), "The King and I"(B:1951 & f:1956), "The Sound of Music"(B:1959 & f:1965), "Flower Drum Song"(B:1958 & f:1961)

Rodgers (L) and Hammerstein (R)

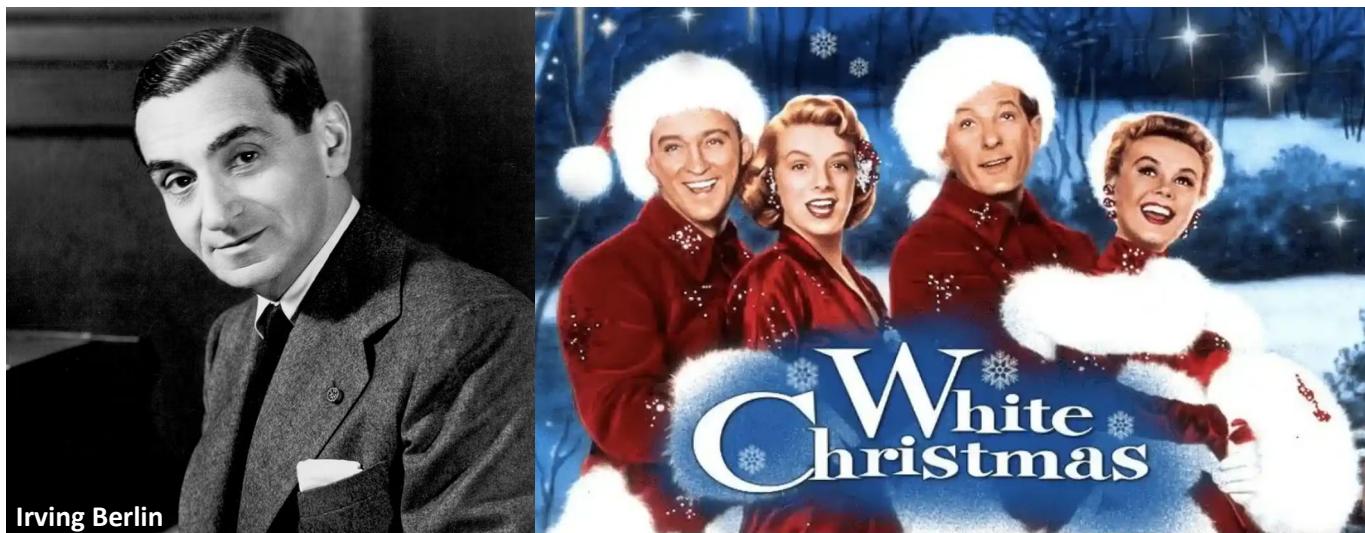


Jerome Kern(music) Songs: "A Fine Romance"(1936) – Dorothy Fields(lyrics) , "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes"(1933) – Otto Harbach (lyrics), "The Way You Look Tonight"(1936) – Dorothy Fields(lyrics),

Musicals: "Swingtime"(1936) – Lyrics Dorothy Fields

Irving Berlin: Songs: "God Bless America: (1918 & 1938), "White Christmas", "Alexanders Ragtime Band"(1911), Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better" (1942), "Blue Skies"(1926), "Cheek To Cheek"(1932), "A Couple of Swells"(1947), "Doin What Comes Naturally"(1942), "I Got The Sun In The Morning and The Moon At Night"(1942), "Heatwave"(1933), "I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm"(1937), "Puttin' On The Ritz"(1930), "Steppin Out With My Baby"(1917), "Top Hat, White Tie and Tails"(1932), "What'll I Do"(1924)

Musicals: "Top Hat"(1935), "Alexanders Ragtime Band"(1938), "Holiday Inn"(1942), "Blue Skies"(1946), "Annie Get Your Gun"(1946), "Easter Parade"(1948), "There's No Business Like Show Business"(1954), "White Christmas"(1954)

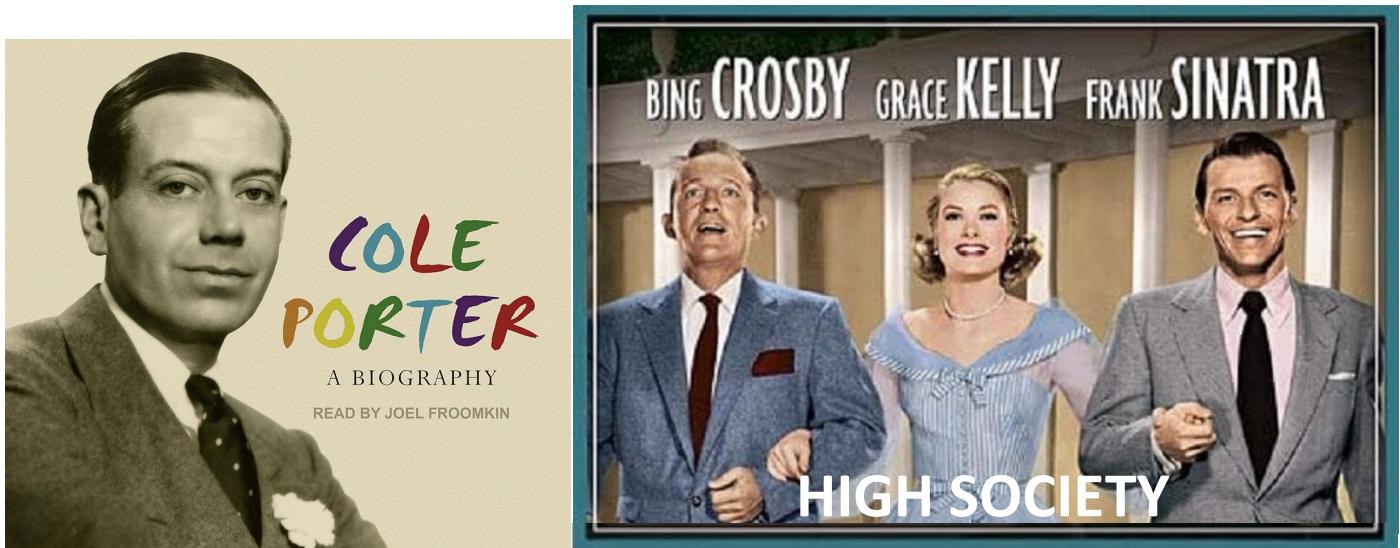


Cast: Johnny Ray Mitzi Gaynor Dan Dailey Ethel Merman Donald O'Connor Marilyn Monroe

Words and Music by Irving Berlin

Cole Porter: Songs: "Night and Day" (1932), "Don't Fence Me In" (1934), "Anything Goes" (1934), "I Get A Kick Out Of You" (1934), "Lets Do It, Lets Fall In Love" (1928), "Miss Otis Regrets" (1934), "You're The Top" (1934), "Begin The Beguine" (1935), "I've Got You Under My Skin" (1936), "I Love Paris" (1953)

Musicals: "The Gay Divorcee" (1932), "Anything Goes" (1934), "Born To Dance" (1936), "Kiss Me Kate" (B:1948 & f:1953), *Can Can* (B:1953 & f:1960), "High Society" (1956), "Les Girls" (1957)



Harold Arlen (music): Songs: "Over The Rainbow" (1939) – lyrics E Y Harburg, "That Old Black Magic" – lyrics Johnny Mercer, "Between The Devil and The Deep Blue Sea" (1931) – lyrics Ted Koehler, "Accentuate The Positive" (1944) – lyrics Johnny Mercer

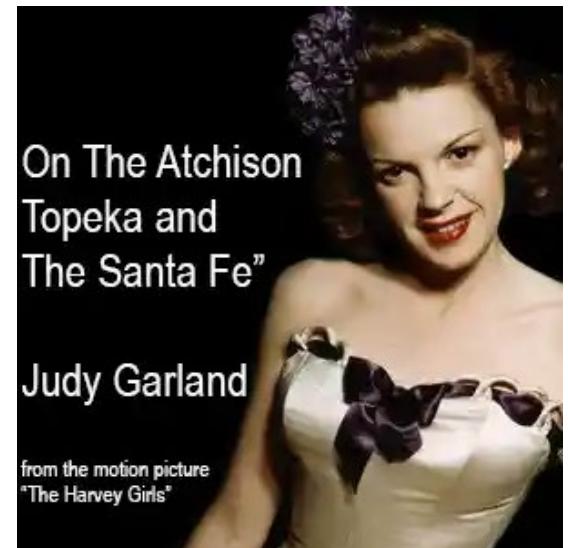
Musical: "Wizard of OZ" (1939) – lyrics E Y Harburg



Dorothy Fields (lyrics): Songs: "The Way You Look Tonight" (1936) – music Jerome Kern, "(Hey) Big Spender" – music Cy Coleman, "On The Sunny Side Of The Street" (1930) – music Jimmy McHugh, "Pick Yourself Up" (1936) – music Jerome Kern

Musicals: "Sweet Charity" (1966) – with Cy Coleman (music), "Swingtime" (1936) – music Jerome Kern

Johnny Mercer (lyrics): Songs: "Jeepers Creepers" (1938) – music Harry Warren, "You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby" (1938) – music Harry Warren, "That Old Black Magic" (1942) – music Harold Arlen, "One For My Baby and One More For The Road" (1943) – music Harold Arlen, "Accentuate The Positive" (1944) – music Harold Arlen, "Come Rain or Come Shine" (1946) – music Harold Arlen, "On The Atchison Topeka and The Santa Fe" (1946) – music Harry Warren, "In The Cool Cool Of The Evening" (1951) – music Hoagy Carmichael, "Moon River" (1961) – music Henry Mancini, "Days of Wine and Roses" (1962) – music Henry Mancini, "The Summer Wind" (1965) – music Henry Mancini



Hoagy Carmichael(music): ["Georgia On My Mind"](#) (1930) – lyrics Stuart Gorrell, ["Stardust"](#) (1928) – lyrics Mitchell Parish, ["Up A Lazy River"](#) (1931) – lyrics H Carmichael, ["Heart and Soul"](#) (1938) – lyrics Frank Loesser, ["In The Cool Cool of the Evening"](#) (1951) – lyrics Johnny Mercer

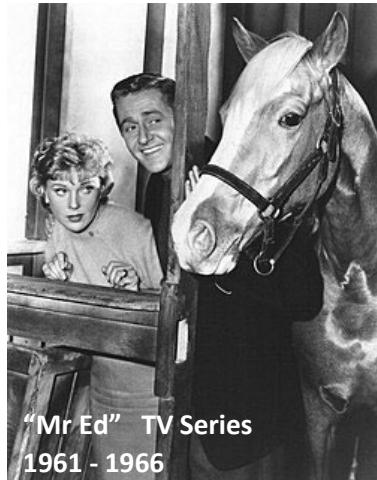
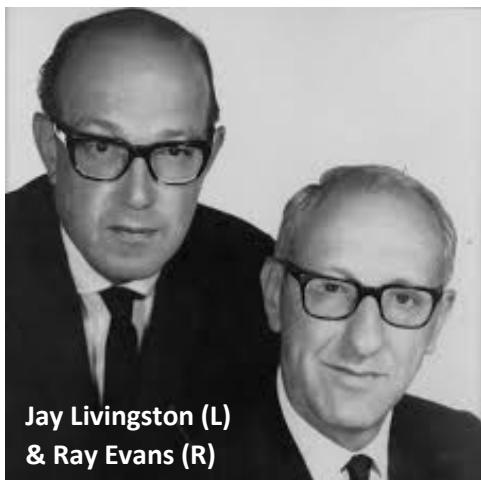
Harry Warren(music): Songs: ["Jeepers Creepers"](#) (1938) – lyrics Johnny Mercer, ["You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby"](#) (1938) – lyrics Johnny Mercer, ["Chattanooga Choo Choo"](#) (1941) – lyrics Mack Gordon, ["On The Atchison Topeka and the Santa Fe"](#) (lyrics Johnny Mercer), ["You're Getting To Be A Habit With Me"](#) (1932) – lyrics – Al Dubin, ["Lullaby of Broadway"](#) (1935) – lyrics Al Dubin, ["I Only Have Eyes For You"](#), ["That's Amore"](#) (1953) – lyrics Jack Brooks

Musicals with Al Dubin as lyricist: ["42nd Street"](#) (1933), ["The Harvey Girls"](#) (1946), ["The Barkleys of Broadway"](#) (1949)

Frank Loesser: **Songs:** ["Heart and Soul"](#) (1938) – music Hoagy Carmichael, ["On A Slow Boat To China"](#) (1948), ["A Bushel and a Peck"](#) (1950), ["Luck Be A Lady"](#) (1950), ["Thumelina"](#) (1952)

Musicals (music and lyrics): ["Guys and Dolls"](#) (B:1950 & f:1955), ["How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying"](#) (B:1961 & f:1967), ["Hans Christian Anderson"](#) (1952)

Jay Livingston(music) & Ray Evans(lyrics): Songs: ["Buttons and Bows"](#) (1947), ["Mona Lisa"](#) (1949), ["Que Sera Sera"](#) (1956), ["Silver Bells"](#) (1951), ["Mr Ed"](#) theme (1961) song also sung by Jay Livingston, ["Tammy"](#) (1957), ["Bonanza"](#) theme (1961)



Jimmy van Heusen(music) & Sammy Cahn(lyrics): ["Aint That A Kick In The Head"](#) (1960), ["Come Fly With Me"](#) (1958), ["High Hopes"](#) (1959), ["Love and Marriage"](#) (1955), ["\(Love Is\) The Tender Trap"](#) (1955), ["Call Me Irresponsible"](#) (1963), ["My Kind Of Town"](#) (1964) of interest, ALL these songs were hits for Frank Sinatra

He also worked with lyricist Johnny Burke – ["Moonlight Becomes You"](#) (1942), ["Swinging on a Star"](#) (1944), ["Going My Way"](#) (1944), ["\(We're Off on The\) Road To Morocco"](#) (1942)– all hits for Bing Crosby, the last song also featured Bob Hope.

Jimmy van Heusen also worked with several other lyricists.

Sammy Cahn(lyrics): other songs not co-written with Jimmy van Heusen.

“Saturday Night Is The Loneliest Night of the Week” (1944), “Let It Snow”, “Let It Snow, Let It Snow” (1945), “Three Coins in the Fountain” (1954) – all with music by Julie Styne. In fact he did many more songs with Julie Styne.



Sammy Cahn

Maurice Chevalier

Jimmy Van Heusen



Alan J Lerner(lyrics) and Frederick Lowe(Music): Musicals – “Brigadoon” (B:1947 & f:1954), “Gigi” (f:1958 & B:1973), “Paint Your Wagon” (B:1951 & f:1969), “My Fair Lady”(B:1956 & f:1964), “Camelot”(B:1960 & f:1967)

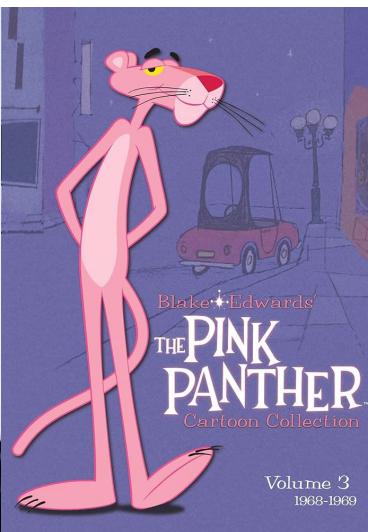


Henry Mancini(music): responsible for numerous Television Themes and Movie Soundtracks

The Pink Panther Theme (1963), Peter Gunn, Moon River (from Breakfast at Tiffanys) (1961), Baby Elephant Walk (from Hatari), Days of Wine and Roses



Henry Mancini



Lionel Bart: **musical** “Oliver!” (1968) also wrote “Living Doll” (Cliff Richard), “Little White Bull” (Tommy Steele), “From Russia With Love” (Matt Monroe)