Hall of Fame Hits

"Together Wherever We Go"
(in honor of <u>Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé</u>)

"Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" (in honor of the Gershwins)

"I Say a Little Prayer"
(in honor of Dionne Warwick)

"Windmills of Your Mind"
(in honor of <u>Alan and Marilyn Bergman</u>)

"Goodnight, My Someone"
(in honor of Meredith Willson & Shirley Jones)

Celebrating the Songbook Hall of Fame

This month, we celebrate the musical contributions of Songbook Hall of Fame members by singing and moving to songs that have stood the test of time. Whether written by legendary composers or performed by unforgettable vocalists, these songs continue to bring people together through the power of music.





Song: "Together Wherever We Go" (1959)

Songwriters: Jule Styne & Stephen Sondheim

Honorees: Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé

Brief Context:

Written by Jule Styne (music) and Stephen Sondheim (lyrics) for the 1959 musical *Gypsy*, "Together Wherever We Go" is a song about loyalty, friendship, and sticking together through thick and thin. While originally introduced on Broadway by Ethel Merman, Jack Klugman, and Sandra Church, the song gained popularity as a standalone piece—notably performed by Songbook Hall of Fame members Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé, who made it a highlight of their celebrated career as a musical duo.

Activity: Singing and Artifact Spotlight

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Together Wherever We Go" video (YOUTUBE)
- Perfect Harmony "Together Wherever We Go" lyrics

About Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé

Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé were a beloved husband-and-wife duo whose smooth harmonies and charismatic performances enchanted audiences for over five decades. They met in 1953 on *The Tonight Show*, married in 1957, and became one of the most successful duos in American music.

Their dynamic interpretations of Songbook classics—from Gershwin to Porter—cemented their place in entertainment history. Steve & Eydie were inducted into the Songbook Hall of Fame in 2015 and their musical arrangements, including an arrangement of "Together Wherever We Go," are housed in the Songbook Library & Archives. Join Perfect Harmony leader Chris for a behind-the-scenes look!



Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gormé





Together Wherever We Go

Wherever we go

Whatever we do

We're gonna go through it together

We may not go far

But sure as a star

Wherever we are, it's together

Wherever I go I know he goes

Wherever I go I know she goes

No fits no fights no feuds and no egos

Amigos

Together!

Through thick and through thin

All out or all in

And whether it's win, place, or show

With you for me and me for you

We'll muddle through whatever we do

Together wherever we go

Song: "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" (1937)

Songwriters: George & Ira Gershwin

Honorees: George & Ira Gershwin

Brief Context:

Brothers and Songbook Hall of Fame members George and Ira Gershwin were one of the most influential songwriting teams in American history. George composed jazzy, sophisticated melodies, while Ira wrote clever, heartfelt lyrics. Originally written for the 1937 film *Shall We Dance*, this song was introduced by Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in a famous roller-skating dance sequence. Over the years, it has been performed by Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, and many others, cementing its place in the American Songbook.

Activity: Singing and Discussion

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" video (YOUTUBE)
- Perfect Harmony "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" lyrics

Suggested Discussion Prompt

This song reminds us that differences don't have to divide us—whether it's how we pronounce a word, what foods we like, or even creative differences. Think about the people that you know and love and tell someone about the compromises you've had to make in your life to keep your relationship strong.

- <u>Food & Taste:</u> Have you ever liked a food that a loved one didn't? Did you ever have to agree on a meal to share?
- <u>Music & Entertainment:</u> Did you and a spouse, friend, or sibling ever have different taste in music or movies? How did you decide what to listen to or watch together?
- <u>Everyday Choices:</u> Have you ever had a friendly disagreement over which route to take while driving or how to set up a home space? How did you settle it?



Let's Call the Whole Thing Off

You say neither and I say neither
You say either and I say either
Either, either, neither, neither
Let's call the whole thing off

You like potato, I like potato
You like tomato, I like tomato
Potato, potato, tomato, tomato
Let's call the whole thing off

But oh, if we call the whole thing off then we must part
And oh, if we ever part then that will break my heart

So if you like oysters and I like oysters
I'll order oysters and give up the oysters
For we know, we need each other so
Better call the calling off off
Let's call the whole thing off

Let's Call the Whole Thing Off

But oh, if we call the whole thing off then we must part

And oh, if we ever part then that will break my heart

So if you wear pajamas and I wear pajamas I'll wear pajamas and give up pajamas For we know, we need each other so Better call the calling off off Let's call the whole thing off

Song: "I Say a Little Prayer" (1967)

Songwriters: Burt Bacharach & Hal David

Honoree: Dionne Warwick

Brief Context:

Originally written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, "I Say a Little Prayer" was first recorded by Songbook Hall of Fame member Dionne Warwick in 1967. The song became one of her biggest hits, known for its beautiful melody and heartfelt lyrics about love and devotion. Later, Aretha Franklin released her own version, turning it into another beloved classic.

Activity: Movement

What do you need?

 Perfect Harmony "Twist and Shout" video (YOUTUBE)

Suggested Seated Movement

Follow Perfect Harmony leader Nonni or create your own seated movement!

Use movements like . . .

- Seated walking with alternating arms
- Swinging arms out and together in a prayer position
- Rhythmically slicing arms out to the side to four positions from low to high



Dionne Warwick accepting her Songbook Hall of Fame award, 2016. Owned by the Songbook Foundation.



Song: "The Windmills of Your Mind" (1968)

Songwriters: Michel Legrand, Alan & Marilyn Bergman

Honorees: Alan & Marilyn Bergman

Brief Context:

This Academy Award-winning song was composed by Michel Legrand, with English lyrics by Songbook Hall of Fame members Alan & Marilyn Bergman. It was originally recorded by Noel Harrison and featured in the 1968 film *The Thomas Crown Affair* and later became a standard recorded by artists like Dusty Springfield and José Feliciano. The song's lyrics use circular imagery to evoke the flow of memories and emotions, making it one of the most poetic songs in the Great American Songbook.

Activity: Listening

What do you need?

• Perfect Harmony "The Windmills of Your Mind" video (YOUTUBE)

Extension Opportunity

After listening to this instrumental rendition of the song, experience the power of Alan & Marilyn Bergman's lyrics by listening to Barbra Streisand's recording available on YOUTUBE and reading the song's lyrics on the following pages.

About Alan & Marilyn Bergman

For over five decades, Marilyn & Alan Bergman crafted timeless lyrics for film, television, and popular music, earning 16 Oscar nominations, two GRAMMYs, and three Emmys. Their classics—"The Way We Were," "The Windmills of Your Mind," and "How Do You Keep the Music Playing?"—have been performed by legends like Barbra Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Dusty Springfield, and Beyoncé.



The Windmills of Your Mind

Round like a circle in a spiral, like a wheel within a wheel
Never ending or beginning on an ever-spinning reel
Like a snowball down a mountain or a carnival balloon
Like a carousel that's turning,
running rings around the moon
Like a clock whose hands are sweeping
past the minutes of its face
And the world is like an apple whirling silently in space
Like the circles that you find
In the windmills of your mind

Like a tunnel that you follow to a tunnel of its own

Down a hollow to a cavern where the sun has never shone

Like a door that keeps revolving in a half forgotten dream

Or the ripples from a pebble someone tosses in a stream

Like a clock whose hands are sweeping

past the minutes of its face

And the world is like an apple whirling silently in space

Like the circles that you find

In the windmills of your mind

The Windmills of Your Mind

Keys that jingle in your pocket, words that jangle in your head Why did summer go so quickly? Was it something that you said? Lovers walk along a shore and leave their footprints in the sand Is the sound of distant drumming just the fingers of your hand? Pictures hanging in a hallway or the fragment of a song Half remembered names and faces but to whom do they belong? When you knew that it was over you were suddenly aware That the autumn leaves were turning to the colour of her hair

A circle in a spiral, a wheel within a wheel
Never ending nor beginning on an ever-spinning reel
As the images unwind
Like the circles that you find
In the windmills of your mind

Song: "Goodnight, My Someone" (1957)

Songwriter: Meredith Willson

Honorees: Meredith Willson and Shirley Jones

Brief Context:

Written for the 1957 musical *The Music Man*, "Goodnight, My Someone" is a tender lullaby that contrasts with the more upbeat "Seventy-Six Trombones" from the same show. The song was famously performed by Shirley Jones in the 1962 film version, capturing the character Marian Paroo's hopes for love and companionship.

Activity: Singing

What do you need?

- Perfect Harmony "Goodnight, My Someone" video (YOUTUBE)
- Perfect Harmony "Goodnight, My Someone" lyrics

Did you know?

Meredith Willson based *The Music Man* on his hometown of Mason City, Iowa, drawing from reallife memories. Shirley Jones, who starred in the film, later became known for her role as the mother on *The Partridge Family*!

Both Willson and Jones are Songbook Hall of Fame members who are also represented in the Songbook Library & Archives through the Meredith Willson Collection featuring treasures like the following photograph from the film's production process.



Shirley Jones reminisces about The Music Man while visiting the Songbook Library & Archives, 2014. Owned by the Songbook Foundation.



Photograph from the Meredith Willson Collection



Meredith Willson on the set of The Music Man with Shirley Jones and Rini Willson.

Meredith Willson Collection, MSS 049, Great American Songbook Foundation



Goodnight, My Someone

Goodnight my someone, goodnight my love
Sleep tight my someone, sleep tight my love
A star is shining its brightest light
So goodnight my love, so goodnight

Sweet dreams be yours dear, if dreams there be Sweet dreams to carry you close to me I wish they may and I wish they might So goodnight, my someone, goodnight

Sweet dreams be yours dear, if dreams there be Sweet dreams to carry you close to me I wish they may and I wish they might So goodnight, my someone, goodnight