A Review of Famous Songs of the Past

‘Fascinating Facts’ December 2019

Track 1 Portrait of My Love
A love song which compares a beautiful woman with the Mona Lisa.

Matt Monro (1 December 1930 – 7 February 1985) was an English singer who became one of the most popular entertainers on the international music scene during the 1960s. Throughout his 30-year career, he filled cabarets, nightclubs, music halls, and stadiums in Australia, Japan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Europe, and the Americas. He also covered many of the most popular stage and screen songs of the 1950s and 1960s.

Track 2 All I Have To Do Is Dream
All I Have to Do Is Dream is a popular song written by the husband and wife song writing team Felice and Boudleaux Bryant and published in 1958. By far the best-known version was recorded by The Everly Brothers and released as a single in April 1958.

The Everly Brothers — Isaac Donald "Don" Everly (born February 1, 1937) and Phillip "Phil" Everly (born January 19, 1939) — are American country-influenced rock and roll singers, known for steel-string guitar playing and close harmony singing. In the late 1950s, the Everly Brothers were the rock 'n' roll youth movement's addition to close harmony vocal groups of which many were family bands. The duo's harmony singing had a strong influence on rock groups of the 1960s. The Beatles, The Beach Boys and Simon & Garfunkel developed their early singing styles by performing Everly covers. The brothers toured extensively with Buddy Holly during 1957 and 1958. Phil Everly was one of Buddy Holly's pallbearers at his funeral in February 1959, although Don did not attend. He later said, "I couldn't go to the funeral. I couldn't go anywhere. I just took to my bed."
**Track 3 Moon River**
Moon River" is a song composed by Henry Mancini with lyrics written by Johnny Mercer. It received an Academy Award for Best Original Song for its first performance by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 movie Breakfast at Tiffany's. Since its original performance, the song has been covered by many other artists.

Howard Andrew "Andy" Williams (December 3, 1927 – September 25, 2012) was an American popular music singer. He hosted The Andy Williams Show, a TV variety show, from 1962 to 1971, as well as numerous television specials. Most recently, he performed at his Moon River Theatre in Branson, Missouri, which was named after the Johnny Mercer and Henry Mancini song Moon River, with which he is closely identified. Williams continued to perform live into his 80s. It was this that kept him vital, he said during a 2007 tour of the UK.

**Track 4 Christmas Is Coming**
Christmas Is Coming is a nursery rhyme and Christmas carol (frequently sung as a round) The musical version of the rhyme was popularized by The Kingston Trio as A Round About Christmas, on their album The Last Month of the Year. The rhyme also became the basis for the song Christmas Is a-Comin re-written by Frank Luther and performed by Bing Crosby.

Harold George "Harry" Belafonte, Jr. (born March 1, 1927) is an American singer, songwriter, actor and social activist. He was dubbed the "King of Calypso" for popularising the Caribbean musical style with an international audience in the 1950s. Belafonte is perhaps best known for singing The Banana Boat Song, with its signature lyric "Day-O". Throughout his career he has been an advocate for civil rights and humanitarian causes and was a vocal critic of the policies of the George W. Bush Administration. From 1932 to 1940, he lived with his grandmother in her native country of Jamaica. In the 1940s he became interested in American Negro Theatre.

While primarily known for Calypso, Harry has recorded in many genres, including blues, folk, gospel, show tunes, and American standards. As The Beatles and other stars from Britain began to dominate the U.S. pop charts, Harry's commercial success diminished; He supported the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and was one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s confidants. In 2001 he went to South Africa to support the campaign against HIV/AIDS. He was also active in the anti-apartheid movement. In January 2006 Harry said that if he could choose his epitaph it would be, "Harry Belafonte, Patriot."
**Track 5 Santa Bring My Baby Back**
Santa Bring My Baby Back is a 1957 song by Elvis Presley. The song was released on the RCA Elvis' Christmas Album in 1957.

**Elvis Aaron Presley** (January 8, 1935 – August 16, 1977) was an American singer and actor. A cultural icon, he is commonly known by the single name Elvis. Presley was one of the most popular musicians of the 20th-century. Born in Tupelo, Mississippi, Presley moved to Memphis, Tennessee, with his family at the age of 13. He began his career there in 1954, working with Sun Records owner Sam Phillips, who wanted to bring the sound of African-American music to a wider audience. Accompanied by guitarist Scotty Moore and bassist Bill Black, Presley was the most important person to populist of rockabilly, an up-tempo, backbeat-driven fusion of country and rhythm and blues. Presley’s first single, Heartbreak Hotel, released in January 1956, was a number-one hit. He became the leading figure of the newly popular sound of rock and roll with a series of network television appearances and chart-topping records. His energized interpretations of songs, many from African-American sources, and his uninhibited performance style made him enormously popular—and controversial. In November 1956, he made his film debut in Love Me Tender.

Drafted into military service in 1958, Presley relaunched his recording career two years later. He staged few concerts however, and guided by Parker, proceeded to devote much of the 1960s to making Hollywood movies and soundtrack albums. In 1968, after seven years away from the stage, he returned to live performance in a celebrated comeback television special. In 1973 Presley staged the first concert broadcast globally via satellite, Aloha from Hawaii. Prescription drug abuse severely compromised his health, and he died suddenly in 1977 at the age of 42.

**Track 6 Let’s Face the Music and Dance**
A song written in 1936 by Irving Berlin for the film Follow the Fleet, where it was introduced by Fred Astaire and featured in a celebrated dance duet with Astaire and Ginger Rogers. It is also used in Pennies from Heaven, where Astaire’s voice is lip-synced by Steve Martin, and in a celebrated Morecambe and Wise sketch involving newsreader Angela Rippon.

**Fred Astaire** (born Frederick Austerlitz; May 10, 1899 – June 22, 1987) was an American film and Broadway stage dancer, choreographer, singer and actor. His stage and subsequent film career spanned a total of 76 years, during which he made 31 musical films. He was named the fifth Greatest Male Star of All Time by the American Film Institute. He is particularly associated with Ginger Rogers, with whom he made ten films. Gene Kelly, another major innovator in filmed dance, said that "the history of dance on film begins with Astaire".

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Track 7 Santa Claus Is Coming To Town
Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town is a Christmas song. It was first sung on Eddie Cantor's radio show in November 1934. It became an instant hit more than 30,000 records sold within 24 hours!

Harry Lillis "Bing" Crosby (May 3, 1903 – October 14, 1977) was an American singer and actor. Crosby's trademark bass-baritone voice made him one of the best-selling recording artists of the 20th century. A multimedia star, from 1934 to 1954 Bing Crosby was a leader in record sales, radio ratings and motion picture hits. He developed a laid-back, intimate singing style that influenced many of the popular male singers who followed him, including Perry Como, Frank Sinatra, and Dean Martin. Crosby boosted American G.I. morale during World War II and, during his peak years, around 1948, polls declared him the "most admired man alive".

The Andrews Sisters were a highly successful close harmony singing group of the swing and boogie-woogie eras. The group consisted of three sisters: contralto LaVerne Sophia Andrews (1911 - 1967), soprano Maxene Angelyn Andrews (1916 - 1995), and mezzo-soprano Patricia Marie "Patty" Andrews (1918). Throughout their long career, the sisters sold well over 75 million records. The Andrews Sisters' harmonies and songs are still influential today.

Track 8 Stormy Weather Stormy Weather is a 1933 song written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler. Ethel Waters first sang it at The Cotton Club in Harlem in 1933 and recorded it that year. It has since been performed by various artists and most famously by Lena Horne and Billie Holiday.

Lena Horne (June 30, 1917 – May 9, 2010) was an American singer, actress, civil rights activist and dancer. Horne joined the chorus of the Cotton Club at the age of sixteen and became a nightclub performer before moving to Hollywood, where she had small parts in numerous movies, and more substantial parts in the film Cabin in the Sky and Stormy Weather. Due to the Red Scare and her left-leaning political views, Horne found herself blacklisted and unable to get work in Hollywood.

Track 9 Knees Up Mother Brown
The song dates to at least 1918 and appears to have been sung widely in London on 11 November of that year, Armistice Night, at the end of the First World War. The 1938 version was attributed to Bert Lee, Harris Weston and I Taylor. The song became popular in English public houses and was particularly associated with Cockney culture. The expression "knees up" came to mean a party or a dance.
**Petula Clark**, CBE (born 15 November 1932) is an English singer, actress and composer whose career has spanned seven decades. Clark's professional career began as an entertainer on BBC Radio during World War II. During the 1950s she started recording in French and having international success in both French and English, with such songs as "The Little Shoemaker", "Baby Lover", "With All My Heart" and "Prends Mon Coeur". During the 1960s she became known globally for her popular upbeat hits, including "Downtown", "I Know a Place", "My Love", "Colour My World", "A Sign of the Times", and "Don't Sleep in the Subway". She has sold in excess of 68 million records throughout her career.

**Track 10 Away In A Manger**
Away in a Manger is a Christmas carol first published in 1885 in Philadelphia and used widely throughout the English-speaking world. In Britain it is one of the most popular carols. A very popular arrangement in Britain, is Sir David Willcocks' version of the carol. This version is often performed by the English choirs.

**Maureen Hegarty** is an Irish classical singer who has performed all over the world. She has sung on stage with Val Doonican and The Chieftains. She has had her own BBC TV series and is well loved in Ireland and abroad.

**Track 11 All I want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth**
All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth is a novelty Christmas song written in 1944 by Donald Yetter Gardner while teaching music in New York. He asked his second grade class what they wanted for Christmas. He noticed that almost all of the students had at least one front tooth missing as they answered in a lisp. Gardner wrote the song in 30 minutes. The song was published in 1948 after an employee of Witmark music company heard Gardner sing it at a music teachers conference. The song was originally recorded by Spike Jones & His City Slickers in December 1947.

Lindley Armstrong "Spike" Jones (December 14, 1911 – May 1, 1965) was an American musician and bandleader specializing in performing satirical arrangements of popular songs. Ballads and classical works receiving the Jones treatment would be punctuated with gunshots, whistles, cowbells, and outlandish vocals. Through the 1940s and early 1950s, the band recorded under the title Spike Jones and his City Slickers.

**Track 12 By the Light of the Silvery Moon**
A popular song published in 1909 and first performed on stage by Lillian Lorraine. It was one of a series of moon-related Tin Pan Alley songs of the era. The song has been used in a great many television shows and motion pictures.
A film of the same title was released in 1953, starring Doris Day. It served as a sequel to On Moonlight Bay, which also starred Doris Day.

**Doris Day** (born Doris Mary Ann Kappelhoff, April 3, 1924 – May 13, 2019) was an American actress, singer, and animal rights activist. With an entertainment career that spanned through almost 50 years, Day started her career as a big band singer in 1939, but only began to be noticed after her first hit recording, Sentimental Journey, in 1945. After leaving the Les Brown & His Band of Renown to try a solo career, she started her long-lasting partnership with Columbia Records, which would remain her only recording label. The contract lasted from 1947 to 1967, and included more than 650 recordings, making Day one of the most popular and acclaimed singers of the 20th century.

**Track 13 The Holly and the Ivy**
The Holly and the Ivy is an English traditional Christmas carol. The carol contains intermingled Christian and Pagan imagery, with holly and ivy representing Pagan fertility symbols. Holly and ivy has been the mainstay of English Christmas decoration for church use since at least the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The carol is often performed at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and by choirs around the world.

**Roger Whittaker**
Roger Whittaker (born 22 March 1936) is an Anglo-Kenyan singer-songwriter and musician. His music can be described as easy listening or perhaps best as ballads. He is best known for his baritone singing voice and trademark whistling ability. American audiences are most familiar with his 1970 hit New World in the Morning and his 1975 hit The Last Farewell.

**Track 14 Streets of London**
A song written by Ralph McTell. It was first recorded for McTell's 1969 album Spiral Staircase but was not released in the United Kingdom as a single until 1974. It was his greatest commercial success, reaching number two in the UK singles chart, at one point selling 90,000 copies a day and winning him the Ivor Novello Award and a Silver disc for record sales.

**Ralph McTell** (born Ralph May in Farnborough, Kent, England, 3 December 1944 and raised in Croydon) is an English singer-songwriter and acoustic guitar player who has been an influential figure on the UK folk music scene since the 1960s.
**Track 15 Santa Baby**
Santa Baby is a 1953 Christmas song written by Joan Javits and Philip Springer. The song is a tongue-in-cheek look at a Christmas list sung by a woman who wants extravagant gifts such as sables, yachts, and decorations from Tiffany's. It is one of only two hit Christmas songs written by a woman.

**Eartha Mae Kitt** (January 17, 1927 – December 25, 2008) was an American singer, actress, and cabaret star. She was perhaps best known for her highly distinctive singing style and her 1953 hit recordings of C'est Si Bon and the enduring Christmas novelty smash Santa Baby. Orson Welles once called her the "most exciting woman in the world." She took over the role of Cat woman for the third and final season of the 1960s Batman television series, replacing Julie Newmar.

**Track 16 Moonlight Becomes You**
Moonlight Becomes You is a popular song, composed by Jimmy Van Heusen with lyrics by Johnny Burke. The song was written for the film Road to Morocco (1942). The song has been recorded many times by many different artists.

**John Royce "Johnny" Mathis** (born in Texas, on September 30, 1935) is an American singer of popular music. Starting his career with singles of standard music, he became highly popular as an album artist. One of the last and most popular in a line of traditional male vocalists who emerged before the rock-dominated 1960s, Johnny Mathis concentrated on the romantic side of jazz and pop music standards for the adult contemporary audience of the 1960s and 1970s. Unsurprisingly, given his emphasis on long sustained notes and heavy vibrato, Mathis studied with an opera coach prior to his teenage years, and he was nearly lured into the opera singing profession.

**Track 17 Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire**
The Christmas Song (commonly subtitled "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire") is a classic Christmas song written in 1944 by musician, composer, and vocalist Mel Tormé and Bob Wells. According to Tormé, the song was written during a blistering hot summer. In an effort to "stay cool by thinking cool", the most-performed Christmas song was born. "I saw four lines written on a notepad", Tormé recalled. "They started, "Chestnuts roasting..., Jack Frost nipping..., Yuletide carols..., Folks dressed up like Eskimos." Bob (Wells, co-writer) hadn't thought he was writing a song lyric! He said he thought if he could immerse himself in winter he could cool off! Forty minutes later that song was written.

Nathaniel Adams Coles (March 17, 1919 – February 15, 1965), known professionally as **Nat King Cole**, was an American musician who first came to prominence as a leading jazz pianist. He owes most of his popular musical
fame to his soft baritone voice, which he used to perform in big band and jazz genres. He was one of the first black Americans to host a television variety show. Cole fought racism all his life and rarely performed in segregated venues. In 1948, Cole purchased a house in an all-white neighborhood of Los Angeles. The Ku Klux Klan, still active in Los Angeles well into the 1950s, responded by placing a burning cross on his front lawn. Members of the property-owners association told Cole they did not want any undesirables moving in. Cole retorted, "Neither do I. And if I see anybody undesirable coming in here, I'll be the first to complain." Cole maintained worldwide popularity throughout his life and even since his death.

Track 18 We Three Kings
We Three Kings, is a Christmas carol written by the Reverend John Henry Hopkins, Jr., who wrote both the lyrics and the music. It is thought to have been written in 1857. John Henry Hopkins, Jr., then an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church was instrumental in organising an elaborate holiday pageant (which featured this hymn) for the students of the General Theological Seminary in New York City in 1857.

The King’s College Choir, Cambridge is one of today's most accomplished and renowned representatives of the great British choral tradition. It was created by King Henry VI, who founded King's College, Cambridge in 1441, to provide daily singing in his Chapel, which remains the main task of the choir to this day. Today the choir derives much of its fame from the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, broadcast worldwide to millions on Christmas Eve every year, and the TV service Carols from King's which accompanies it.

Track 19 The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy
This is a traditional sacred gospel song from America composed by Douglas Walczak.

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir is named after the Salt Lake Tabernacle where it has performed for over a hundred years. The Tabernacle itself was finished in 1867. The Tabernacle also houses a very impressive organ, consisting of 11,623 pipes, making it one of the largest and most elaborate organs in the world. The choir was actually founded in August 1847, one month after the Mormon pioneers entered the Salt Lake Valley. Since July 15, 1929, the choir has performed a weekly radio broadcast called Music and the Spoken Word. The choir has 360 members, is completely self-funded, traveling and producing albums to support the organization.
**Track 20 Baby It’s Cold Outside**

Baby, It’s Cold Outside is a Christmas duet with words and music by Frank Loesser written in 1944 and premiered the song with his wife, Lynn Garland, at their Navarro Hotel housewarming party, and performed it toward the end of the evening, signifying to guests that it was nearly time to end the party. Lynn considered it "their song" and was furious when Loesser sold the song to MGM.

American singer and actor, Bing Crosby’s trademark bass-baritone voice made him one of the best-selling recording artists of the 20th century, with over half a billion records in circulation. A multimedia star, from 1934 to 1954 Bing Crosby was a leader in record sales, radio ratings and motion picture hits. His early career coincided with technical recording innovations; this allowed him to develop a laid-back, intimate singing style that influenced many of the popular male singers who followed him, including Perry Como, Frank Sinatra, and Dean Martin. Crosby boosted American G.I. morale during World War II and, during his peak years, around 1948, polls declared him the "most admired man alive," ahead of Jackie Robinson and Pope Pius XII.

**Doris Day** (born Doris Mary Ann Kappelhoff, April 3, 1924 – May 13, 2019) was an American actress, singer, and animal rights activist. With an entertainment career that spanned through almost 50 years, Day started her career as a big band singer in 1939, but only began to be noticed after her first hit recording, Sentimental Journey, in 1945. After leaving the Les Brown & His Band of Renown to try a solo career, she started her long-lasting partnership with Columbia Records, which would remain her only recording label. The contract lasted from 1947 to 1967, and included more than 650 recordings, making Day one of the most popular and acclaimed singers of the 20th century.

**Track 21 O Christmas Tree**

O Christmas Tree (O Tannenbaum) is a German song. Based on a traditional folk song, it became associated with the Christmas tree by the early 20th century and sung as a Christmas carol. A Tannenbaum is a fir tree. The lyrics do not actually refer to Christmas, or describe a decorated Christmas tree. Instead, they refer to the fir’s evergreen qualities as a symbol of constancy and faithfulness.

**Aretha Louise Franklin** (born March 25, 1942 – August 16, 2018) was an American singer and musician. Franklin began her career singing gospel as a child at her father’s church. In 1960, at age 18, Franklin embarked on a secular career. Following her signing to Atlantic Records in 1967, Franklin achieved commercial acclaim and success with songs such as "Respect", "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" and "Think". These hits and more helped her to gain the title The Queen of Soul by the end of the 1960s decade. Franklin eventually recorded a total of 88 charted singles.
**Track 22 Merry Christmas Everyone**
Merry Christmas Everyone is a festive song recorded by Welsh singer-songwriter Shakin' Stevens. Written by Bob Heatlie and produced by Dave Edmunds, it was the fourth number one single for Shakin' Stevens on the UK Singles Chart. It was released on 25 November 1985 and was the Christmas number one for that year.[3] Ever since it has been included on many top-selling Christmas collections and received frequent airplay every Christmas.

Michael Barratt (born 4 March 1948), known professionally as Shakin' Stevens, is a Welsh singer and songwriter. He was the UK’s biggest-selling singles artist of the 1980s. His recording and performing career began in the late 1960s, although it was not until 1980 that his commercial success began. His most successful songs were nostalgia hits, evoking the sound of 1950s rock and roll and pop.

**Track 23 I Did It My Way**
How did this song come about? here’s a fascinating story. Paul Anka heard the original 1967 French pop song, Comme d’habitude (as usual) while on holiday in the south of France. He flew to Paris to negotiate the rights to the song. Back in New York, Anka re-wrote the original French song for Sinatra, subtly altering the melodic structure and changing the lyrics: He said in an interview "At one o'clock in the morning, I sat down at an old IBM electric typewriter and thought, 'If Frank were writing this, what would he say?' I had read a lot of periodicals, and I noticed everything was 'my this' and 'my that'. We were in the 'me generation'. I used words I would never use: 'I ate it up and spit it out.' But that's the way Frank talked. I used to be around steam rooms with the Rat Pack guys – they liked to talk like Mob guys, even though they would have been scared of their own shadows.”

**Frank Sinatra** (December 12, 1915 – May 14, 1998) began his musical career in the swing era with Harry James and Tommy Dorsey. Sinatra became an unprecedentedly successful solo artist in the early to mid-1940s, after being signed to Columbia Records in 1943. Being the idol of the "bobby soxers", he released his first album, The Voice of Frank Sinatra in 1946. His professional career had stalled by the 1950s, but it was reborn in 1953 after he won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in From Here to Eternity.

He signed with Capitol Records in 1953 and released several critically lauded albums (such as In the Wee Small Hours, Songs for Swingin’ Lovers, Come Fly with Me, Only the Lonely and Nice ‘n’ Easy). He toured internationally, was a founding member of the Rat Pack and fraternised with celebrities and statesmen, including John F. Kennedy. Sinatra turned 50 in 1965, recorded the retrospective September of My Years, starred in the Emmy-winning television special Frank Sinatra: A Man.
Track 24 Silent Night
Silent Night (German: Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht) is a popular Christmas carol, composed in 1818 in Austria. In 1859, John Freeman Young published the English translation that is most frequently sung today. The carol has been translated into 140 some-odd languages. The song was sung simultaneously in French, English and German by troops during the Christmas truce of 1914, as it was one carol that soldiers on both sides of the front line knew.

Howard Andrew "Andy" Williams (December 3, 1927 – September 25, 2012) was an American popular music singer. He hosted The Andy Williams Show, a TV variety show, from 1962 to 1971, as well as numerous television specials. Most recently, he performed at his Moon River Theatre in Branson, Missouri, which was named after the Johnny Mercer and Henry Mancini song Moon River, with which he is closely identified. Williams continued to perform live into his 80s. It was this that kept him vital, he said during a 2007 tour of the UK.

Track 25 Christmas Alphabet
Christmas Alphabet is a 1955 Christmas song, which became a hit for the singer Dickie Valentine. It was written by Buddy Kaye and Jules Loman. It is also the first Christmas Number 1 that is actually about Christmas, a trend that has continued off and on over the next several decades.

Dickie Valentine (4 November 1929 – 6 May 1971) was an English pop singer in the 1950s. In 1949, Valentine, who at the time was relatively unknown, was signed by Ted Heath to join his band and his career was launched. In November 1954, Valentine was invited to sing at the Royal Command Performance, and in February 1955 he was top billed at the London Palladium. Not only did he sing, he also did jokes and impersonated many people, including Johnnie Ray, Frankie Laine, Mario Lanza, and Billy Daniels. He recorded two number one hits, "Christmas Alphabet" and "Finger of Suspicion". In 1961, he had a television series Calling Dickie Valentine. In 1966 Valentine partnered with Peter Sellers on the ATV sketch show The Dickie Valentine Show. Although his fame began to wane during the 1960s, he remained a popular live performer until his death.

Track 26 Why Do Fools Fall In Love
Why Do Fools Fall in Love is a song that was originally a hit for early New York City-based rock and roll group Frankie Lymon & the Teenagers in February 1956. It reached No. 1 and helped make Frankie Lymon a household name and would make him a rock and roll pioneer.
Franklin Joseph "Frankie" Lymon (September 30, 1942 – February 27, 1968) was an American rock and roll/rhythm and blues singer and songwriter, best known as the boy soprano lead singer of the New York City-based early rock and roll group, The Teenagers. The group was composed of five boys, all in their early to mid teens. The original lineup of the Teenagers, an integrated group, included three African American members, Frankie Lymon, Jimmy Merchant and Sherman Garnes, and two Puerto Rican members, Herman Santiago and Joe Negroni. The Teenagers' first single, 1956's "Why Do Fools Fall in Love", was also their biggest hit. After Lymon went solo in mid-1957, both his career and those of the Teenagers fell into decline. He was found dead at the age of 25 in his grandmother's bathroom from a heroin overdose. His life was dramatized in the 1998 film Why Do Fools Fall In Love.

**Track 27 Rock and Roll Waltz**
The Rock and Roll Waltz is a popular song with music by Shorty Allen and the lyrics by Roy Alfred in 1955, although the identity of the lyricist is in dispute.

**Kay Starr** (born July 21, 1922 – November 3, 2016) was an American pop and jazz singer who enjoyed considerable success in the 1940s and 1950s. She is best remembered for introducing two songs that became Number 1 hits in the 1950s, "Wheel of Fortune" and "The Rock And Roll Waltz". Starr started singing early and by the age of 10 was making $3 a night, which was quite a salary in the Depression days. Starr was successful in every field of music she tried: jazz, pop and country. But her roots were in jazz; and Billie Holiday, considered by many the greatest jazz singer of all time, called Starr "the only white woman who could sing the blues." Her father, Harry, was a full-blooded Iroquois Indian; her mother, Annie, was of mixed Irish and American Indian heritage. As of 2015, she is now 93 years old and still performing.

**Track 28 Drink, Drink, Drink by Mario Lanza**
Drink, Drink, Drink is a song from the operetta The Student Prince. It opened in 1924, at Jolson's 59th Street Theatre on Broadway. The Drinking Song, with its rousing chorus of "Drink! Drink! Drink!" was especially popular with theatre goers in 1924, as the United States was in the midst of Prohibition.

**Mario Lanza** (January 31, 1921 – October 7, 1959) was an American tenor, actor, and Hollywood movie star of the late 1940s and the 1950s. After appearing at the Hollywood Bowl in 1947, Lanza signed a seven-year contract with MGM's head, Louis B. Mayer, who saw his performance and was impressed by his singing. His movie debut was in That Midnight Kiss (1949) with Kathryn Grayson and Ethel Barrymore. The following year, in The Toast of New Orleans, his song "Be My Love" became his first million-selling hit. In 1951, he played the role of Enrico Caruso his tenor idol, in the biopic, The Great Caruso, with the song "The Loveliest Night of the Year"
Lanza was known to be "rebellious, tough, and ambitious", and during most of his film career, he suffered from addictions to overeating and alcohol which had a serious effect on his health and his relationships with directors, producers and, occasionally, other cast members. Hollywood columnist Hedda Hopper writes that "his smile, which was as big as his voice, was matched with the habits of a tiger cub, impossible to housebreak". She adds that he was the "last of the great romantic performers". He died at only 38.

**Track 29 That Old Devil Called Love**
That Old Devil Called Love, was originally performed by Billie Holiday in the 1940s.

**Billie Holiday** (born Eleanora Fagan April 7, 1915 – July 17, 1959) was an American jazz singer and songwriter. Nicknamed "Lady Day" by her friend and musical partner Lester Young, Holiday had a huge influence on jazz and pop singing. She had a very difficult childhood. At the age of 18, Holiday was discovered by producer John Hammond while she was performing in a Harlem jazz club. Holiday toured with the Count Basie Orchestra in 1937. The following year, she worked with Artie Shaw and his orchestra. Holiday broke new ground with Shaw, becoming one of the first female African American vocalists to work with a white orchestra. She developed some of her trademark stage persona there—wearing gardenias in her hair and singing with her head tilted back. Over the years, Holiday sang many songs of stormy relationships, including "T'ain't Nobody's Business If I Do" and "My Man." These songs reflected her personal romances, which were often destructive and abusive. After the death of her mother in October 1945, Holiday began drinking more heavily and escalated her drug use to ease her grief. Holiday also caught the public's attention by sharing her life story with the world in 1956- Lady Sings the Blues. She gave her final performance in New York City on May 25, 1959. Not long after this event Holiday died from alcohol- and drug-related complications at the age of 44.

**Track 30 Magic Moments**
Magic Moments is a popular song with music by Burt Bacharach and lyrics by Hal David, one of the first compositions by that duo. The song was published in 1957. The biggest hit version of the song was recorded by Perry Como in 1957, and became a hit in early 1958.

Pierino Ronald "Perry" Como (May 18, 1912 – May 12, 2001) was an American singer and television personality. During a career spanning more than half a century "Mr. C.", as he was nicknamed, sold millions of records and pioneered a weekly musical variety television show, which proved to be one of the most successful in television history broadcast throughout the world. Also a popular recording artist, Perry Como produced numerous hit records with record sales so high the label literally stopped counting! His combined success
on television and popular recordings was not matched by any other artist of the time. Como's appeal spanned generations and he was widely respected for both his professional standards and the conduct in his personal life. One of the many factors in his success was Como's insistence on good taste. Another was his naturalness; the man viewers saw on the screen was the same person who could be encountered behind a supermarket shopping cart, at a bowling alley, or in a kitchen making breakfast.

**Track 31 Lets Twist Again**
"Let's Twist Again" is a song written by Kal Mann and Dave Appell, and released as a single by Chubby Checker. One of the biggest hit singles of 1961, it reached number two in the UK and number eight on the U.S. Billboardpop chart. It refers to the Twist dance craze and his 1960 and 1961 re-released single "The Twist", a UK and U.S. number-one single.

**Chubby Checker** (born Ernest Evans, October 3, 1941) is an American singer-songwriter. He is widely known for popularizing the twist dance style, with his 1960 hit cover of Hank Ballard's R&B hit "The Twist". In September 2008 "The Twist" topped Billboard's list of the most popular singles to have appeared in the Hot 100 since its debut in 1958.