

APRIL 3: ALL TOGETHER NOW

Presidential Campaign Songs of 1932

No one remembers "Let's Get Behind Herbert Hoover," the incumbent's campaign song. But, in a battle for the Democratic nomination, both contenders' campaign songs were successful – and the winning candidate's song is ranked #47 in the *Songs of the Century*.

If You Believed in Me



Billy Rose wanted just one song for his production of *The Great Magoo*, a Broadway drama by Ben Hecht and Gene Fowler.

Following the great success of Hecht's, *The Front Page*, expectations for his new drama were high. It made Broadway history!

Song of the Century

Which is the #1 song of the 20th century? Even without my (sometimes deceptive) hints, you will undoubtedly figure it out. And, when you've got it, keep it to yourself! Let the other folks figure it out on their own. More importantly, who wrote it? As it says in the 2000-year-old *Pirke Avot*, saying a thing in the name of the person who first said it brings redemption to the world. Let's give credit where it's due.

To register for this course and others at Temple Israel's Jewish Learning Center, visit tialbany.org/jewish-learning-center, email marketing@tialbany.org, or call 518-438-7858.

Sandy Schuman Stories and Music



Storyteller, musician, and educator, **Sandy Schuman** tells stories about songs and songwriters, personal adventures, historical sagas, folk tales, and stories in the Jewish storytelling tradition.



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FAMILIAR SONGS & THEIR UNFAMILIAR STORIES: *Jewish* DISCOVER THE ROOTS OF AMERICAN SONG

A Four-Part Course
with
Sandy Schuman



Wednesdays,
7:30-9:00pm
March 6, 13, 27 &
April 3



TEMPLE ISRAEL OF ALBANY
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FAMILIAR SONGS AND THEIR UNFAMILIAR STORIES

Jewish

DISCOVER THE ROOTS OF AMERICAN SONG

Learn how some of the best-known songs came to be written and uncover their Jewish roots. This program features songs from the *Great American Songbook* and stories about the Jewish songwriters who wrote them – Harold Arlen, Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Jay Gorney, E. Y. Harburg ...

MARCH 6: WHO WROTE IT?

Tzena Tzena Tzena



The Weaver's 1950 recording rose to #2 on the charts. It had English lyrics to what they thought was an Israeli folk tune. It took a court case to establish the song's true origins.

We're in the Same Boat, Brother



"Lead Belly" sang it, and most assumed he wrote it. How can we figure out the lyrics? Will the real authors please stand up?

The New Woman of 1908



Even though she still couldn't vote, the "New Woman" was taking her place in society, bolstered by this 1908 song. Today, ranked #8 in the *Songs of the Century*, everyone knows the chorus!

MARCH 13: THE CANTORS' SONS

Mairzy Doats



This 1943 song was so wildly popular, the *Time* magazine article was entitled, "That Song." No other introduction was necessary. "If the words seem queer and funny to your ear just sing ..."

God Blessed America for Me



The little known but easily recognized Jewish origins of Irving Berlin's *God Bless America*, a hit song of 1939, ranked #19 in the *Songs of the Century*. And then there's its most famous parody, ranked #3.

Get Happy



Harold Arlen aspired to a career as a singer and piano player. Serendipity led to his first big hit—in 1929—and a songwriting career that landed many of his songs in *The Great American Songbook*.

MARCH 27: WHO COULD ASK FOR ANYTHING MORE

The Rhythm Changes

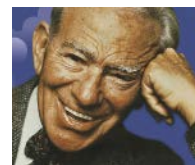


In music, there are many commonly used chord progressions. This one has its own special name. George wrote it; Ira named it. When Ethel sang it – holding one note through the chorus – it made her famous. You can do it too!

George had Chutzpah, Ira Didn't!

The Jewish story behind *It Ain't Necessarily So*, one of the most famous songs from *Porgy and Bess*, the 1935 opera. It was written by George Gershwin and DuBose Heyward, but they needed some help with the lyrics from George's older brother, Ira. The story begins in 1909, at Ira's *Bar Mitzvah*.

The Forgotten Man



E. Y. Harburg lost his appliance business in the Great Crash, was thousands of dollars in debt, and had no way forward. Acting on the advice of his old high school buddy, he went on to write the lyrics for the Anthem of the Great Depression, #196 in the *Songs of the Century*.

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