



I'm In The Mood For Love: The Songs of Dorothy Fields

You may not recognize her name, but you probably know lots of songs for which Dorothy Fields wrote lyrics such as “I Can’t Give You Anything But Love,” “Hey, Big Spender,” “Pick Yourself Up,” and “On The Sunny Side Of The Street.” Born into a show business family in 1904, Ms. Fields worked as a lyricist for almost fifty years — starting with hit songs in the 1920s for a Cotton Club revue featuring Duke Ellington right through a triumphant collaboration with Cy Coleman, Neil Simon, Gwen Verdon and Bob Fosse on *Sweet Charity* in the 1960s. She co-wrote songs with over 15 composers, including Jimmy McHugh, Jerome Kern, Harold Arlen, Arthur Schwartz, and Sigmund Romberg — and won an Academy award in 1936 with Kern for “The Way You Look Tonight.” She and her brother Herbert also collaborated on the librettos for many hit shows with Cole Porter and Irving Berlin, including the Broadway classic *Annie Get Your Gun*. In a business dominated by men, Ms. Fields enjoyed a singularly successful career as a songwriter/librettist while also being a wife and mother. Although she may not have become a household name, she deserves to be one! Pianist Joe Reid and singer Will McMillan will share a bouquet of her hits — including “I Won’t Dance,” “If My Friends Could See Me Now,” “It’s Not Where You Start, It’s Where You Finish,” “Remind Me,” “You Couldn’t Be Cuter,” and “I’m In The Mood For Love” — as well as a few stories about how they came to be written.

Will has sung at venues such as Scullers Jazz Club, Sanders Theatre, the JFK Library, Inn on Newfound Lake (NH), Hi-Hat Club (RI), Westbeth Performance Center (NYC), Spring Island (SC), and Yin Par Le Garcon Chinois (Shanghai). For years McMillan hosted “Will & Company,” a series at the Blacksmith House in Harvard Square highlighting local performers and songwriters, which earned him an IRNE Award for Best Cabaret Show in a Small Venue. He has released four CDs — “Sketchbook 1” and “Blame Those Gershwins” with pianist Steve Sweeting, “Reel One” with the vocal ensemble *At The Movies*, and “If I Loved You,” with singer Bobbi Carrey and pianist Doug Hammer. You are welcome to visit his web site, WillSings.com, and his blog, AMusicalifeOnPlanetEarth.WordPress.com.

Joe enjoys a busy music career, playing 100+ concerts a year. He performs with a wide range of jazz and classical musicians, and has worked with a broad spectrum of theatre groups, jazz and chamber ensembles and dance troupes. Joe has worked as an accompanist for the Boston Conservatory, the Longy School of Music, the New School of Music in Cambridge and the Mark Morris Dance Company. Check out Joe’s YouTube channel by searching YouTube under “Joe Reid Music” or visit his website, JoeReidMusic.com.