



Skylark to Stardust: The Songs of Hoagy Carmichael

Howard Hoagland Carmichael (November 22, 1899 – December 27, 1981) was one of America's most beloved songwriters. He also found fame as a singer-pianist, movie actor and television personality, but never lost his early affinity for jazz. Growing up in a musical household in Bloomington, Indiana, Hoagy often tagged along with his mother when she played the piano in silent movie theaters. Although he earned a law degree, his heart was always in music — and as his songwriting success grew, he moved to NYC and then Hollywood, creating songs which were recorded by Louis Armstrong, Tommy Dorsey, Ethel Waters, Margaret Whiting, Benny Goodman, Mildred Bailey, Bing Crosby, Billie Holiday, and Frank Sinatra.

Singer Will McMillan and pianist Joe Reid delight in performing Carmichael classics including "Heart and Soul," "The Nearness of You," "Two Sleepy People," "Georgia On My Mind," "Skylark," "In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening," "I Get Along Without You Very Well," "Bread and Gravy," "Small Fry," "How Little We Know," and "Stardust."

Will has performed at venues such as Scullers Jazz Club, Sanders Theatre, JFK Library, Inn on Newfound Lake (NH), Hi-Hat Club (RI), Westbeth Performance Center (NYC), Spring Island (SC), and Yin Par Le Garçon 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 three CDs — "Sketchbook 1" with pianist Steve Sweeting, "Reel One" with the vocal ensemble *At The Movies*, and "If I Loved You," with singer Bobbi Carrey. You are welcome to visit his web site, WillSings.com, and his blog, AMusicalifeOnPlanetEarth.WordPress.com. You can also watch him perform on YouTube by searching "Will McMillan."

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 new YouTube channel by searching YouTube under "Joe Reid Music" or visit his website, JoeReidMusic.com.