

## ART OF MUSIC VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

### George M. Cohan Inducted in 2006

### Art of Music Song Give My Regards to Broadway

George Michael Cohan was born in Rhode Island in 1878. His family consisted of traveling vaudeville performers, and with his parents and sister, young Cohan toured as a member of The Four Cohans. He later wrote original skits and songs for the family act, and he sold his first songs to a national publisher in 1893.

Cohan's first big Broadway hit came in 1904 with the show *Little Johnny Jones*, which introduced his tunes "Give My Regards to Broadway" and "The Yankee Doodle Boy." Cohan became one of the leading Tin Pan Alley songwriters, publishing several hundred original songs noted for their catchy melodies and clever lyrics.

Other major hit songs included "You're a Grand Old Flag," "The Warmest Baby In The Bunch," "I Want to Hear a Yankee Doodle Tune," "Mary's a Grand Old Name," and, perhaps his best known, "Over There," which he composed in the Great Neck home he purchased in 1916. In the 1960s, a statue of Cohan was erected at Broadway and 47th Street in Manhattan. His Long Island estate has since become an official landmark.

### Santo & Johnny Inducted in 2016

### Art of Music Song - Sleepwalk

The Farina brothers, Santo & Johnny, were born in Brooklyn—Santo in 1937, Johnny in 1941. The boys were young when their dad was drafted into the army, stationed in Oklahoma, and heard the sounds of a steel guitar on the radio. Their dad wrote home to their mom, saying, "I'd like the boys to learn to play this instrument." The boys did, and years later they formed a band, playing at church dances, weddings, and clubs and growing a following in New York City and across Long Island. One night after playing a gig, they couldn't sleep and started jamming, and they wrote "Sleep Walk," their signature song that would hit the top of the charts in 1959, earning them a gold record. Over the years, Santo & Johnny would go on to release more than 40 albums worldwide. In 1999, "Sleep Walk" earned BMI's Millionaires Award, symbolizing 2 million airplays on the radio. In 2002, Santo & Johnny were inducted into the Steel Guitar Hall of Fame.

**Additional Songs: VENUS – TEAR DROP – PORTOFINO – THEME OF SERPICO**





## Jimmy Webb Inducted in 2018

## Art of Music Song – Up, Up and Away

From classical to pop, the timeless hits of Jimmy Webb—American songwriter, composer and singer—continue to be performed and recorded by the industry’s biggest names. Since his first platinum record, the 5th Dimension’s **“The Worst That Could Happen,”** Webb has had a string of hits including **“Up, Up and Away,” “By the Time I Get to Phoenix,” “Wichita Lineman,” “Galveston,” “Highwayman,” “All I Know” and “MacArthur Park,”** and he has also become a leader and mentor in the industry as a champion for songwriters. Webb is the only artist ever to have received Grammy Awards for music, lyrics and orchestration. His numerous accolades include the prestigious Ivor Novella International Award and the Academy of Country Music’s Poet Award, and he was the youngest person ever inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, for which he served as chairman. Webb, a longtime Long Island resident, continues to write/record, and has released 10 albums since the 1970s, while also writing for other artists.



## Kurtis Blow Inducted in 2014

## Art of Music Song The Breaks

Kurtis Walker—professionally known as Kurtis Blow—began his career spinning records in the 1970s as Kool DJ Kurt. He is the first commercially successful rapper and the first to sign with a major record label, Mercury. “The Breaks,” a single from his 1980 self-titled debut album, is the first certified gold record rap song. Throughout his career, he has released 15 albums. Besides his own work, Blow has been responsible for hits by [The Fat Boys](#) and [Run DMC](#) (Run began his career billed as “The Son of Kurtis Blow.”) [Lovebug Starski](#), Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, [Full Force](#), [Russell Simmons](#), and [Wyclef Jean](#) all have been produced by, or collaborated with, Blow.

**Additional Songs – Hard Times - If I Ruled The World – Tough - Basketball**



**Marian McPartland**  
**Inducted in 2006**

**Art of Music Song**  
**Piano Cocktail**



Legendary jazz pianist Marian McPartland was born Margaret Marian Turner in 1918 near Buckinghamshire, England. A musical prodigy, McPartland studied classical music and, in addition to her piano studies, mastered the violin. She pursued classical studies at the Guildhall School of Music in London and left to join The Claviers, a four-piano vaudeville act, performing under the stage name Marian Page. The group toured throughout Europe during World War II, entertaining Allied troops. She married Chicago cornetist named Jimmy McPartland. After the war, the couple moved to Chicago, but in 1949 they moved to Manhattan. McPartland started a trio in 1952, and the group began an eight-year residency at the Hickory House in NYC. In the early 1960s, McPartland began her own record label, Halcyon Records, and gradually began recording her own compositions. In 1978, she began hosting her own radio program, Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz, on National Public Radio. By this time, she was commuting from the couple's home in Port Washington to New York City—a weekly trip she made for nearly 30 years. McPartland was inducted into the International Association of Jazz Education Hall of Fame and was awarded a Grammy in 2004.

**Additional songs – Silent Pool - In the Days of Our Lives - Somewhere**

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