



When Irish Eyes Are Smiling...

Many beloved songs have been written by Irish-American composers and lyricists. One of the most famous was **George M. Cohan**, a multi-talented mover and shaker who worked as an actor, singer, dancer, comedian, director, composer, lyricist, book writer, and producer for decades on Broadway and touring around the United States. His songs include "Give My Regards to Broadway," "You're a Grand Old Flag," "Harrigan," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Nelly Kelly, I Love You," "Mary's a Grand Old Name," and "Over There." It turns out Cohan had many connections with New England — including being born in Providence, RI in 1878, and spending many happy summers in North Brookfield, MA. Will and Joe breathe new life into many of Cohan's songs — as well as other Irish-American favorites such as "Molly Malone," "Danny Boy," "My Wild Irish Rose," and "How Are Things In Glocca Morra?" — and share stories about how certain songs came to be created.

Will McMillan has performed as a featured vocalist at venues ranging from Scullers Jazz Club to 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, find him singing on lots of digital music platforms — such as Pandora, Spotify, Amazon and Apple Music — by searching for "**Will McMillan featuring Doug Hammer**," watch him sing on YouTube by searching "**Timberlane Pops with Will McMillan**" or listen to music at his blog, **AMusicalifeOnPlanetEarth.WordPress.com**.

Pianist **Joe Reid** 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. You are welcome to visit Joe's YouTube channel by searching YouTube under "**JoeReidMusic**."