

SING, SING SING

The coming year of 2016 will mark the 80th anniversary of one of the most enduring popular standards from the Great American Songbook, Louis Prima's immortal *Sing, Sing, Sing*. The song was composed, words and music by entertainer/composer Louis Prima at the age of 25 in 1936. Louis recorded the very first version of his song on February 28, 1936 for the Brunswick Label with his New Orleans Gang. He would record his most famous composition three more times during his lifetime. Prima's Capitol Collector's Series, a CD compilation which contained his 1958 version of *Sing, Sing, Sing* was certified gold in June, 2008 by the RIAA.

The Prima composition soon became a signature song for the legendary bandleader Benny Goodman after he began performing it in 1936. His first studio version of the song was recorded for the Bluebird label in 1937. His Carnegie Hall appearance on January 16, 1938 included a landmark performance of *Sing, Sing, Sing with an explosive drum solo by Gene Krupa* recorded for Columbia Records and reached #3 on the Billboard Pop charts that same year. Goodman versions of *Sing, Sing, Sing* appearing on CD issues of *Live At Carnegie Hall: 1938*, *Benny Goodman: Ken Burns' Jazz (Columbia/Legacy)*, and *The Very Best of Benny Goodman (RCA)* all landed on the Billboard Jazz Album charts in the years 2000 and 2001. *Sing, Sing, Sing* was listed # 205 on the Recording Industry Association Of America's (RIAA's) TOP 365 SONGS OF THE 20th CENTURY list on March 7, 2001. Popular versions of the Prima standard have also been recorded by musical artists spanning all genres and styles including Henry Mancini, The Andrews Sisters, Doc Severinsen, Chicago, The Gipsy Kings, and many others. Bandleader Charlie Calello landed his Disco version of the song on the Pop charts in 1978.

The song was inducted into the *GRAMMY Hall Of Fame* in 1982. *Sing, Sing, Sing* has appeared in more than one hundred motion pictures and television shows beginning in 1936 with *Swing Banditry* and continuing through today in films such as *Shanghai*, and shows including *Granite Flats*, *Glee*, *Dancing with the Stars*, *The Sopranos*, and *The Macy's Fireworks Spectaculars*. The song holds the distinction of having appeared in three Academy Award winning films: *All that Jazz* (1979), *Pollock* (2000), and *The Artist* (2011). The song has also appeared in the Broadway stage productions *Dancin'* (1978), *Fosse* (1999), *Swing! The Musical* (1999), and *Contact* (2000).

The song regularly appears in today's popular culture including daily worldwide radio airplay, and in television commercials, notably for General Electric in 2011 and Chips Ahoy in 1994, and in video games including *L.A. Noire*, *Mafia II*, *Donkey Konga*, and *Outpost Kaloki*.

The song is one of the most reproduced on sheet music and constantly performed by musicians around the world. Popular musical attractions of today regularly showcase *Sing, Sing, Sing* in their repertoire at performances around the world including Louis Prima, Jr. and The Witnesses, Royal Crown Revue, and Brian Setzer.

Sing, Sing, Sing has remained prominently in front of enthusiastic audiences and forever a most important part of popular entertainment ever since the legendary Louis Prima first brought it to life nearly 80 years ago!