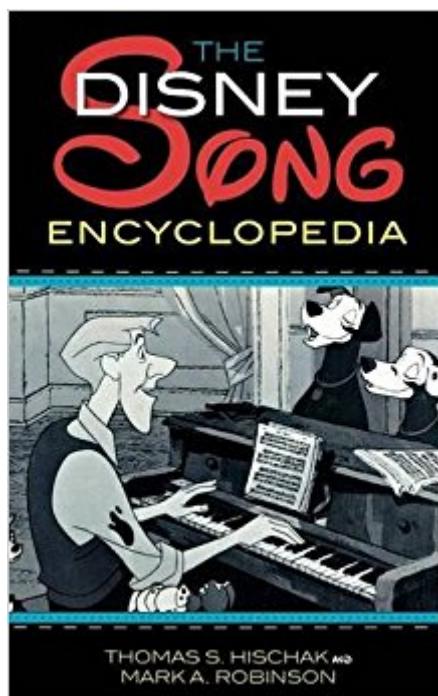


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The Disney Song Encyclopedia



Synopsis

Songs written for Disney productions over the decades have become a potent part of American popular culture. Since most Americans first discovered these songs in their youth, they hold a special place in one's consciousness. The Disney Song Encyclopedia describes and discusses hundreds of famous and not-so-famous songs from Disney films, television, Broadway, and theme parks from the 1930s to the present day. Over 900 songs are given individual entries and presented in alphabetical order. The songwriters and original singers are identified, as well as the source of the song and other venues in which it might have been used over the years. Notable recordings of the song are also listed. But most important, the song is described and what makes it memorable is discussed. This is not a reference list but a true encyclopedia of Disney songs. The book also contains a preface describing the criteria for selecting the songs, a glossary of song terms, a list of all the Disney songs and their sources, a songwriter's directory in which every song by each composer/lyricist is listed, a bibliography, a guide to recordings and DVDs of Disney productions, and an index of people and titles.

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Customer Reviews

Since the release of its first "talkie," *Steamboat Willie*, Disney Studios has used music as an important element in its productions, to emphasize or to advance story lines. This impressive volume describes more than 900 songs written for Disney movies, videos, musicals, television shows, recordings, and theme parks. Authors Hischak and Robinson define Disney songs

as works written specifically for Disney productions. Their "Brief History of Disney Music" is followed by paragraph-length A-Z entries that discuss each song's mood and style, indicate which character(s) perform the song, give the date of the production, and describe what is happening while the song is performed. Many of the songs listed are relatively unknown, having been written for short-lived TV series or home videos with limited target audiences, but for hard-core Disney fans, each page turn might bring another "ear worm" recalling images of singing critters and happy endings. Nearly one-quarter of the volume consists of appendixes offering alternate song titles, lists of songs arranged by songwriters and by source, a guide to recordings and videos/DVDs, Academy Award-winning Disney songs and scores, and a glossary of song terms. Although there are other Disney reference books, such as Disney A-Z (3d ed., 2006), and many Disney music songbooks, no other volume offers a comprehensive list or description of Disney songs. Recommended for large performing arts collections. --Steven York

This impressive volume describes more than 900 songs written for Disney movies, videos, musicals, television shows, recordings, and theme parks....No other volume offers a comprehensive list or description of Disney songs. Recommended for large performing arts collections.

(Booklist) This first of its kind, this small volume of annotated entries succinctly describes 940 original songs used to date by Disney in its films, television programs, home videos, stage musicals, and more. . . . Hischak is a prolific scholar of popular music and the theater. Being paired here with a first-time author and Disney connoisseur has resulted in a worthwhile and entertaining resource.

(American Reference Books Annual) Hischak (Oxford Companion to American Musical) and Robinson (independent theatre and film scholar) offer descriptions of over 900 Disney songs featured in film, on television, and in their theme parks since 1930. Organized alphabetically by song title, paragraph-long entries detail writers, original context, publication date, and notable performers. For easier entry location, various appendixes give an alternate title list, a song writer's directory, film or program listings, and a guide to various recorded formats. Most at home in collections for Disney enthusiasts or cultural studies scholars. (Library Journal) Scarecrow has produced a well-bound, well-printed book for the library reference shelf. One page after page, old memories are evoked- memories of time and place beyond the movie or production. Recommended for libraries with any kind of performing arts collection. Recommend this to future princesses, princes, and the menagerie of Disney fans.

(Fontes Artis Musicae) The authors compile over 900 songs, from Disney's earliest cartoons-the

ones we all know by heart-to the latest Disney productions like *High School Musical* , and provides a paragraph about each. . . . As you browse through the book, you realize how influential "Uncle Walt" was on American popular music. (In The Groove)The book is laid out in clear fashion.... This is a work that should appear in music libraries and academic institutions that have courses covering modern and popular music. I certainly recommend it for purchase for public libraries where readers will find it quite a difficult to put down book. (Reference Reviews) "The Disney Song Encyclopedia is a unique and highly recommended addition to personal, professional, and academic library Music History and Disney Studies reference collections." (Midwest Book Review)

Although about half of the world's population love Disney animated films and live-action gems such as "Mary Poppins," there is no denying that beyond the images is music that is critical to the success of so many Disney classics. And, the music is superb popular culture. One loses track of just how many Disney songs have won Oscars for either Best Song or Best Soundtrack. This history of Disney music is a must-have book for Disney lovers. And, this is no mere listing of song titles. Each entry provides a large amount of background history and a bonus feature of listings of currently available recordings of the Disney songs by artists across almost any music genre to be imagined. A bargain price for such a complete encyclopedia of great popular music.

If you're interested in Disney songs, this book is a must. The book lists the songs alphabetically by song title, but one of the many appendixes lists the songs by the movie, or show, etc. in which the song appeared. The descriptions of the songs often tell you artists who sang the song and recordings that were made. This is very helpful for collecting purposes. There are appendixes that list whether the songs appear on CDs or DVD -- just a wealth of information. All that being said, what prevents this from being perfect is what is left out. To be fair, the introduction does state that the book only covers songs that originated in Disney productions, and that it would not be covering all the many songs in Disney TV shows, such as *The Mickey Mouse Club* or *the Wonderful World of Disney*. The problem with this is that a song that appeared in a *Golden Girls* episode gets listed, but the songs from *Babes in Toyland* -- a movie Walt Disney himself was involved in -- do not. Those songs should have been included. Moreover, songs from the TV shows that were produced while Disney lived should have been included. However, this criticism should not stop you from purchasing this very interesting book.

This is a very well researched and handy resource for any Disney fan who wants to look up information on the music used in Disney productions. This includes writers, performers, song titles, etc. Great book!

Very informative

I always enjoy reading about anything Disney. This book has some very nice and accurate descriptions of Disney songs. I always enjoy reading them no matter how many times I read them.

My daughter loves this book, singing the songs with the correct words, easily because she knows the songs from the films.

Just ok

I'm a huge music enthusiast especially of any Disney music. This is a great reference guide. Hopefully will get an update at some point.

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