



THE GREAT  
**L**OVE  
SONGS

THE GREAT CLASSIC LOVE SONGS

1. Unchained Melody
  2. The Look Of Love
  3. As Time Goes By
  4. Stand By Me
  5. True Love
  6. Moon River
  7. The Way We Were
  8. Blue Velvet
  9. Up Where We Belong
  10. Everything I Do (I Do It For You)
- Performed By The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

UNFORGETTABLE LOVE SONGS

1. Take A Look At Me Now
  2. My Girl
  3. Take My Breath Away
  4. Arthur's Theme (The Best That You Can Do)
  5. Groovy Kind Of Love
  6. It Must Have Been Love
  7. Secret Love
  8. Hopelessly Devoted To You
  9. Summertime
  10. Over The Rainbow
- Performed By The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

TIMELESS CLASSICAL ROMANCE

1. Concerto No. 2 In F Minor Op. 21: Maestoso – Chopin – *Art's Planet Orchestra: Conductor– Giorgio Croci*
2. Nocturne Op. 148 – Schubert – *St. Petersburg Trio*
3. Quartet KV. 156 In G Major: Adagio – Mozart – *Quartetto Amati: Juan Carlos Rybin – Violin*
4. Concerto For Violin In D Minor: Andante – Mendelssohn – *Soloists Of The Teatro Verdi Di Trieste*
5. Concerto No. 2 In F Minor Op. 21: Largetto – Chopin – *Art's Planet Orchestra: Conductor– Giorgio Croci*
6. Piano Sonata Op. 22 No. 14 In B Flat: Adagio Con Molto Espressione – Beethoven – *Gabriele Maria Vianello – Piano*

**CC**  
ORIGINAL  
CLASSICS

ITEM # SBOX 84492

THE GREAT

# LOVE SONGS

This 3-CD box set features some of the greatest love songs ever written. Behind every great song there is a great songwriter, and a great story. Here is the history of some of these timeless love songs.

## *Unchained Melody*

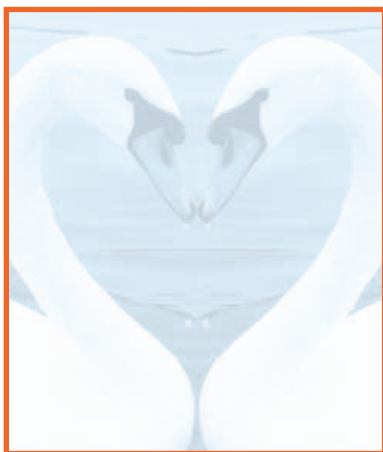
“In a sense, a hit belongs to the person who made it popular, but if a tune is good enough to attain tremendous success, then it certainly deserves more than one version, one treatment, one approach.”

Les Baxter

“Regardless of who originally made it popular, any hit song becomes a challenge to the ingenuity and imagination of other musicians and performers.”

Les Baxter

“Unchained Melody” is one of the most recorded songs in the American Songbook. The lyrics for this classic of unrequited love (and the vicissitudes of time) were written by a sixteen-year-old William Albert Stirrat, (aka ‘Hy Zaret’) with melody by Alex North. William Stirrat and Alex North met at Yaddo’s Triuna Arts of the Theatre school in Lake George, N.Y. in 1936. It was later revealed that young William’s inspiration



for “Unchained Melody” was Mary Louise “Cookie” Pierce for whom he had pined while at Triuna. Sixty-seven years later, in an interview with Linda DeNicola, Stirrat said that he “...wanted to write that song for two reasons. I needed money for college and I wanted to get that girl ... [and] I think she was in love with me too, but I was too shy to do anything or even talk to her.”<sup>1</sup>

It would take 19 years before the public would hear “Unchained Melody.” It appeared in the movie *Unchained* in 1955, and made the Top Forty charts by four different artists that year: Al Hibbler, Roy Hamilton, June Valli and Les Baxter; the Les Baxter version topped the charts in 1955.

## *The Look Of Love*

This song was written by the classic songwriting team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David and has a lot of movie trivia surrounding it! It was first written and performed by Dusty Springfield for the James Bond spoof *Casino Royale* (the original from 1967). About thirty years later it would serve as the inspiration for Mike Myers’ much beloved 1997 James Bond spoof *Austin Powers: International Man Of Mystery*, as well as being featured in that movie. The song has a timeless and sultry melody, and is certainly one of the most seductive songs of all time.

## *As Time Goes By*

Herman Hupfeld wrote “As Time Goes by” for the musical comedy *Everybody’s Welcome*, which ran for 139 performances at Schubert theatre from October 13, 1931, to February 13, 1932.



Frances Williams, as Polly Bascom, sang “As Time Goes By” in the original Broadway run. As time went by many, many others recorded this classic including and most certainly not limited to: crooner Rudy Vallee in 1931, the legendary Billie Holiday in 1937, country star Kenny Rogers in 1997 and Roxy Music’s front man Brian Ferry in 1999.

It is, however, the version by Arther ‘Dooley’ Wilson, playing “Sam” in the 1942 Warner Brothers classic *Casablanca* that is considered the standard.

## *Stand By Me*

One of the few songs to make it into the Top Ten in two different decades (in 1961 and again in 1986), “Stand By Me” is one of the most universal and lyrical ballads ever written. It is a song which has certainly provided comfort to millions of music fans the world over who have never tired of hearing the lines “If the sky that we look upon should tumble and fall, or the mountain should crumble to the sea. I won’t cry, I won’t cry. No I won’t shed a tear. Just as long as you stand, stand by me.” It is for this reason, and for its powerful and universal message of redemption and hope, that it will never be forgotten, and will always rank as a tremendous love song.

## *Blue Velvet*

“Blue Velvet” is a love song with a long history. It was first recorded by the incomparable Tony Bennett in 1951, when he enjoyed a #16 hit on the Pop charts with it. In 1955 the vocal group The Clovers would record an influential version for Atlantic records which made it to #14 on the R&B Charts. But the most famous version is Bobby Vinton’s 1963 version, which was a #1 Pop hit for three weeks. It achieved further fame (even notoriety) when the song was featured in the 1986 David Lynch film of the same title, which featured Bobby Vinton’s version of the song.

## *My Girl*



It’s hard to imagine a more fresh sounding melody than the indelible “My Girl.” One of the greatest songs to come out of the Motown studios, it was written by Smokey Robinson (famous on his own for hits such as “Shop Around” and “The Tears Of A Clown” performed with The Miracles) along with fellow Miracle, Ronald White. It was made famous by The Temptations, who had their first

#1 Pop hit with this song in the winter of 1965, which also spent six weeks at the top of the R&B charts.

## *Secret Love*

“Secret Love” was written by Paul Francis Webster and Sammy Fain for the 1953 hit film *Calamity Jane*. That film featured movie star Doris Day, whose recording of the song topped the Pop charts in 1954, as well as winning an Oscar for best song. It would go on to become an unlikely source for a #1 Country hit, with Freddy Fender reaching the top of the charts with it in 1975. A more conventional cover version of the song is Connie Francis’ version from her 1962 album *Connie Francis sings Award Winning Motion Picture Hits*, which was recorded at RCA Italiana Studios in Rome.



## *Over The Rainbow*

At the tender age of 16, Judy Garland recorded the song “Over the Rainbow” for the 1939 MGM blockbuster *The Wizard Of Oz*. That year, the radio would be flooded with various recordings of the song including a #1 hit by the Big Band legend, Glenn Miller. Garland’s version peaked at #5 but it would forever be recognized as her signature song. Her original rendition was inducted into the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1981.

Footnote:

1- December 3, 2003, News Transcript, Farmington, New Jersey