

# Strike Up the Band, Summertime, Oh Lady Be Good, Fascinating Rhythm: A Journey Through the Great American Songbook

The Great American Songbook is a collection of popular songs written between the 1920s and 1950s. These songs are considered to be some of the finest examples of American popular music, and they have been covered by countless artists over the years.

Four of the most iconic songs from the Great American Songbook are "Strike Up the Band," "Summertime," "Oh Lady Be Good," and "Fascinating Rhythm." These songs have been performed by everyone from Frank Sinatra to Ella Fitzgerald to Miles Davis. They are timeless classics that continue to be enjoyed by people all over the world.



## A Gershwin Fantasy for Alto Saxophone & Piano: Featuring: Strike Up the Band! / Summertime / Oh, Lady Be Good! / Fascinating Rhythm / It Ain't Necessarily So / Rhapsody in Blue / I Got Rhythm by Rudolf Steiner

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English

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Print length : 8 pages

Item Weight : 3.17 ounces

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Paperback : 64 pages

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## **Strike Up the Band**

Strike Up the Band was written by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin in 1927. It was originally featured in the musical Strike Up the Band, which starred Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

The song is a lively and patriotic anthem that celebrates the American spirit. The lyrics encourage listeners to "strike up the band and let the people sing" and to "celebrate the land we love."

Strike Up the Band has been used in numerous films and television shows over the years, and it remains one of the most popular American patriotic songs.

## **Summertime**

Summertime was written by George Gershwin and DuBose Heyward in 1935. It was originally featured in the opera Porgy and Bess, which starred Paul Robeson and Anne Brown.

The song is a beautiful and haunting ballad that captures the lazy days and long nights of summer. The lyrics describe the "sweet magnolia" trees and the "lazy moon" that shines down on the sleeping town.

Summertime has been covered by countless artists over the years, including Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, and Billie Holiday. It is considered to be one of the greatest American songs of all time.

## **Oh Lady Be Good**

Oh Lady Be Good was written by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin in 1924. It was originally featured in the musical Lady, Be Good, which starred

Fred Astaire and Adele Astaire.

The song is a playful and flirtatious number that celebrates the joys of young love. The lyrics describe a young man who is head over heels in love with a beautiful woman.

Oh Lady Be Good has been covered by countless artists over the years, including Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Tony Bennett. It is considered to be one of the greatest jazz standards of all time.

### **Fascinating Rhythm**

Fascinating Rhythm was written by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin in 1924. It was originally featured in the musical Lady, Be Good, which starred Fred Astaire and Adele Astaire.

The song is a fast-paced and energetic number that celebrates the power of music. The lyrics describe the "fascinating rhythm" that makes people want to dance and sing.

Fascinating Rhythm has been covered by countless artists over the years, including Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Benny Goodman. It is considered to be one of the greatest swing songs of all time.

Strike Up the Band, Summertime, Oh Lady Be Good, and Fascinating Rhythm are four of the most iconic songs from the Great American Songbook. These songs have been enjoyed by people all over the world for decades, and they continue to be performed and recorded by artists today.

The songs in the Great American Songbook are a testament to the power of music. They are songs that can make us laugh, cry, dance, and dream.

They are songs that remind us of our shared humanity and that celebrate the American spirit.



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