

Susan Watson



THE MUSIC NEVER ENDS

Orchestrated and Arranged by
Michele Brouerman & Stephan Oberhoff

Having spent over seven decades on this planet, I can say:

NO COMPLAINTS AND NO REGRETS

I STILL BELIEVE IN CHASING DREAMS AND PLACING BETS
AND I HAVE LEARNED THAT ALL YOU GIVE IS ALL YOU GET
SO GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT.

(Artie Butler's song: "Here's To Life")
Music by Artie Butler | Lyrics by Phyllis Molinary



This CD is about the romances that we've all had — the flirtations, the "getting serious," getting married, getting un-married, rebounding, and the resilience of the human heart. It's about friends and lovers, looking for Mr. Right, maybe falling for Mr. Right Now, and in my case, eventually finding the genuine Mr. Wright.

For all of us, my thought is still:
"GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT!"

1 ■ Old Friends

(music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim)

This CD is for my "old friends," you know who you are, and I love you all a lot!

BUT US, OLD FRIEND,
WHAT'S TO DISCUSS, OLD FRIEND?
HERE'S TO US – WHO'S LIKE US?
DAMN FEW!"

It was Stephen Sondheim who got me onto the wicked stage when his *West Side Story* lured me from New York's Juilliard School of Music to join the show's London company. Onstage nightly with Stephen's lyrics and Leonard Bernstein's music, I never looked back!

2 ■ Starting Here, Starting Now

(music by David Shire; lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr.)

David & Richard, so wise,
know how romance begins for the young
and for the young at heart.

TAKE MY HAND
FOR THE GREATEST JOURNEY
HEAVEN WILL ALLOW,
STARTING LOVE,
STARTING HERE, STARTING NOW.

The Songs of My Story

3 ■ My Ship

(music by Kurt Weill; lyrics by Ira Gershwin)

Many a romance starts with a dream
AGLOW WITH A MILLION PEARLS?

But —
THAT DREAM NEED NEVER BE
IF THE SHIP I SING,
DOESN'T ALSO BRING
MY OWN TRUE LOVE TO ME.

My dream started in London ...

4 ■ A Foggy Day (In London Town)

(music by George Gershwin; lyrics by Ira Gershwin)

Even in London with *West Side Story*,
a twenty-year-old girl can get homesick,
and I did.

WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO?
WHAT TO DO?

BUT SUDDENLY, I SAW YOU THERE.
AND THROUGH FOGGY
LONDON TOWN
THE SUN WAS SHINING
EVERYWHERE.

An old boyfriend reappeared. Good company!
More than hand-holding!

5 ■ Nobody Else But Me

(music by Jerome Kern; lyrics Oscar Hammerstein)

Puppy love ...

HE THINKS I'M GRAND –
THAT'S GRAND FOR ME
HE MAY BE WRONG
BUT WE GET ALONG
WHAT DO WE CARE, SAY WE.

6 ■ They Were You

(lyrics by Tom Jones; music by Harvey Schmidt)

Returning to NYC for bigger roles in *The Fantasticks*, *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Carnival*, *Ben Franklin In Paris*, *A Joyful Noise*, *Celebration*, and *No, No, Nanette*, another beau courted me.

Only a flirtation at first – but then things
“got serious!”

WITHOUT YOU NEAR ME,
I CAN'T SEE.
WHEN YOU'RE NEAR ME,
WONDERFUL THINGS
COME TO BE

7 ■ Let Yourself Go

(music & lyrics by Irving Berlin)

Roseland Ballroom, New York City. 1964
dancing together to big, swinging orchestras!

AS YOU LISTEN TO THE BAND,
DON'T YOU GET A BUBBLE?
AS YOU LISTEN TO THEM PLAY,
DON'T YOU GET A GLOW?

8 ■ Beyond Compare

(lyrics by Marshall Barer; music by David Colvin Ross)

Falling deeply in love. Maybe this will be
Mr. Right?

SHALL I, MY LOVE, COMPARE THEE
TO – BABA AU RHUM
OR SUMMER'S DAY?
HANDEL CHORALE OR MALIBU? –
RUBENS, RAVEL, OR MEL TORMÉ?

9 ■ Long Ago And Far Away

(music by Jerome Kern; lyrics by Ira Gershwin)

... and so we got married!

CHILLS RUN UP AND DOWN MY SPINE
ALADDIN'S LAMP IS MINE
THE DREAM I DREAMED
WAS NOT DENIED ME
JUST ONE LOOK AND THEN I KNEW
THAT ALL I LONGED FOR
LONG AGO WAS YOU.

10 ■ It Had To Be You

(lyrics by Gus Kahn; music Isham Jones)

Rough patches in every marriage. Had I
wed Mr. Right or Mr. Right Now?

SEEMS LIKE DREAMS LIKE I
ALWAYS HAD COULD BE,
SHOULD BE MAKING ME GLAD
WHY AM I BLUE?
IT'S UP TO YOU TO EXPLAIN
I'M THINKING MAYBE, BABY,
I'LL GO AWAY SOME DAY,
SOME WAY YOU'LL COME
AND SAY IT'S YOU I NEED –
AND YOU'LL BE PLEADING
IN VAIN



11 ■ How Do You Keep
The Music Playing>

(lyrics by Marilyn & Alan Bergman;
music by Michel Legrand)

Breaking up ...

I KNOW
THE WAY I FEEL FOR YOU
IS NOW OR NEVER
THE MORE I LOVE,
THE MORE THAT I'M AFRAID
THAT IN YOUR EYES
I MAY NOT SEE FOREVER
FOREVER...



12 ■ Old Friend

(lyrics by Gretchen Cryer; music by Nancy Ford)

Love is rare, life is strange
Nothing lasts, people change.

EVERY TIME

I'VE LOST ANOTHER LOVER
I CALL UP MY OLD FRIEND
AND I SAY LET'S GET TOGETHER
I'M UNDER THE WEATHER
ANOTHER LOVE
HAS COME TO AN END.

13 ■ Old Love

(lyrics by Amanda McBroom;
music by Michele Brourman)

Right out of a Norman Rockwell
illustration, the happiest of endings!

AND DO YOU REMEMBER
THE FIRST BOY YOU KISSED
OUT BEHIND THE OLD GYM?
SHE SAID
“YOU ALWAYS REMEMBER
YOUR VERY FIRST BEAU”
AND HE SAID,
“WELL, YOU'RE TALKIN' TO HIM.”

IT WAS OLD LOVE... OLD LOVE
SO LONG AGO AND YET,
THROUGH THE TIME
AND THE TEARS
AND THE PASSAGE OF YEARS
SOME THINGS
A HEART CAN'T FORGET.

14 ■ Here's To Life

(music by Artie Butler; lyrics by Phyllis Molinary)

This “farewell toast” ends my story.
Thanks for listening.

Love,

Susan

MAY ALL YOUR STORMS
BE WEATHERED
AND ALL THAT'S GOOD,
GET BETTER
HERE'S TO LIFE
HERE'S TO LOVE
AND HERE'S TO YOU.”



*My Thanks
to a Fabulous Team
of Multi-Talented
Artists ...*

DOUG HAVERTY ... Designing the cover and text for this "The Music Never Ends" CD, Doug is a renaissance man uniquely gifted as a graphic designer, art director, playwright, librettist, and actor. With flare for all that is theatrical, Doug has shaped this CD's extended "booklet" in words and photographs that illuminate in autobiographical song my lifetime of romances – perhaps so like yours – from youthful flirtations to passionate affairs to getting married to getting unmarried to rebounding! An aficionado of Broadway musicals, Doug designed my first CD, "EarthlyParadise/The Songs of Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt." Now, in designing "The Music Never Ends", he has illuminated some of the best times of my life. It's so comforting to have such a longtime friend as my remarkably talented print-and-picture biographer.

DANIEL REICHERT ... Just the best portrait photographer ever and a superb actor in his own right! In his Los Angeles studio, Daniel creates a safe environment where all sorts of positive and enjoyable photographic accidents can happen. No posing here! Just the playfulness of a Director and his camera getting us into the truth of the moment. And the magic is that his photographs have the immediacy and look of fine-art portraiture. What a good time is generated by my fellow-actor and friend, Daniel Reichert (better known in some jazz circles as "Jonesy")!

NORTON WRIGHT ... My Co-Executive Producer on this CD. His other lives encompass that of a TV producer, AbEx painter, jazzhead, airplane pilot, long-distance runner, great dad, and my husband for over five decades ... He is the genuine "Mr. Right."

MICHELE & STEPHAN ... Creating the music of this CD is the Producer Team of Michele Brouman & Stephan Oberhoff, unique artists in that both are stellar orchestrators, arrangers, composers, songwriters, performers, and musicians – and oh so much fun to work with! ... I loved getting together with Michele in her Los Angeles studio to explore song possibilities, try out different approaches, keys, and tempos, and over a period of several weeks determine this CD's song selections. Michele has directorial talents that inspire. It's not enough to summarize a song with "It's about a girl falling for a boy." Michele lights up the lyrics with images of a beloved adorned in warm fudge sauce – **and do I ever want to devour him!** The song takes off and so do I! Then, flash forward to Stephan Oberhoff's Pasadena recording studio where in his audio engineer mode, Stephan first records my piano-only accompaniment with Michele. Genuine musical magic follows as Michele and Stephan, over a period of several days, create the orchestration and arrangement for the song. As multi-talented musicians they provide the CD's full range of strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion. Michele occasionally improvises jazz licks on piano (my jazzhead husband, Norton, loved these moments) – and Stephan's Chris Botti-like, muted flugelhorn coda at the end of "Here's To Life" is so lovely we get outright weepy. The fully-arranged songs grow and glow and on their completion I am captivated by the beauty and variety of what Michele and Stephan have created. To be cared for so superbly by such dear friends is a joy!

The Music Never Ends

PRODUCER STAFF:

Produced by **Stephan Oberhoff & Michele Brourman**.

Arranged by **Michele Brourman & Stephan Oberhoff**.

Musical Director: **Michele Brourman**.

Recording and Engineering by **Stephan Oberhoff**

at Full Circle Studio, Pasadena, CA.

Mastered by **Bernie Grundman** at Grundman Mastering, Hollywood, CA

MUSICIANS:

Michele Brourman: Piano, Keyboards, & Backgound Vocal.

Stephan Oberhoff:

Guitars, Bass, Flugelhorn, Keyboards, Accordian, Percussion, Drums,
and Sticks on studio floor.

Strings & Woodwinds

arranged and performed by **Stephan Oberhoff & Michele Brourman**

Robert Kyle: Tenor sax, Soprano sax, & Flute.

John Tegmeyer: Clarinet

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Executive Producers: **Susan Watson & Norton Wright**.

Cover portrait and interior portraits: **Daniel Reichert**, Los Angeles.

Follies photograph courtesy of Joan Marcus, New York.

All other photographs courtesy of the Susan Watson Archives.

Art Direction & Package Design: **Doug Haverty** for Art & Soul Design, Los Angeles, CA.

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“Susan Watson is a great storyteller. Her songs are gorgeous, joyous and beautifully arranged for full orchestra by Michele Brourman and Stephan Oberhoff. “Let Yourself Go” has me dancing across the floor. “Old Love” is so charming and poignant, it’s about time the world has this permanent record of Susan’s gifts.”

— *Amanda McBroom*

“A nostalgic journey of romances remembered. Susan brings poignant vulnerability to these songs – a touching honesty perfectly complemented by glorious arrangements of Brourman & Oberhoff.”

— *Gretchen Cryer*

“A sensitive, beautifully-crafted CD of songs filled with a lifetime’s experience of music and love.”

— *Harvey Schmidt*

“Musical delights deliciously interpreted and supported by terrific arrangements. Susan sings lovingly and with a profound understanding of songwriters’ intentions.”

— *David Shire and Richard Maltby*

“A treasure trove of musical and lyrical gems performed with honesty and grace, richly orchestrated by Michele Brourman & Stephan Oberhoff.”

— *Nancy Ford*

“A beautiful CD with a twist of jazz for good measure.”

— *Tom Jones*

www.susanwatsonmusic.com



SUSAN WATSON

the music never ends

1. OLD FRIENDS (3:12)
(Stephen Sondheim)
2. STARTING HERE (3:10)
(David Shire & Richard Maltby, Jr.)
3. MY SHIP (4:26)
(Kurt Weill & Ira Gershwin)
4. A FOGGY DAY (4:08)
(George & Ira Gershwin)
5. NOBODY ELSE BUT ME (2:18)
(Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein)
6. THEY WERE YOU (3:42)
(Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt)
7. LET YOURSELF GO (2:37)
(Irving Berlin)
8. BEYOND COMPARE (2:45)
(Marshall Barer & David Colin Ross)
9. LONG AGO AND FAR AWAY (3:12)
(Jerome Kern & Ira Gershwin)
10. IT HAD TO BE YOU (4:46)
(Gus Kahn & Isham Jones)
11. HOW DO YOU KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING? (3:43)
(lyrics by Marilyn & Alan Bergman; music by Michel Legrand)
12. OLD FRIEND (4:14)
(Nancy Ford & Gretchen Cryer)
13. OLD LOVE (3:37)
(Michele Brourman & Amanda McBroom)
14. HERE'S TO LIFE (5:03)
(Artie Butler & Phyllis Molinary)



Orchestrated and Arranged by
Michele Brourman
 &
Stephan Oberhoff

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