

Susan Watson *biography*

SUSAN WATSON is a Broadway musical legend having starred as the quintessential ingénue of the 1960s and 1970s in the productions of *The Fantasticks* (Luisa), *Bye, Bye Birdie* (Kim MacAfee), *Carnival* (Lili), *Ben Franklin In Paris* (Janine), *A Joyful Noise* (Jenny), *Celebration* (Angel), *No, No, Nanette* (Nanette) – and most recently in the 2011-2012 revival of Steven Sondheim’s hit musical *Follies* (Emily Whitman).

After completing high school in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Susan moved to New York City for a year at the Juilliard School of Music and there majored in singing and dancing before joining the London company of *West Side Story*. Starring roles followed in *Oklahoma* (Laurey), *Carousel* (Carrie), *The Sound of Music* (Maria), *My Fair Lady* (Eliza), *Gypsy* (Gypsy Rose Lee), *Where’s Charlie?* (Amy), *The Grass Harp* (Dolly Talbo), and the stage plays *Any Wednesday* (Ellen), *Charlie’s Aunt* (Amy), and *Midsummer’s Night Dream* (Viola).

In the 1980s Susan co-produced and starred in *Broadway Celebration*, a nationwide touring company saluting the songs of The Great American Songbook composed by America’s most famous composers, among them Jerome Kern, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Rodgers & Hart, Julie Styne, Stephen Sondheim, Lerner & Lowe, and Jerry Herman. The success of the tour led to the recording of its songs on the CD, *A Broadway Celebration*.

Susan’s cabaret performances in New York City and Los Angeles led in 2008 to the creation of her first solo CD, *Earthly Paradise – The Songs of Tom Jones & Harvey Schmidt*, and in 2016 she released her most recent CD, *The Music Never Ends*, fully orchestrated and arranged by the gifted team of Michele Brouman and Stephan Oberhoff.

Susan has been married for over five decades to TV producer Norton Wright (“Sesame Street” and numerous prime-time TV movies), and they have two adult, “showbiz” sons, TV producer-writer Rob Wright and CGI effects composer Doug Wright.

For recreation, Susan’s international travels have taken her to Iran, Egypt, Syria, Turkey, Greece, Croatia, Europe, Mexico, South America, Japan, China, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

###