

LIBRARY



Songs in the Key of LA

Library begins a summer exhibit on LA's heyday as capital of Southern California sheet music.

lished by Angel City Press, *Songs in the Key of Los Angeles* tells the story of Los Angeles through its songs. Featuring the elaborately designed covers of more than 100 pieces of vintage sheet music, the unprecedented anthology offers a rare musical window into Southern California history—from California lullabies and Los Angeles waltzes, sunshine rags and sunset serenades, to emerging West Coast jazz and the legacy of Mexican folk traditions.

About the Sheet Music Collection

The Central Library's Art, Music and Recreation Department houses a large collection of printed sheet music ranging from classical, popular and folk songs to musical theater and jazz.

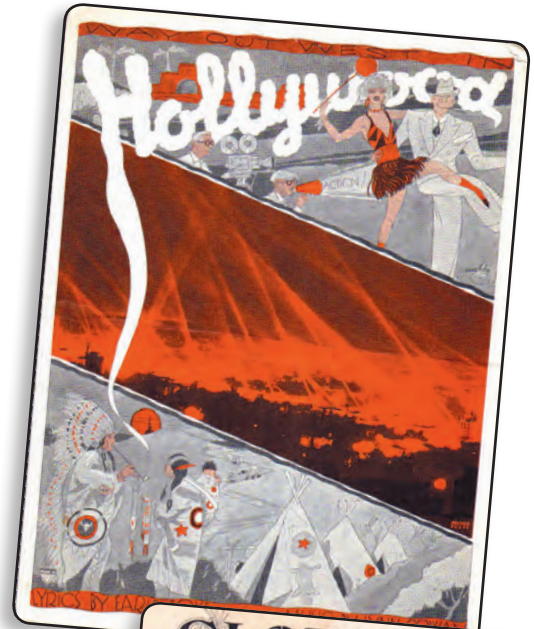
The collection includes an orchestrations collection of more than 2,700 separate works and individual parts and sheet music for more than 130,000 songs, available in songbooks and as individual sheet music. The individual sheet music spans the genre's heyday from the 1850s through the 1950s, as well as later work up through the 1990s.

A portion of the library's collection covers the period of L.A.'s growth from remote outpost into sprawling metropolis and provides a rare window into early Southern California music history. This specific sheet music spans genres from pop to jazz, Mexican folk to blues, includes songs about L.A. and Southern California, features key regional songwriters and personalities and many were an integral part of Los Angeles' music industry at the turn of the 20th century.

Events

- Exhibit of sheet music, Central Library downtown. See the Los Angeles Public Library for dates and times: www.lapl.org
- Book published by Angel City Press, *Songs in the Key of Los Angeles*, is available at The Library Store.
- **ALOUD: Songs in the Key of Los Angeles**, a musical conversation with Josh Kun and Quetzal, Thursday, July 18, 7:15 p.m. Information: www.lfla.org/event-detail/863/Songs-in-the-Key-of-Los-Angeles
- Grand Performances presents: Off the Shelf: Creating L.A.'s 21st Century Library, Thursday, July 25, 8 p.m.
- Concert: *Songs in the Key of L.A.* with Ozomatli and Friends, Friday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m. Information: www.grandperformances.org/calendar/2013-season-overview/

An example to be on exhibit of the kind of Southern California-focused songs from the Central Library's collection. Check out more covers here: www.lapl.org/collections-resources/visual-collections/sheet-music-covers



Information and graphics courtesy Library

The City's past as a center of the publication of West Coast-focused sheet music is the subject of a major exhibit, lectures, recordings and performances this summer.

"Songs in the Key of L.A." is the first in a series of collaborations between the Library Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Library to mine the Library's vast special collections. The project, curated by a research team led by USC Annenberg Professor Josh Kun, explores a portion of the Library's sheet music collection, which, according to Kun, is the world's only library collection of Southern California sheet music. Through a comprehensive anthology, new recordings, documentaries, a special exhibition at Central Library, an ALOUD program, a free concert with Grand Performances and more, the Library and Library Foundation will bring the Library's sheet music collection to light for contemporary reflection, offering an opportunity to explore the history of Los Angeles through its sheet music.

A Book, Too

Culled from the Sheet Music Collection of the Los Angeles Public Library and pub-



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