

WESTON PLAYHOUSE
THEATRE COMPANY

2017

History and Background

Compiled by Rachel Liff, Administration/Education Intern

SYNOPSIS

The story of beloved actress/singer Rosemary Clooney, who delighted America for nearly five decades, comes to life in this inspiring new musical that begins with her simple childhood in Maysville, Kentucky, and follows her rise to Hollywood stardom. Experience her struggles and triumphs as she sings her way through life, including signature works, such as "Come On-A My House," "Botcha-Me," and "Mambo Italiano."



https://www.biography.com/.image/t_share/MTE10DA00TcxNTkxNTY2ODYx/rosemary-clooney-9251425-1-402.jpg



http://www.vogtfriedmancomposers.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/images/mj1a.25973744_std.jpg

ABOUT THE WRITERS

Mark Friedman is a composer, lyricist, and playwright. In 2005, he was honored as National Music Educator of the Year. His songs have been published worldwide, including his collaborations with Janet Yates Vogt. Friedman also co-founded Cincinnati's first free Shakespeare Festival, Peanut Butter Theatre for Children, the Artreach Touring Theatre, and the Good News

Company. He is a member of the ASCAP, the Dramatist Guild, and Paradigm Talent Agency in New York City.

Janet Yates Vogt is a writer, composer, and lyricist. She studied piano and music theory at Cincinnati College – Conservatory of Music (CCM). She is known for her musical theater works, vocal music for children, choral works for adults, and education keyboard books. She works as a pit orchestra member, vocal coach, and

vocalist. She currently teaches at CCM and presents at music conferences all over the country.

Source: http://www.vogtfriedmancomposers.com/about_janet_mark

ABOUT ROSEMARY CLOONEY

Rosemary Clooney was born in 1928 in Maysville, Kentucky. She had a difficult childhood during which she lived with various relatives, watched her mother marry and move away when she was 13, and was abandoned by her father during World War II. Clooney and her younger sister, Betty, were forced to fend for themselves throughout their adolescence. In 1945, they entered a singing competition at a Cincinnati radio station, hoping to make enough money for that month's rent. Not only did they win the competition, but they were hired on as weekly guests, effectively launching Clooney's career.

Through their success at WLW, Clooney and her sister met musician Tony Pastor. Pastor quickly invited the women to join his tour. After traveling with Pastor for a few years, Clooney moved to New York City when she was 21-years-old. Almost immediately upon her arrival, she was signed to Columbia Records. She recorded her first hit, "Come On-a My House," in 1951. She was skeptical of the somewhat silly song at first, but became a household name soon after its release. Throughout the 50s, Clooney continued to record, perform on the radio, and appear in films such as *White Christmas*.

Clooney eloped in 1953 with Jose Ferrer, much to the surprise of her close friends and family. By 1960, they had five children. While her film and music career boomed in the 50s and 60s, her work spanned over five decades. Later in life, she married longtime friend Dante DiPaolo, created the Betty Clooney Center for brain-injured young adults, and sold countless jazz albums. In 1999, she was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. In 2002, she won the Grammy Lifetime Achievement award. In June 2002, she died from lung cancer. In total, she recorded 25 albums and toured until shortly before her death.

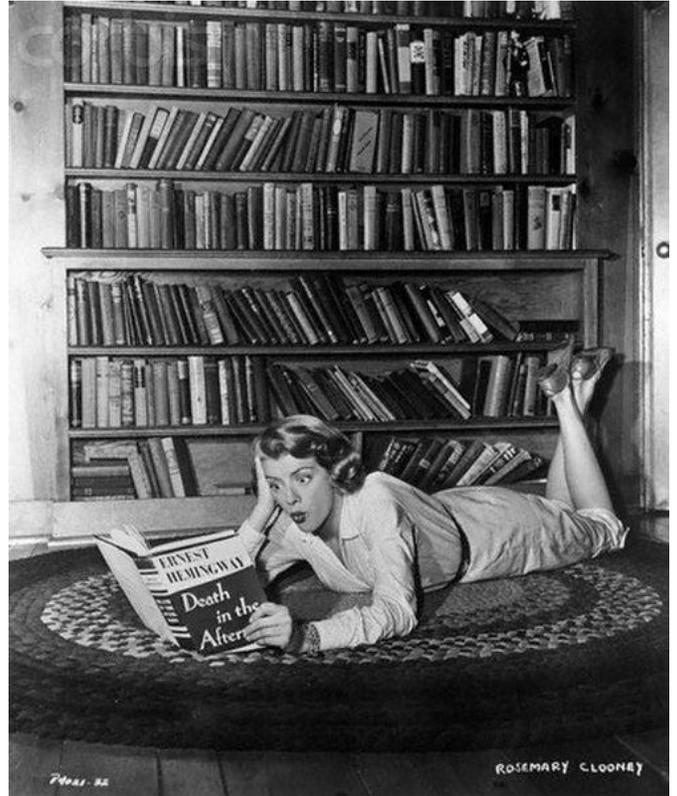
Source: <http://www.rosemaryclooney.com/biography.html>



http://assets.nydailynews.com/polopoly_fs/1.2230215.1432177024!/img/httpmage/image.jpg_gen/derivatives/article_750/nup-105156-0004.jpg

OUR WESTON PRODUCTION

Tenderly is our second OtherStages production of the season. This musical is incredibly intimate, yet so large in its scope. Take a peek at how the scenic and costume designers began to tackle this unique challenge.



Images courtesy of scenic designer Kristen Robinson.



Images courtesy of costume designer Barbara Bell.