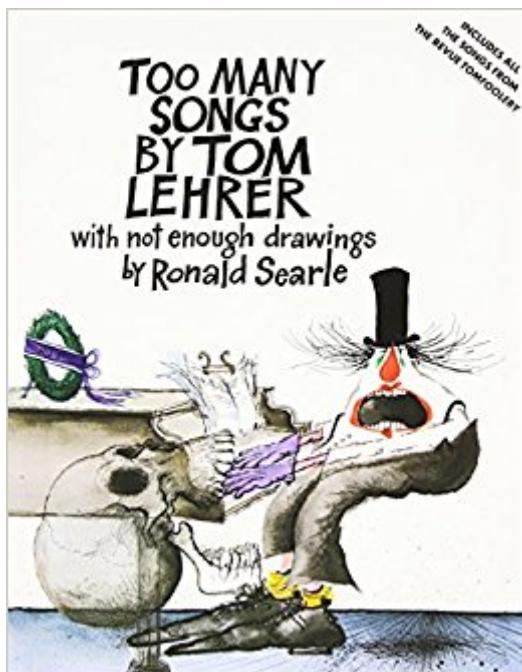


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Too Many Songs By Tom Lehrer With Not Enough Drawings By Ronald Searle



Synopsis

The subversive songs of Tom Lehrer, the sardonic piano-wielding fugitive from Harvard, have corrupted generations of Americans since he first began recording and performing in the 1950s. His uniquely depraved wit has been forced again on an unsuspecting public' via Tom Foolery, the stage revue based on his ever-trenchant observation of the American scene. This new songbook, with old favorites unavailable for years as well as never-published songs, is the most comprehensive ever assembled. It contains the words, tunes, piano accompaniments, and guitar chords for these thirty-four classics: The Irish Ballad, Fight Fiercely, Harvard!, Be Prepared, The Old Dope Peddler, The Wild West Is Where I Want to Be!, Wanna Go Back to Dixie, Lobachevsky, The Hunting Song, I Hold Your Hand in Mine, My Home Town, L-Y, When You Are Old and Gray, The Wiener Schnitzel Waltz, Poisoning Pigeons in the Park, A Christmas Carol, Bright College Days, In Old Mexico, She's My Girl, The Elements, The Masochism Tango, National Brotherhood Week, MLF Lullaby, The Folk Song Army, Smut, Send the Marines, New Math, Pollution, So Long, Mom, Who's Next?, Wemher Von Braun, We Will All Go Together, When We Gol Got It from Agnes, Silent E, The Vatican Rag.

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Customer Reviews

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As described...It's all Tom Lehrer. And the music makes the libretto difficult to read. Do not recommend for those who cannot read music. And, surely, there's not enough Ronald Searle.

Fans of Tom Lehrer's satirical songs, particularly those who fancy themselves singers and/or pianists, should look into this volume. Nearly every song that Lehrer recorded in the '50s and '60s is here, plus a handful written later and included in the revue "Tomfoolery." The musical arrangements are for medium voice and include the spoken interjections from Lehrer's recordings. I've seen one singer/pianist take complete control of an otherwise sane cocktail party by rendering a few of the more outrageous items in this collection. No art songs here, this is the stuff of the music hall.

I've listened to Tom Lehrer since the mid-1960's and still queue up his songs on my iPod from time to time. I'd agree that there aren't enough drawings by Ronald Searle since it only has about half a dozen of them.

who wouldn't want to spend their Sunday's with their true love poisoning pigeons in the park? (well perhaps Oedipus, but at least he loved his muthheeerrrrr!)

I grew up listening to Tom Lehrer's records (played on our Victrola). And, although I wasn't worldly

enough to understand some of the more perverse lyrics, my sister and I would belt out his songs with great enthusiasm. The fact that, as a kindergartner, I stood up and sang one of his compositions during "show and tell" is a testimony to...uh...something...I'm not quite sure. However, I clearly remember my mother's horror at being called by my teacher about the content of my presentation. Years later we could both laugh. Thank God Mrs. Ernstein had a good sense of humor. Thank God too that CPS was not in existence in the early 60s. My point? Mr/Dr (never was sure of his academic title) Lehrer's ability to put into song politically incorrect "We don't talk about it" issues made me a fan for life. My own children have gotten a healthy dose of his humor, and compare him to Weird Al and others of their generation. Weird Al has a long way to go before he can hope to eclipse the senator of sarcasm. So, for those of you with a bit of a twisted sense of humor (and the ability to read music/play the piano), this is a great piece of musical history, psycho sing-along material, and a chance to keep one man's sense of the ridiculous alive. P.S. I was never called by any teacher regarding the contents of my children's musical presentations. Live and learn.

I was after the texts which I have always found hilarious. I was not let down by them this time either. The songs I listen to on vinyl and CD's as I do not have the ability to play any instruments. The drawings do not specially tickle my funny bone but of course that is individual.

This anthology of Tom Lehrer songs contains all his best work. It is intended for a baritone voice with piano accompaniment. Most of the songs have withstood the passage of time extremely well and their biting clever humour continues to amuse and entertain.

koooooool

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