

Stan Freeman

"There seems to be nothing the man can't do...and brilliantly. Pianist, composer, lyricist, actor, conductor. He is a phenomenon."

- Martin Burden (N.Y. Post)

Pianist, composer, arranger, lyricist, actor, singer, and humorist are the talents of Waterbury native Stan Freeman. Born Stanley Freedman on April 3, 1920, he graduated from Crosby High School and received his musical training at the Hartt School of Music.

After returning from military service in 1946, he played with the Tex Beneke Orchestra. He then formed a piano team with Cy Walter that achieved fame nationally through the weekly radio program Piano Playhouse.

As a jazz pianist, he has played with legendary stars including Charlie Parker, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, and Benny Goodman and has placed among the top ten on Downbeats' Annual Jazz Artists Poll.

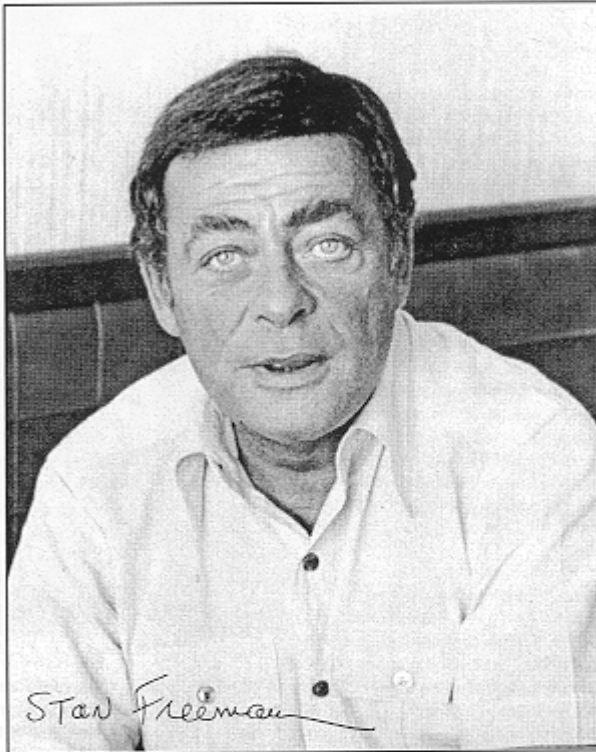
Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland and Barbra Streisand are among the popular music giants who have worked with him. His songs have been recorded by Peggy Lee, Louis Armstrong and Sammy Davis Jr. He has recorded fifteen albums under his own name for the Columbia, Epic and Okeh labels. He played harpsichord on Rosemary Clooney's first major hit "Come On 'a My House." Showcasing his versatility, he was the musical director for Marlene Dietrich for twelve years, for Johnnie Ray and for Totie Fields, was an arranger for Michael Feinstein and a conductor for Rod McKuen.

In the classical music world, he played Carnegie Hall many times and introduced the Shostakovich piano quintet to the United States. He has appeared with many major symphony orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington and has given recitals in every major United States city.

As a composer and lyricist, he won an Emmy for his contributions to *The Carol Burnett Show*. Freeman also wrote special musical material for *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, *Love Boat*, the 1984 Olympic Opening Ceremonies, the 1986 Academy Awards Show and many other television productions.

He made his mark on Broadway as composer of *I Had a Ball* in 1964 and *Lovely Ladies-Kind Gentlemen*.

He performed in the play, *The Incomparable*



Lulu and the Harold Arlen revue, *Get Happy*. He was awarded the Drama-Logue Award for best actor for his portrayal of Oscar Levant in *At Wits' End* and received a New York Drama Desk Award nomination.

Freeman's one-man comedy and music show is enthusiastically received by audiences in nightclubs from Michael's Pub in New York to the Colony Club in London, at college campuses and conventions. Rex Reed called his performance, "Brilliant. You go away stunned, entertained, elevated and cheering." His skillful balance of music and wit had the *San Francisco Chronicle* declaring, "A delightful blend of Tom Lehrer and Victor Borgé" and the *Los Angeles Daily News* saying, "Call it craft, talent or downright genius. Delightful and devilishly sophisticated."

Musically, Stan Freeman is many things to many people. His diversified accomplishments have left their mark on just about every phase of the entertainment business.