

The Cambridge Companion to the Singer-Songwriter

Most often associated with modern artists such as Bob Dylan, Elton John, Don McLean, Neil Diamond, and Carole King, the singer-songwriter tradition in fact has a long and complex history dating back to the Medieval troubadour and earlier. This *Companion* explains the historical contexts, musical analyses, and theoretical frameworks of what it means to be a singer-songwriter. Divided into five parts, the book explores the singer-songwriter tradition in the context of issues including authenticity, gender, queer studies, musical analysis, and performance. The contributors reveal how the tradition has been expressed around the world and throughout its history to the present day. Essential reading for enthusiasts, practitioners, students, and scholars, this book features case studies of a wide range of both well and lesser-known singer-songwriters, from Thomas d'Urfey through to Carole King and Kanye West.

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The Cambridge Companion to

THE SINGER- SONGWRITER

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EDITED BY
Katherine Williams and
Justin A. Williams



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*Dedicated to our parents: Michael and Valerie Lewis, Vicki Corda and
Richard Williams.*

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