

Mp3 Frankie Laine - It Ain't Over 'til It's Over



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This CD will prove to you that there is more in life than crocheting or whittling wood to occupy your golden years. 10 MP3 Songs EASY LISTENING: Mature, JAZZ: Jazz Vocals Details: n the world of popular music, yesterday's idol is very often tomorrow's forgotten name. Only a handful of performers have demonstrated the lasting appeal it takes to weather the onslaught of fads and changing trends over the years, and Frankie Laine is a classic example. His impeccable musicianship and taste have kept him an international favorite for over four decades. Ever since his recording of "That's My Desire" burst onto the scene like a musical firework in 1947, praise has poured in from all corners, from young and old alike, for this gifted and versatile artist. Today, 21 Gold Records later, Frankie Laine has become a musical tradition. He is in constant demand for top nightclub engagements, both here and in Europe. The Oldies are Still Great Laine's magical appeal, however, far transcends mere nostalgia. His recording of "You Gave Me a Mountain," a song written especially for Laine by his good friend, Marty Robbins, went gold in the early 1970's, a time by which many of his contemporaries had long since quieted down. Laine continues to record exciting new material while maintaining a healthy respect for the songs, like "Mule Train," "That Lucky Old Sun," "I Believe," and "Jezebel," which all his longtime admirers know by heart. Many of these tunes were collected into an album entitled "The World of Frankie Laine," that topped the charts in England in 1982. Since then, this album has been issued in 43 different countries. Chicago Origins Not too shabby for a humble Sicilian kid, born to immigrant parents in the heart of Chicago's Little Italy on March 30, 1913. Laine first sang in public as part of the choir at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. His love of music led him to Chicago's Merry Garden Ballroom, where friends frequently urged him up onto the bandstand to perform a number or two. At the age of 17, Laine left home to try his luck as a marathon dancer. This fad of the depression years was a tough way of keeping body and soul

together, but Laine stuck with it and eventually he and a partner, Ruth Smith, met the all-time marathon dance record in Atlantic City, New Jersey. They danced for a total of 3,501 hours over 145 consecutive days, and split a grand prize of \$1,000 for their efforts.

Road to Hollywood

When Frankie decided to make his living with his voice instead of his feet, the road to success proved long and hard. It led him up and down the Eastern Seaboard, back to Chicago, to Cleveland and then eventually to Billy Berg's jazz club on Vine Street in Hollywood, where in 1946, Hoagy Carmichael heard the young unknown performing a favorite Carmichael composition, "Rocking Chair." This chance encounter led to a steady job at Billy Berg's, which in turn resulted in a recording contract with Mercury Records. On his first session he recorded a forgotten 1931 ballad entitled, "That's My Desire," and from that point on, there was just no stopping Frankie Laine. Laine, along with Nat Cole, who preceded him by a year, marked the ascendance of the popular singer over the Big Bands, and his phenomenal success set the pattern for Johnny Ray, Tony Bennett, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones and the other musical idols who have followed. His style was thrillingly new to the audiences of the late 1940's, based as it was on his deep love of jazz and the blues.

Radio, TV Movies

The hit records were followed by starring roles in several motion pictures, guest appearances on numerous major radio and television shows, and his own television variety program on CBS in the mid-1950's. With a 1953 Warner Brother's production, "Blowing Wild," Laine started something different: he became the first and most successful of the singers to be identified with title songs. To date he has performed the title songs for seven motion pictures, most recently in 1974, Mel Brooks Western farce, "Blazing Saddles." On television, Laine's featured recording of "Rawhide" has become one of the most popular theme songs of all time. Knocking 'em Dead in Britain Frankie's popularity quickly spread across the Atlantic, and in 1953 his stirring rendition of "I Believe" topped the British charts and stayed at number one for eighteen weeks, an unbeaten performance that even The Beatles never matched. Laine's renown continued to grow as he went to England for a record breaking engagement at the London Palladium followed by a tour of much of the rest of Europe. In later years, he added South America, Australia and the Orient to his itinerary, while continuing his unparalleled love affair with British audiences. A Little of the Personal His companion on these jaunts was the lovely Nan Grey, a former Universal starlet, whom Laine married on June 15, 1950. They had two children from Mrs. Laine's previous marriage, and three grandsons. Nan passed away, suddenly, on her 72nd birthday, July 25, 1993, leaving a void that will never be filled. In 1985, Laine was temporarily laid low by quadruple bypass

surgery. Good wishes poured in from all over the world, and Laine assured his fans that he had no intention of ever retiring. Indeed, after a brief rest, his distinctive voice soon returned, as virile and powerful as ever. A trip to Nashville resulted in his first real country album, playfully entitled, "A Country Laine." In 1987 Laine released a compact disc of Western musical Americana which he recorded with Eric Kunzel and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra. Entitled, "Roundup," Frankie couldn't help but chuckle when it shot up Billboard's classical CD rankings. "The last place I ever expected to find myself," he noted, "was on the classical music charts!" After recovering from a second bypass surgery in 1990, Laine began work on his autobiography which he mischievously called "That Lucky Old Son". The book was published in 1993 and has met with great success. Frankie attends many book signings at Southern California bookstores, as well as having signed copies available by mail. Copies of the book and much of Frankie Laine's music may be ordered direct from this web site. Accolades Laine continues to receive accolades from both professional and lay organizations for his contributions to the entertainment industry and for his humanitarian works, which are many. "All in all," he says, "I've had a happy life and a long, gratifying career in the music business, which I see continuing well into the future." On June 12, 1996, Laine was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 27th Annual Songwriters Hall of Fame awards ceremony at the New York Sheraton. Laine, making his first New York appearance in more than 20 years, provided the night's emotional high point. He gave a performance to remember of "Cry of the Wild Goose" - his voice warm, robust and thrilling. With verve, he moved on to "That's My Desire," the haunting "We'll Be Together Again" (which he co-wrote), and the dramatic "Jezebel," bringing the audience to its feet several times. Eight of Frankie's hit songs, including "That's My Desire," "We'll Be Together Again," and "Jezebel," can be sampled right here on this web site if your computer has the equipment. Touchwood Records contacted Frankie Laine after he received the Lifetime Achievement Award and has since repackaged his 1992 "Memories in Gold" album which features contemporary remakes of most of his gold-selling recordings. They call the album "Portrait of a Legend." Reader's Digest released in May 1997 a 3-CD-boxed set of his music. Laine says, "It looks like it will be a pretty big thing." He has been told that it should have been labeled, Vol. One, since there is so much more material that could justifiably be released in the same fashion. Touchwood Records, under their After 9 label, released Laine's new album in early 1998. It is his first all new studio recording in over 20 years. The album is titled, "Wheels of a Dream" (a major song from the smash musical, "Ragtime"). Along with the

title song, among the others herein are "Song of India," "Until Now," "This Time the Dream's On Me," "That's All," and "You'll Never Find Another Love." It's a powerhouse, riveting and exciting, proving that Laine's voice has only become deeper and more beautiful over the years. Eddie Hubbard, ABC Radio Networks, Dallas, Texas, says of Frankie Laine's latest project, "One man's twilight is another man's dawn. This fact of life is apparent in the new CD/cassette by Frankie Laine, "It Ain't Over 'til It's Over." This album of ten songs is aimed directly at the "Keenagers"...those who have reached the age of retirement. The choice of Frankie Laine to deliver the message is a wise and perfect choice. Now at the age of 85 he is showing us that he has lost none of his vitality and energy. This CD is a must! Listen to it and let it be your guide to the happy years ahead." All of these new CDs may be ordered from this web site. Hot News In June 1999 Frankie married Marcia Ann Kline, a companion who worked in the Defense Industry in San Diego, almost within sight of Frankie's hilltop house. Frankie Laine has had a career, and a life, to be envied. May the future be as bright as the past.

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