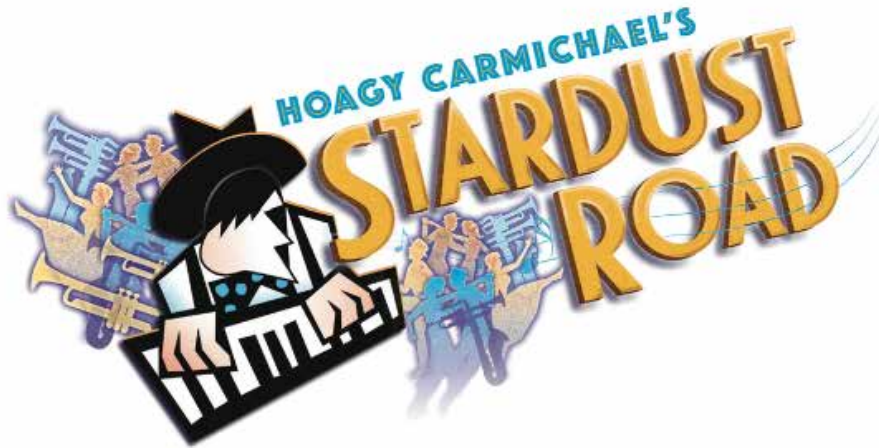


# WORLD PREMIERE OF A NEW MUSICAL TAKING A TOE-TAPPING JOURNEY THROUGH HOAGY CARMICHAEL'S MASTERFUL MUSICAL SCORE

HOAGY B CARMICHAEL, ROBERT MACKINTOSH, AND HILLARY A WILLIAMS PRESENT



Hoagy Carmichael wrote *Stardust*, *Georgia on My Mind*, *The Nearness of You* and *Heart and Soul*, four of the most-recorded American songs of all time.

Now these classic melodies, and many more of Oscar-winning Hoagy's hits, are at the centre of a thrilling new musical, **Stardust Road**, which uses his quintessentially America themes to celebrate the life and loves of America: from the age of jazz, blues and ragtime in the 20s to the Golden Age of Hollywood.

**Stardust Road** will get its world premiere, directed by Broadway's award-winning Susan H Schulman, at St. James Theatre, London, from Tuesday 27 October to Saturday 21 November.

**Press night is Friday 30 October at 7.30pm.**

With a live band, and a West End cast of amazing singers and dancers, **Stardust Road** takes a toe-tapping journey capturing the rhythms and mood of early 20th century America, featuring such classic songs as *Stardust* - which first became a hit in 1930 and to date has been recorded more than 2,300 times - *Up a Lazy River* *Two Sleepy People*, *In The Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening*, *Old Buttermilk Sky*, *Skylark*, *Riverboat Shuffle*, *Old Man Harlem*, *Rockin' Chair*, *Memphis in June*, *The Nearness of You*, *I Get Along Without You Very Well*, *Huggin' and Chalkin'* and many more...

Director Susan H Shulman said: "**Stardust Road** is a musical journey that begins in a young place up a lazy river and grows more sophisticated, more urban and urbane. It's a journey from innocence to experience, from youth to maturity, from farm to the city and it is travelled with Hoagy Carmichael's masterful musical score as our constant guide and companion."

Hoagy B Carmichael, Hoagy's son and co-producer of **Stardust Road**, said: "Dad's ability to find the tempo of America was his God-given talent. He rarely wrote songs for a movie, or an artist. He usually had them lying in the trunk, often waiting for a call from a director, or the right singer or, in many cases, his opportunity to sing and play them himself in movies or stage appearances. **Stardust Road** has the luxury to reach into this unusual song catalogue, roughly taken from four decades of Dad's work. With period dance, the songs will paint a picture of four remarkable eras in America. They are, the Ragtime, Jazz and Blues era of the 20s, the romance of New York in the 1930s, the powerful emotions of World War II, and songs written for the Golden Age of Hollywood. Almost all of the tunes are fresh to musical theatre, and there are several gems that few have heard. He loved to dance, and I can almost see the wry smile of satisfaction were he to have an aisle seat at St. James Theatre for **Stardust Road**. Dad was a sucker for romance, although he hardly wrote about 'love', yet I am positive that he will have to turn his practiced ear when he sees how the laughs and longing have been informed by those melodies. Storytelling is in the belly of all of his songs. He will be in the room, in London, listening intently."

kevinwils★  
public relations

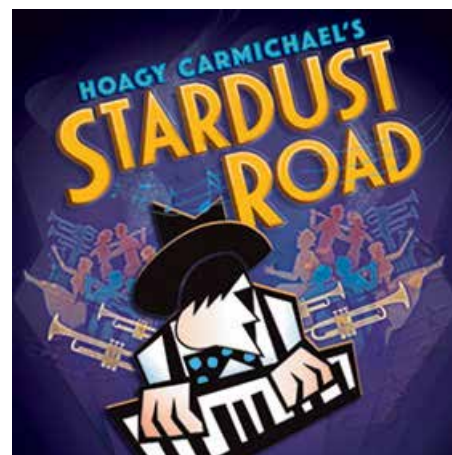
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**STJAMES**  
THEATRE

**Susan H Shulman** (Director). Her Broadway shows include Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* (Tony Award nomination), the Tony Award-winning *The Secret Garden*, *The Sound of Music* (Tony Award nomination Outstanding Revival) and *Little Women* the musical and its successful US National Tour. For her direction of the highly-acclaimed *Violet* (New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical), Susan received a Drama Desk nomination for Best Director. She received an Obie Award for directing Sondheim and Furth's musical *Merrily We Roll Along*. Susan directed the US national tour of *Sunset Boulevard*, and has directed six productions for the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada and three for City Center Encores, including *Boys from Syracuse*.

**Howard Hoagland "Hoagy" Carmichael** was an American composer, pianist, singer, actor, and bandleader. Born in 1899 in Bloomington, Indiana, he died, aged 82 in 1981 in Rancho Mirage, California. He was raised in humble circumstances, supported by an electrician father, and by the income his mother earned from playing the piano at silent movie showings and local dances. Growing up, Carmichael was exposed to music not only through his mother, but by listening to jazz artists in the African-American neighbourhood of Bucktown. In 1936, Carmichael moved to California and had songs featured in several films. In 1952, he won the Best Song Academy Award for the song *In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening*, from the movie *Here Comes the Groom*, starring Bing Crosby. Hoagy also made onscreen appearances in films such as *To Have and Have Not* and *The Best Years of Our Lives*. Novelist Ian Fleming decided that his 007 agent James Bond should look like Hoagy Carmichael, a point he made in both *Casino Royale* and *Moonraker*.

**Stardust Road** is produced by Hoagy B Carmichael, Robert Mackintosh, and Hilary A Williams.



## STARDUST ROAD

### St. James Theatre

12 Palace Street,  
London  
SW1E 5JA

**Tuesday 27 October -  
Saturday 21 November**

Performances:

Monday - Saturday at 7.30pm  
Wednesday & Saturday matinee at  
2.30pm

**Press night:**

**Friday 30 October at 7.30pm**

Tickets:

£40, £35, £30, £15

How to book:

Box Office: 0844 264 2140  
[www.stjamestheatre.co.uk](http://www.stjamestheatre.co.uk)

How to get here:

Nearest Tube Station /mainline:  
Victoria Station is less than  
5 minutes' walk

Free parking after 6.30pm is available  
in nearby streets

Facebook: StardustRoad  
Twitter @stardust\_road

[www.StardustRoad.co.uk](http://www.StardustRoad.co.uk)

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