

SPARTANBURG CULTURE

EXPERIENCE

SPARTANBURG

MUSIC TRAIL

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SPARKLETONES

This Cowpens rockabilly combo played on some of the nation's grandest stages in the 1950s. The track "Black Slacks" was heard on the Ed Sullivan Show and American Bandstand. This song landed in the Top 20 on the charts and allowed the band to tour the nation, performing on dates with Elvis Presley and others.



MARSHALL CHAPMAN

In the 1970s Chapman burst onto the scene as a notable female rock 'n' roll bandleader and as a promising recording artist. Her album, "Jaded Virgin," was named Record of the Year in 1978 by "Stereo Review." By the 1980s she was writing songs that were recorded by Jimmy Buffett, Sawyer Brown, Emmylou Harris and others.



DAVID BALL

Country radio listeners became aware of Ball through his 1994 hit "Thinkin' Problem" from the million-selling album of the same name. In 2009, Lyle Lovett recorded Ball's "Don't You Think I Feel It Too" - an Uncle Walt's Band favorite - on his Natural Forces album. And in 2010, Ball nodded to his hometown with a well-received album called Sparkle City.



BUCK TRENT

His distinctive banjo style drew the attention of Porter Wagoner, and Trent joined his band in 1962 with an electrified banjo that he invented. In the 1970s Trent began performing and recording with Roy Clark, and with Clark he won two Country Music Association Awards for best instrumental group. He performed regularly on the television show, "Hee-Haw."



DAVID DANIELS

In the words of the New York Times, "To say that he is the most acclaimed countertenor of the day, perhaps the best ever, is to understate his achievement." Daniels has starred in productions in many of the world's most famous opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera House, and the Bavarian State Opera.



CARLOS MOSELEY

Moseley joined the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in 1955 as director of public relations and became president in 1970. His years with them encompassed the Music Directorships of Dmitri Mitropoulos, Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, and Zubin Mehta. He conceived and put into operation the enormously successful free public concerts in the parks of New York City.



JOHNNY BLOWERS

In 1942 he played drums on a radio program that featured a young, little known Frank Sinatra. After the show that day, Sinatra told Blowers, “We’ll work together again,” and they did. Johnny Blowers provided the swinging backbeat for Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Judy Garland and many other luminaries.



HANK GARLAND

Garland’s virtuoso guitar was featured on dozens of country and rock hits. He became the most-recorded guitarist in Nashville in the 1950s. He played the stinging electric guitar on Elvis Presley’s “Little Sister,” the lovely, melodic descent on Patsy Cline’s “I Fall To Pieces,” the hook on Brenda Lee’s “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree” and many other memorable parts.



WALTER HYATT

In the early 1970s, after two years at Wofford College, Hyatt joined Spartanburg-reared musicians Champ Hood and David Ball in forming the acoustic trio Uncle Walt’s Band. The group members moved to Austin, released several albums together and became a formative influence on singer-songwriters including Shawn Colvin, Jimmy Dale Gilmore and Lyle Lovett.



CHAMP HOOD

Hood was a founding member of Uncle Walt’s Band, an acoustic trio that formed in Spartanburg and relocated to Austin, Texas. After Uncle Walt’s Band dissolved, Hood stayed in Austin and became what a Texas Monthly magazine story called “one of the most talented sidemen... anywhere.” He recorded with Lyle Lovett, Jerry Jeff Walker, Walter Hyatt and others.



DON RENO

Don Reno was an immensely influential banjo player and one of the founding figures in bluegrass music. He was one of the most prolific songwriter in bluegrass history, penning some 500 songs. One of Reno’s best-known collaborations was with Arthur Smith on “Feudin’ Banjos.” That tune was later popularized in the film “Deliverance,” under the name “Dueling Banjos.”



BLUE RIDGE QUARTET

The Blue Ridge Quartet became one of the most popular and prolific gospel groups of their era, recording over 100 albums and with sales topping 6 million units. In 1958 they developed a television show for the newly opened WSPA TV in Spartanburg. Dubbing it “Music for All America,” the show was syndicated by twenty-six stations across the country.



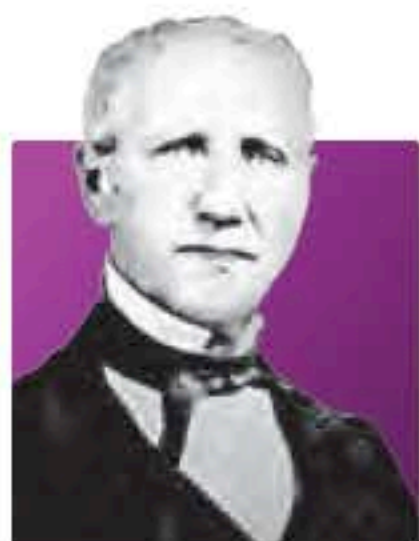
IRA TUCKER

Tucker's charismatic stage presence as the lead singer of the Dixie Hummingbirds for 70 years changed gospel music. He was a major influence on famed artists including Jackie Wilson, James Brown and Al Green. Tucker collaborated in the studio with Stevie Wonder in the 1970s. Tucker and fellow Spartanburg native, William Bobo, were prominently featured on Paul Simon's 1973 hit, "Loves Me Like A Rock."



ARTHUR PRY SOCK

Prysock was a prolific crooner with a string of hits, including "I Didn't Sleep a Wink Last Night" and "I Worry 'Bout You." By 1965, Prysock was famous enough to merit equal billing on the album Arthur Prysock & Count Basie. His pop culture celebrity was cemented when he sang the iconic 1970s beer jingle, "Tonight, let it be Löwenbräu."



SINGIN' BILLY WALKER

Walker published a book entitled "The Southern Harmony, and Musical Companion" in 1835. In the book, he used a novice-friendly notation system (shape notes) that allowed choirs to learn hymns without learning to read music. It became one of the most popular songbooks of its day, selling some 600,000 copies.



CLARA SMITH

Clara Smith was known as "the Queen of the Moaners." Smith was one of the best-known female blues singers of the 1920s, recording over 120 songs for Columbia Records. She worked with some of the greatest names in blues and jazz, including Louis Armstrong, Lonnie Johnson and Fletcher Henderson.



PINK ANDERSON

Anderson began his career as a medicine show "draw man," meaning he played music that drew people to gather around, so that a "pitch man" could sell remedies to the crowd. In 1928, he recorded for Columbia Records. Anderson's humorous, sneakily subversive music influenced British rock band Pink Floyd, legendary country singer Johnny Cash and scores of others.



MARSHALL TUCKER BAND

"From Spartanburg, South Carolina, the Marshall Tucker Band..." For more than 300 nights a year in the 1970s, arena and amphitheater audiences heard that introduction. The Marshall Tucker Band scored six gold-selling albums -- that's 500,000 copies sold -- and two million-selling albums, and it became a huge influence on artists including Charlie Daniels, Hank Williams, Jr. and Travis Tritt.



REV. JULIUS CHEEKS

Rev. Julius "June" Cheeks was a gospel singer famed for a gritty, powerful baritone which influenced not only the next generation of gospel performers but also secular stars including James Brown and Wilson Pickett. His career featured performing with the Nightingales as well as being a writer and producer.



GIANNA ROLANDI

Rolandi, an internationally renowned soprano singer, has performed more than 30 roles with the New York City Opera, and served as Director of the Lyric Opera of Chicago Center for American Artists. She performed under the baton of conductors Leonard Bernstein, Sir Andrew Davis, and Erich Leinsdorf.



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SPARTANBURG MUSIC TRAIL

WALKING TOUR MAP

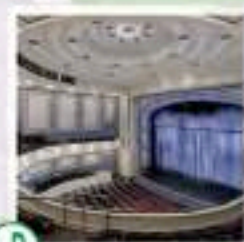
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Narration, songs samples, and side trips at SpartanburgMusicTrail.com



Spartanburg
Memorial Auditorium



Twichell
Auditorium



Chapman
Cultural Center



POINTS OF INTEREST

- ★ Grave Of Singin' Billy Walker
- ★ Carolina Theatre
- ★ Clock Tower

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MUSIC VENUES

SPARTANBURG MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
The Carolinas' largest theater has showcased dozens of top musical performers, including Taylor Swift, Journey, Ray Charles, Brad Paisley, among others. You can see world-class acts in a 3200-seat venue.

CARLOS MOSELEY BUILDING
One of the buildings at the Chapman Cultural Center is named for the managing director and chairman of the board of the New York Philharmonic (1955-85) who originated the idea of free concerts in New York's Central Park. Check out Sundays Unplugged, a weekly singer/songwriter series (free), among other shows.

TWICHELL AUDITORIUM
This venue has been hosting music for over 100 years. Acclaimed for its outstanding acoustics, Twichell is named as an historic John Philip Sousa site to commemorate the many performances given by Sousa and his band in the early twentieth century. You can catch Spartanburg's professional orchestra here, among others.

MUSIC MAKERS

- 1 Ira Tucker + Arthur Prysock
- 2 Singin' Billy Walker + Clara Smith
- 3 Pink Anderson + The Marshall Tucker Band
- 4 Johnny Blowers + Hank Garland
- 5 Walter Hyatt + Champ Hood
- 6 Don Reno + The Blue Ridge Quartet
- 7 The Sparkletones + Marshall Chapman
- 8 David Ball + Buck Trent
- 9 David Daniels + Carlos Moseley
- 10 Rev. Julius Cheeks + Gianna Rolandi

PRESENTED BY:



EXPERIENCE



Some cities celebrate their war heroes, others their sports stars, but in the Hub City, it's all about musicians. Head out on the Spartanburg Music Trail.

A 30-MINUTE OUTDOOR WALKING TOUR

You'll learn which Spartanburg bluesman lent his first name to British rock group Pink Floyd, who played electric guitar for Elvis Presley, who wrote "Duelin' Banjos," who was Paul Simon's sidekick on "Loves Me Like a Rock" and who put the words and music together to create the hymn "Amazing Grace." And of course you can commune with the Marshall Tucker Band, superstars of Southern Rock, who put Spartanburg on the musical map.

ABOUT SPARTANBURG

Located in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, Spartanburg, SC is known for its Revolutionary War battles, as well as a rich textile and agricultural history. Located along two major interstates, Spartanburg is a hub of activity, including rich cultural offerings, extensive educational opportunities, musical heritage, and an abundance of stunning landscapes. It is at the crossroads of the modern South.

Once you visit, you'll understand there's no place like it. There's only one Spartanburg.



SPARTANBURG
THERE'S ONLY ONE.

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