

Classical Gas **Cut to the Chase Info**

This is a cut-to-the-chase overview of **Classical Gas**. For more information, visit my Web site, www.classicalgas.com, where you'll find over 50 pages of pertinent details about the composition, the recordings, awards and more.

Awards & Milestones

Classical Gas topped the charts in August 1968. Making it to #1 on Cash-box's Top 100 and #2 on Billboard's Hot 100.

Classical Gas won three Grammys in 1968 (March 1969 Awards Ceremony)

Two Grammys for Me

~ Best Instrumental Composition

~ Best Instrumental Performance

One for Mike Post

~ Best Instrumental Arrangement

It is the most played instrumental on the radio of all time (any instrument) and has logged over 6 million BMI airplays.

It is the most recorded instrumental composition recorded by (covered) other artists of all time.

Classical Gas is the most famous guitar piece in the world (or so many guitar players tell me... a highly subjective claim, but one of the most famous at least.)

The Recording

Album/Track Production Info:

- Album cut on WB LP 1729 released February 1, 1968
- 45 rpm single released from LP / B-side Long Time Blues
- Album produced by Mike Post
- Classical Gas arranged by Mike Post
- 4-trk recording! Cut length (3:00)
- 2-trks for orchestra / 2-trks for Classical Guitar+12-string overdub
- After rehearsing, we kept the first take!
- The horns were tubens (Wagnerian horns/upright bell French horns)
+ brass

Composing
Classical
Gas

I started writing **Classical Gas** in August of 1967. I was also writing comedy for *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour* (2nd season). I worked on it between writing comedy bits for Tom & Dick and their guests. I'd finish a bit or reach an impasse with a piece and while it simmered in my subconscious, I'd pick up the guitar and take a break before tackling the writing again. The music I wrote was mixed in with thinking about Tom & Dick spots, plus ideas for guests such as: Greer Garson, The Association, Janet Leigh, Pete Seeger, Bobbie Gentry, George Burns, Herman's Hermits, Betty Davis, Mickey Rooney, Noel Harrison, Jane Powell and The Who!

TV,
Film
&
Video

Classical Gas has been used in various TV shows and films throughout the years. Prominent uses include:

1993

"The Simpson's: Last Exit to Springfield", Fox TV/Music, (TV)

"Wild Palms" Soundtrack, EMI Music Canada, LTD., (FILM)

1994

"What's My Line", PBS, (TV)

1995

"The Heidi Chronicles" Writers Cinema II, (TV)

"Once in a Blue Moon" Soundtrack, Airwaves Sound Design, (FILM)

1996

"Jeopardy" #327, Game Show Network, (TV)

"The Rosie O'Donnell Show", Kidro Entertainment, (TV)

1998

"Rock and Roll Jeopardy" #98012, Trackdown Productions, Inc., (TV)

1999

"The Story of Us" Theatrical Trailer, Soundtrack, Universal Pictures, (FILM/DVD)

2000

"Celebrity Dating Game" #13, Columbia Pictures Television, (TV)

"Frasier: The Great Crane Robbery" #170, Paramount Pictures, (TV)

"The Newlywed Game" #60 (1972), Columbia Pictures Television, (TV)

"The Newlywed Game" #62 (1972), Columbia Pictures Television, (TV)

"The Dish" Soundtrack, Warner Bros., (FILM/DVD)

Henry Ford Museum Advertisement, Greenfield Village, (TV)

2002

IBM / LVG Archive Video, Jack Morton Company, (VIDEO)

"Where Angels Fear. . ." JZK Inc., (FILM)

"State of Grace II", Ladybug Productions, (TV)

2003

"Angels Among Us: Vietnam POWs", US Air Force, (DVD)

"The Simpson's" Video, Fox (FILM/VIDEO)

"Cheaper by the Dozen" Soundtrack, 20th Century Fox, (FILM/DVD)

"Glen Campbell: Inside Fame", MTV Network Nashville, (TV)

2004

"Miracle Run", Lifetime, (TV)

2005

"The Sopranos", HBO Original Series, (TV)

**The
Recording**

Classical Gas has been recorded by over 100 artists. Here is a sample of recordings by other artists:

Guitarists

Tommy Garrett/50 Guitars
Howard Yearwood
Chet Atkins
Glenn Campbell
Steve Howe
Tommy Emmanuel
René Heredia
Daniel Amalm
California Guitar Trio
Eric Hamilton
Craig Einhorn
Robert Michaels
Zoe McCulloch
Michael Chapdelaine
Dave Edmunds
Dave Salyer

Band / Jazz Ensembles etc.

Midnight String Quartet
The Challengers
Area Code 615
Beggars Opera
The Shadows
The Ventures
Al Delory
Syracuse University Marching Band
Cal Aggie Marching Band

Orchestras/Arrangers

Hugo Montenegro
Tartaglia
Hugo Winterhalter
Paul Mauriat
John Williams/Boston Pops
Apollo 100

Violinists

Florian Zabach
Vanessa May

Piano/Synth

Larry Fast
Bobby Enriquez
Wayland Pickard

Misc.

Rap/Hip Hop: Will Smith
Uke: Kimoh Hussey
Harp: Carrol McLaughlin
Bagpipes: Michael Lancaster
Hand bells: The Bells of the Lakes

**Publishing
Info**

I control the publishing for **Classical Gas** through Weems Music Co. The Warner Bros. hit version recording is controlled by Warner Bros. Records. I own the recording rights for my cover version of **Classical Gas** through Skookum Records. Email info@classicalgas.com for more information or you may contact my publishing administrator:

MizMo Enterprises
PO Box 7147
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 994-6344