

New York Times, 3/23/52

What a Glorious Feeling to be

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN



M-G-M's JOYOUS Color by **TECHNICOLOR** MUSICAL

Starring
GENE KELLY
DONALD O'CONNOR
DEBBIE REYNOLDS

STARTS THURSDAY • RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RADIO CITY

Showplace of the Nation



MUSIC HALL

Rockefeller Center

THE MUSIC HALL'S GREAT EASTER SHOW!

The sunshine musical... silver-lined with song and dance... gay with love and laughter... perfect holiday entertainment... by the producer and with the star of Academy Award winner, "An American in Paris."

WORLD PREMIERE
STARTS TODAY
Doors Open 10:30 A.M.

ON THE GREAT STAGE

"Glory of Easter"

Beautiful, far-famed Cathedral pageant... produced by Leonidoff... with Gertrude Lockway, contralto, Choral Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra and Grand Organ directed by Raymond Paige...

and

"SPRING SONG"

Celebrating Springtide frolics and finery... settings by James Stewart Morcom... the first American theatre appearance of the D'Andrea Dancers, Continental sensation... Patricia Drylie, ballerina, and the Corps de Ballet in delightful divertissement, choreography by Florence Rogge... the New York debut of Edward Ruhl, opera tenor find... the famed Rockettes in glamorous precision by Russell Markert... breath-taking novelty by Bela Kremon... and a fascinating fashion show presenting latest Spring creations by leading designers.



"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

STARRING
GENE KELLY • DONALD O'CONNOR
DEBBIE REYNOLDS

with JEAN HAGEN • MILLARD MITCHELL and CYD CHARISSE

Technicolor

Story and Screen Play by BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN

Lyrics by ARTHUR FREED

Music by NACIO HERB BROWN

Directed by GENE KELLY and STANLEY DONEN • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • An M-G-M PICTURE



Picture at 10:35 1:26 4:20 7:23 10:17
Stage Show at 12:30 3:26 6:29 9:27
Doors Open Friday 10:15 A.M.

At the Movies

WITH
JANE
CORBY

Music Hall Easter Show Opens

With 'Singin' in Rain' on Screen

Spring has definitely sprung at Radio City Music Hall, where "Singin' in the Rain" blossomed on the screen yesterday and the two-part holiday show, highlighting the 20th annual cathedral pageant, "Glory of Easter," took over on the stage. "Spring Song," a new extravaganza, fills the second half of the stage program.

"Singin' in the Rain" is a Technicolor musical which has everything that a Spring musical should have. It's bursting with laughter, its dances are spontaneous and carefree, its songs are lilting and its cast is the right one to put over the very spirit of youth and gaiety. Gene Kelly, who dances and sings in his most joyous mood, can take a big slice of credit also for the direction of the film and the staging and direction of the musical numbers, chores which he shared with Stanley Donen.

Kelly probably could have handled the top dancing spot alone, but M-G-M was in a generous mood when they made "Singin' in the Rain." They put in Donald O'Connor. He steals the show from Gene Kelly, all but, and how can he help it? He's got the dancingest kind of legs, the fastest feet and, in addition, he's got both rhythm and comedy in his veins. Man, what a dancer! And what a clown. He sings, too, and the combination clicks in a number, "Make 'Em Laugh," which he sings while he knocks himself out dancing up walls, through them and all over an obstacle-strewn studio set.

Hollywood Laughs at Self

"Singin' in the Rain" is a picture of Hollywood taking a good look at itself and laughing fit to burst. That's a rare mood for the production center, and if its merriment spills over into slapstick now and then, that only adds to the fun. The real theme is the changeover from the silent films to the talkies, in 1927, and the studio romance which is involved, amusing as it is, takes second place to the hilarious problems that confronted the industry 25 years ago. Jean Hagen proves herself a fine comedienne as a blond screen star of the era who believes her studio publicity, thinks she is irresistible to Kelly, a screen hero, and almost wrecks "Monumental Pictures" when Kelly shows his preference for newcomer Debbie

Reynolds. Jean's impossible voice is her downfall when the talkies take hold.

Picking out the best bits in a picture as consistently good as "Singin' in the Rain" can be done only in the order of personal preference. The picture takes the form of a series of skits, all so well hung together that the film seems like a continuous narrative. I like Kelly best when he is doing an impromptu dance on the sidewalk at night, in a downpour, to his own singing accompaniment of "Singin' in the Rain." A sketch which has the silent stars trying to learn diction, in preparation for the talkies, is another rollicking bit. A third is a fashion show, with models in high style—and screamingly funny—outfits for 1927. "Broadway Ballet" is a striking production number, with Kelly and a stage full of girls.

Well-Chosen Songs

Debbie Reynolds as the potential star, who can sing and dance, takes the spotlight several times to display her talents. Millard Mitchell is just what a film producer of the era should be and Douglas Fowley caricatures an old-time director with side-splitting results. Cyd Charisse, as a guest star, is Kelly's partner in a fine dream-like ballet number on a misty beach.

The songs are particularly well chosen for the mood and period of the picture and, besides the title, include such ever-appealing tunes as "Would You," "You Were Meant for Me" and "You Are My Lucky Star."

Arthur Freed, who gave us "An American in Paris," gives us "Singin' in the Rain." His trademark is all over this one, too.

On Music Hall Stage

Personalities featured in the Music Hall stage presentation include Gertrude Lockway as soloist for the Easter pageant, Edward Ruhl, the D'Andrea Dancers, Bela Kremo and Patricia Drylie, with the Music Hall Choral Ensemble, the Symphony Orchestra, the Corps de Ballet and the Rockettes.



RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center

"Musical of the year!"—SEVENTEEN

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

Gene KELLY • Donald O'CONNOR • Debbie REYNOLDS

Color by **TECHNICOLOR** • Directed by **GENE KELLY** and **STANLEY DONEN**
Produced by **ARTHUR FREED** • An M-G-M Picture

THE MUSIC HALL'S GREAT EASTER STAGE SHOW

"GLORY OF EASTER"—Far-famed cathedral spectacle . . . and
"SPRING SONG"—Gala new revue . . . produced by Leonidoff, with
the Rockettes, Corps de Ballet, Glee Club, Symphony Orchestra
directed by Raymond Paige.

Picture at: 10:40, 1:30, 4:23, 7:25, 10:18 • Stage Show at: 12:37, 3:30, 6:32, 9:28
Doors Open Saturday 10:30 A. M.

Brooklyn (N.Y.) Eagle
3/28/52

'Singin' in the Rain,' Starring Gene Kelly, Ushers In Spring at the Music Hall

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN, screen play and story by Adolph Green and Betty Comden; directed by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen; produced by Arthur Freed. At the Radio City Music Hall.

Don Lockwood.....	Gene Kelly
Cosmo Brown.....	Donald O'Connor
Kathy Selden.....	Debbie Reynolds
Lina Lamont.....	Jean Hagen
R. F. Simpson.....	Millard Mitchell
Guest Artist.....	Cyd Charisse
Zelda Zanders.....	Rita Moreno
Roscoe Dexter.....	Douglas Fowley
Dora Bailey.....	Madge Blake

By BOSLEY CROWTHER

Spring came with a fresh and cheerful splatter to the Music Hall yesterday with the arrival of Metro's new musical, "Singin' in the Rain," along with the Glory-of-Easter pageant and a vernal revue on the stage. Compounded generously of music, dance, color, spectacle and a riotous abundance of Gene Kelly, Jean Hagen and Donald O'Connor on the screen, all elements in this rainbow program are carefully contrived and guaranteed to lift the dolours of winter and put you in a buttercup mood.

Take as a token of the picture its title, "Singin' in the Rain," which has no more to do with its story than it has to do with performing dogs. Of all things, this song-and-dance contrivance is an impudent, offhand comedy about the outlandish making of movies back in the sheik-and-flapper days when they were bridging the perilous chasm from silent to talking films. And its plot, if that's what you'd call it, concerns a silent film star who is linked with a slut-voiced leading lady while wooing a thrushy new young thing.

If anyone can tell us what all of the nonsense that goes on has to do with the title of the picture, we will buy him a new spring hat. But that doesn't make any difference, for the nonsense is generally good and at times it reaches the level of first-class satiric burlesque. Adolph Green and Betty Comden may have tossed off the script with their left hands, but occasionally they come through with powerful and hilarious round-house rights.



Gene Kelly in "Singin' In The Rain."

Take, for instance, the scene in which Miss Hagen as the gutter-snipe silent queen is making her first acquaintance with the hidden microphone. No funnier lampoon of film-making has yet swum within our ken than this brief but side-splitting revelation of the battle with the machine. And some of the musical numbers that kid the old musical clichés, such as fashion parades and pin-wheel chorus groups, are as mischievous as they come.

Also we'll say for the authors—and for Mr. Kelly and Stanley Donen, who directed the show: they had the courage to kid Louella Parsons with a devastating take-off by Madge Blake. Under the protocol of Hollywood, this is lese majesty!

However, the pattern of the picture is such that a lot of room is made for singing and dancing in the liveliest Kelly-cum-all style. And it is in these elegant phases that the spirit is lightest and most gay. Mr. Kelly who plays the silent film star up from burlesque and vaudeville, runs away, of course, with the dancing—and, as a matter of fact, with most of the songs.

His dance and duet with Debbie Reynolds to "You Were Meant For Me" is a sweet lump of Technicolor sugar, and his galloping through "Broadway Ballet" is a lot of eye-filling acrobatics against a mammoth production splurge. This is a combination of the oldies, "Broadway Rhythm" and "Broadway Melody," with Cyd Charisse stepping out of nowhere to do a lovely dream dance with Mr. K. But by far his most captivating number is done to the title song—a beautifully soggy tap dance performed in the splashing rain.

Donald O'Connor, as Mr. Kelly's sidekick, also has a jolly romp in a battering and bruising slapstick number entitled "Make Me Laugh" and joins with the star in making "Moses" a lively thing. Miss Rey-

nolds sings "Would You" nicely. Miss Hagen is an excellent farceuse and Millard Mitchell and Douglas Fowley are good in producer and director roles.

It is notable that most of the old music is equipped with lyrics by Arthur Freed, who is now a big Metro producer and happened—how did you guess it?—to have produced this film. Maybe that's why the title is "Singin' in the Rain."

In addition to the Glory-of-Easter pageant the stage show at the Music Hall includes Patricia Drylie, ballerina; the Andrea Dancers, Edward Ruhl, Bela Kremos, the Corps de Ballet, Glee Club, and Rockettes.

Detroit Free Press, 4/6/52

IT'S A
Happy Easter

FOR DETROIT!

FRIDAY

YOU'LL BE SEEING

M-G-M's

SINGIN'...SWINGIN'...

GLORIOUS FEELIN' MUSICAL

IN RAINBOW COLOR BY

TECHNICOLOR

"What a glorious feeling!"

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

STARRING

GENE KELLY

DONALD O'CONNOR

DEBBIE REYNOLDS

WITH

JEAN HAGEN • MILLARD MITCHELL

and **CYD CHARISSE**

Story and Screen Play by **BETTY COMDEN and ADOLPH GREEN**

Lyrics by **ARTHUR FREED** Music by **NACIO HERB BROWN**

Directed by **GENE KELLY and STANLEY DONEN**

Produced by **ARTHUR FREED • AN M-G-M PICTURE**

Song hits available in M-G-M Records Album



United Artists
THEATRE



✚ THE BLOOD YOU GIVE WILL LET A FIGHTING MAN LIVE ✚

STARTS FRIDAY

M.G.M.'s ✓ ✓
Singin', Swingin',
Glorious Feelin'
Musical ✓



in
Rainbow
color by

Technicolor

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

STARRING
**GENE
KELLY**

**DONALD
O'CONNOR**
**DEBBIE
REYNOLDS**

WITH
**JEAN MILLARD
HAGEN MITCHELL**
and **CYD CHARISSE**

★ ★ **RIGHT
WITH A
DOZEN SONG HITS!**

Including
"Singin'
In The Rain"
"You Are My
Lucky Star"
"You Were
Meant For Me"

...and many more!
Available in the M-G-M
Records Album!



United Artists
THEATRE

LAST "SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR"
3 DAYS Plus "FORT OSAGE"

Detroit News, 4/10/52

LAST TIMES TODAY
"SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR"
Plus "FORT OSAGE"

United Artists
THEATRE
• TOMORROW •

M-G-M's
SINGIN', SWINGIN'
Technicolor
MUSICAL

THAT
"AMERICAN IN PARIS"
STAR WILL HAVE YOU
HAPPY AGAIN!

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

STARRING

Gene **KELLY**

Donald
O'CONNOR

Debbie
REYNOLDS

Jean Hagen • Millard Mitchell
Cyd Charisse

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SINGIN' WITH A DOZEN
SONG HITS!
"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN" "YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME"
"FIT AS A FIDDLE" "GOOD MORNING" "MOSES"
"YOU ARE MY LUCKY STAR" "WOULD YOU?"
"ALL I DO IS DREAM OF YOU"

THE BLOOD YOU GIVE WILL LET A FIGHTING MAN LIVE

Plus

THE ACADEMY AWARD-
WINNING CARTOON
TOM & JERRY in
"The Two Mouseketeers"
TECHNICOLOR

Detroit News, 4/11/52



United Artists

DETROIT'S
FINEST
THEATRE

FOR INFORMATION PHONE WO 3-0079

• TODAY •

YOU'LL BE SEEING

M-G-M'S

SINGIN'...SWINGIN'...

GLORIOUS FEELIN' MUSICAL

IN RAINBOW COLOR BY

TECHNICOLOR

"What a glorious feeling!"

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

STARRING
GENE KELLY

DONALD O'CONNOR

DEBBIE REYNOLDS

WITH
JEAN HAGEN • MILLARD MITCHELL
and **CYD CHARISSE**



THE ACADEMY AWARD
WINNING CARTOON
TOM & JERRY in
"The Two Mouseketeers"
TECHNICOLOR

✚ THE BLOOD YOU GIVE WILL LET A FIGHTING MAN LIVE ✚



STAR GAZING

Talkies' Pioneering Kidded in Musical

—BY HELEN BOWER—

WHOEVER HAD the idea for "Singin' in the Rain" thought up something really original for the Technicolor musical at the United Artists Theater.

Starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds this gay and happy entertainment kids the old silent movies and the studio headaches created by the advent of talking pictures.

Arthur Freed, who last month won the Thalberg Award Hollywood's prize of prizes—must have been largely responsible. He is the picture's producer and was also author of the title song's lyrics to music by Nacio Herb Brown.

With one exception the same team wrote all the songs for the production. "You Were Meant for Me," "Fit As a Fiddle" and "You Are My Lucky Star" are among the older hits to their credit.

For individual performance the dancing and clowning by O'Connor are nothing short of spectacular. He does a terrific slapstick solo in "Make 'Em Laugh" and has several intricate dance duets with Kelly.

Kelly's new interest in arty choreography shows up in a dream sequence with Cyd Charisse which

follows another tricky number with Miss Charisse as a slinky siren of the '20s.

Reminiscent of Kelly's "I've Got Rhythm" number from "An American in Paris" is his sloshy "Singin' in the Rain" solo down a street. He has a lot of fun kicking in the puddles until a cop comes along.

EVERYTHING that was ridiculous in the styles and behavior of the '20s is shown up in the opening premiere of "The Dueling Cavalier," a silent costume picture of the "Monsieur Beaucaire" period.

Don Lockwood (Kelly) and Lina Lamont (Jean Hagen) are the heart-throbs of the silent fans. They make an entrance at Grauman's Chinese Theater as thousands cheer.

Studio publicity has built them up as a great romantic duo. Lina goes for this, but Don is less than interested.

Miss Hagen's role is valid enough. But she is so much like an impersonation of Judy Holliday impersonating a dumb blond that she throws the picture's time sense out of gear. She is a too-modern note in a series of dated sequences, though none of this is Miss Hagen's fault.

LINA'S HIGH-PITCHED nasal tones are poison for the talkies. Don's long-time pal, Cosmo Brown (O'Connor), and Kathy Selden (Miss Reynolds) save the Lockwood-Lamont picture by turning it into a musical with Kathy singing for Lina. In fairness it must be noted that Kathy's voice is also a little on the nasal side.

Still kidding herself that Don loves her, Lina makes things tough for Kathy. At the premiere of the renamed musical, "The Dancing Cavalier," Don, Cosmo and R. F. Simpson (Millard Mitchell) as the studio chief, let Lina show herself up as a tinpan voice.

This assures romance for Don and Kathy with a happy future in sound pictures ahead of them.

Those frightful fashions of the '20s have a lot to do with making "Singin' in the Rain" amusing. They have been worked into a good many production numbers full of color and movement, including Kelly's long and complicated "Broadway Melody Ballet."

The film is alive with color, action and melody.

MGM Again Rings Bell With Musical

By AL WEITSCHAT

HAVING COPPED AN OSCAR with "An American in Paris," the MGM studio shows no signs of slackening its pace in "Singin' In the Rain." Here is a lively, lavish technicolor musical in which Hollywood spoofs itself, thus endowing the show with much more sparkling comedy than is usually found in song-and-dance entertainments.

Gene Kelly again looms large as director, actor, singer and dancer. Sharing honors with him is Donald O'Connor, the bright boy borrowed from Universal-International, whose performance here is the best of his career. There's a hand, too, for Debbie Reynolds, the half-pint cutie with a pert person-

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN." Produced in Technicolor by MGM. Directed by Gene Kelly. Screen play by Adolph Green and Betty Comden. At the United Artists Theater.

Don Lockwood.....	Gene Kelly
Cosmo Brown.....	Donald O'Connor
Kathy Selden.....	Debbie Reynolds
Lina Lamont.....	Jean Hagen
R. F. Simpson.....	Millard Mitchell
Guest Artist.....	Cyd Charisse
Zelda Zanders.....	Rita Moreno
Roscoe Dexter.....	Douglas Fowley
Dora Bailey.....	Madge Blake

ality who also knows how to sing and dance.

The background is hectic Hollywood of the 1920's, when sound erupted and many voiceless wonders got lost in the shuffle. The desperate rush for the talking bandwagon produces many a laugh and good reasons for diverting production numbers.

★ ★ ★

KELLY AS DON LOCKWOOD, and Jean Hagen as Lina Lamont, play a hot romantic team of the silents. Lina is a victim of the revolution, a blond with a body like a dream and a voice like a nightmare, and the plot involves frantic efforts by the studio to

salvage her career by dubbing in the expert voice of Miss Reynolds, an obscure performer with whom Kelly is in love.

The complications, romantic and otherwise, move merrily through an abundance of singing and dancing. Cyd Charisse is called in to appear with Kelly in two ballet numbers with intriguingly original touches. The outstanding solo is O'Connor's, an hilarious turn in which O'Connor practically destroys himself to a tune called "Make 'Em Laugh."

Miss Hagen's portrayal of the dumb-bell, done with a telling Judy Holiday flair, is a stout prop for the comedy.

★ ★ ★

THERE ARE LAUGHS EVEN in the fashions, which suggest the designers of the day worked with blinkers.

"Singin' In the Rain" is a bright, brisk show strictly on the sunny side of the street.

Ann Arbor News, 5/1/52

Coming
Sunday

MICHIGAN
THEATRE

*MGM's Singin', Swingin',
Glorious Feelin' Musical...*

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

STARRING in Rainbow color by *Technicolor*

GENE KELLY · DONALD O'CONNOR · DEBBIE REYNOLDS



BRING WITH A DOZEN
SONG HITS! Including ...
"Singin' in the Rain"
"You Are My Lucky Star"
"You Were Meant For Me"
... and many more!
Available in the M-G-M
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of Broadway, in this exciting extravaganza
splashed with songs and spectacular dances!

Ann Arbor News, 5/2/52

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Coming Sunday
What a Glorious Feeling, I'm Happy Again!

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN"

M-G-M's JOYOUS *TECHNICOLOR* MUSICAL!

It's Gene, your "American In Paris" star—with Donald and Debbie! A thrilling youthful threesome in a musical about Hollywood musicals! All the glamor of Movietown in a rollicking, romantic song-and-dance extravaganza!

STARRING

GENE KELLY • DONALD O'CONNOR • DEBBIE REYNOLDS

WITH **JEAN HAGEN • MILLARD MITCHELL • CYD CHARISSE** • STORY AND SCREEN PLAY BY BETTY COMDEN AND ADOLPH GREEN

LYRICS BY ARTHUR FREED • MUSIC BY RALPH HERS BROWN • DIRECTED BY GENE KELLY AND STANLEY DONEN • PRODUCED BY ARTHUR FREED • AN M-G-M PICTURE

SINGIN' WITH A DOZEN
SONG HITS!
Including...
• "Singin' In
The Rain"
• "You Are My
Lucky Star"
• "You Were Meant
For Me"
...and many more!
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