

Julie London – Swing Me An Old Song (1959)

Wpisany przez bluesever

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Side 1: 01) *Comin' Thru The Rye* 02) *Cuddle Up A Little Closer* 03) *After The Ball* 04) *Be My Little Bumble Bee* 05) *Camptown Races* 06) *Old Folks At Home* Side 2: 01) *Darktown Strutters' Ball* 02) *How Come You Do Me Like You Do* 03) *Row Row Row* 04) *By The Beautiful Sea* 05) *Bill Bailey Won't You Please Come Home* 06) *Three O'Clock In The Morn'ing*

Everyone seems to have forgotten that rock & roll wasn't doing so hot with white audiences at the tail end of the 1950s until the Beatles hit the scene and had everyone going electric again. Instead of rockabilly, folk music and Dixieland jazz were huge in 1959 and young audiences were getting into old-time songs that their parents and grandparents knew. *Swing Me an Old Song* was Julie London's Dixieland-spiced folk revival effort. If it doesn't actually play to her strengths to be cast as a sexed-up version of Burl Ives, it takes some kind of real talent to be able to coo such hoary chestnuts as "Camptown Races" and "Row, Row, Row, Your Boat" without embarrassing yourself too much. Thankfully, the song selection on most of the album is better than these two egregious examples of stale singalongs that should never have made it outside of summer camp. Tracks like "Cuddle up a Little Closer" and "Darktown Strutters Ball" fit London like a satin glove, as does her downbeat take on "Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home" (though she would cut an even better version of this on her 1966 release *For the Night People*). During the same year as *Swing Me an Old Song*, London also cut the cool jazz album *Julie...at Home* (which may just be her single finest work) and *Your Number Please...*, a swank orchestral set of standards. People often mention Julie London's limited vocal range, but it's surprising how far that her talent could stretch. ---Nick Dedina, Rovi

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