

ENTERTAINMENT

At Ease at Kerr
**Berlin Takes
 Scottsdale Jan. 18!**

DAVID M. BROWN

Glen Rose was born on the Fourth of July in Hollywood, Calif., and can whip up a delectable "Yankee-Doodle Dandy."

But tough-guy Jimmy Cagney isn't his shtick: right times, wrong tunes.

Rose is an Irving Berlin guy — so immersed in his life, his times, and his tunes that he travels town to town, city to city, "Puttin' on the Ritz" to honor one of America's great songwriters.

Rose brings Irving Berlin to life for one show Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. at Scottsdale's Kerr Cultural Center, 6110 Scottsdale Rd., between Lincoln and McDonald drives off Rose Lane.

Berlin (1888-1989) was both long-lived and prolific, presaging the careers of Cole Porter, George and Ira Gershwin, and Rodgers and Hart as well as generating great work after their careers had ended.

During Berlin's Tin Pan Alley and Broadway heyday between 1910 and 1934, he created at least one hit song per year: songs for musicals and movies

such as "White Christmas," "There's No Business Like Show Business," "A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody," "Steppin' Out With My Baby," "Steppin' Out With My Baby," and "Easter Parade."

"I always loved Berlin as a child," says Rose, whose father worked for many years as a music arranger at 20th Century Fox, collaborating with composers such as Quincy Jones, Henry Mancini, Nelson Riddle, and John Williams.

The idea for a show came about while Rose was touring in Europe for the last ten years, singing American songs of the Gershwins, Berlin, Porter, and "cowboy" composers. He spent years in France at cabarets along the Riviera, in exotic cities such as Cannes and St. Tropez, then in bars and bistros and theaters in Belgium, Ireland, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, England.

"They don't want to hear their own folksongs," Rose says. "They want to hear American music: They know the words even if they don't know the



language." His agent was so proficient at finding him work that Rose tired after his decade-long trek back and forth. So he decided to return home, stopping off in Key West, San Francisco, and Seattle, singing Berlin songs along with those of his contemporaries.

Rose, in fact, also does Gershwin and "Tin Pan Alley Days" shows. He'll be performing the Gershwin while in Phoenix during his stay: Open to the public, the show will be Jan. 13 at Sierra Winds in Peoria at 2 p.m.

"It went over gangbusters," Rose says of the early Berlin shows. So he and his stage manager, Mary Ann Okason, put together the Berlin revue and have since been traveling the country bringing back memories for people new to Berlin and those who were wooed by the music decades ago.

"We play all of the favorites," says Rose, who also dances and plays the ukulele, "the" instrument for crooning and wooing in the early decades of the century. Rose's mom, Lee Rose, was a professional dancer — once the West Coast's swing champion.

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