

Sing a Song of Technology!

Mary Ellen Pinzino

(Association for Technology in Music Instruction 2003)

The Come Children Sing Institute **SONG LIBRARY** is a new integrated multimedia software tool for Music Educators. This CD-ROM based package integrates audio with text and graphic viewing capability within a single standalone software application. The package automates the arduous tasks routinely performed by music educators in planning curriculum and performance programs. It offers a fresh new paradigm for realizing productivity gains in delivering music education. In this first release, the target user group is teachers of preschool, elementary and children's chorus.

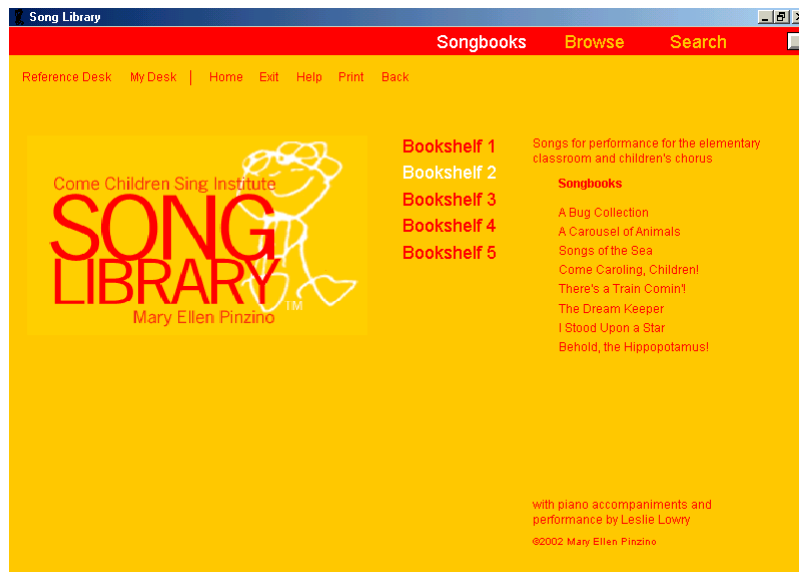


The core feature of the software package is an integrated database system which indexes a multipurpose library of over 500 songs selected specifically for children. The database contains highly detailed information on every song in the library with respect to professional concerns such as difficulty, vocal range, tonality, meter, and text origin. The database categorizations of the

attributes of each song in the library are tested and suited for ease of use by the major music education methodologies.

In addition to indices of song attributes important to music educators, each song in the library is directly linked to a graphic representation of the notation (Finale™ generated), and a midi performance of the score played on a Yamaha Disklavier acoustic/digital piano. The fact that the database components are integrated allows the music educator the opportunity to perform multiple indexed searches for material matched to learning objectives, view the score and lyrics on screen, and, optionally, listen to each song.

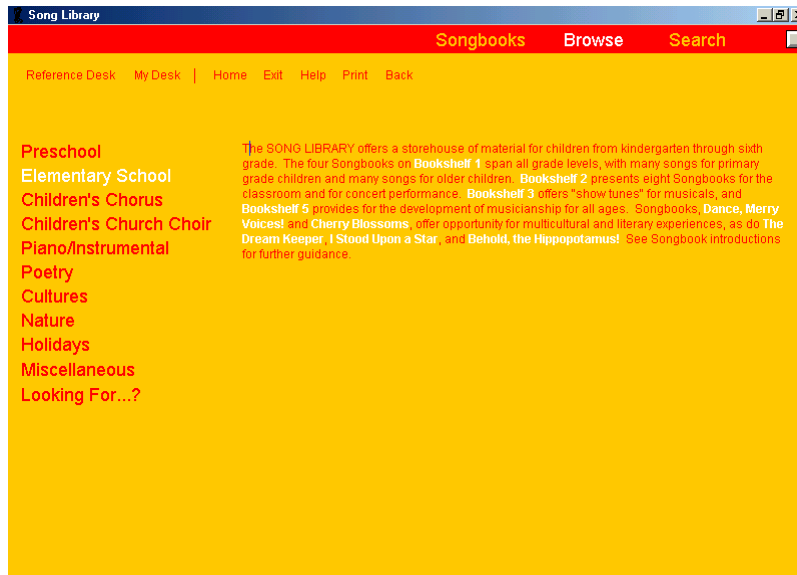
Key technical features of the system design include a music educator focused interface, compatibility on Mac and Windows platforms, the ability to print any score (camera ready) through standard platform resources, and the ability to build and print compilations of songs for classroom distribution or performance.



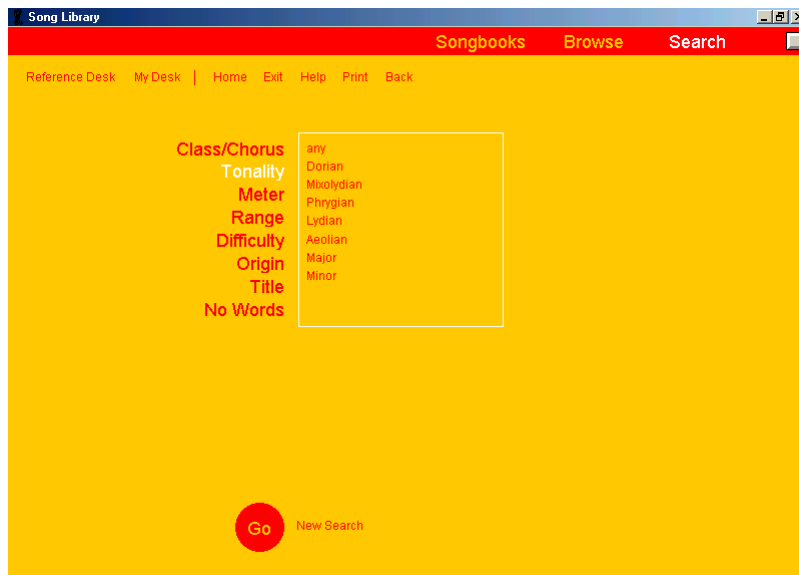
The package uses QuickTime™ and Adobe Acrobat Reader™ for video, graphics, audio and printing management. The CD-ROM is standalone; the latest versions of ancillary packages are included with the distribution disk.

In practice, the application streamlines the manual process of going through multiple stacks of music and songbooks to find appropriate songs for children. It enables teachers to electronically page through songbooks, browse the entire library by interest, and search for songs by class or chorus, difficulty, vocal range, tonality, meter, title, and text origin. Teachers can sort songs into various folders for lesson plans, concerts, future use, or make folders for each classroom. They can jot notes with any song to keep a record of when or how songs were used with any group of children.

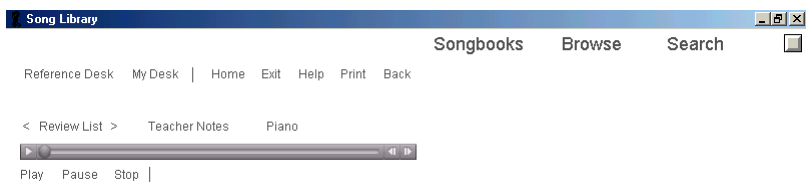
With this new software application, teachers can not only gain productivity with the electronic access of the notation and scholarly performance of more than 500 songs, they can advocate use of the package as a cost-effective alternative to the common practice of purchasing individual copies. The songs delivered by this package have been widely praised as fresh new content for music learning; the application offers a new system paradigm for libraries of music for instrumental and vocal solos, ensembles, and music education series books.



Browse to find songs that meet your educational priorities.



Search by multiple parameters to find songs that meet the musical needs of your children.



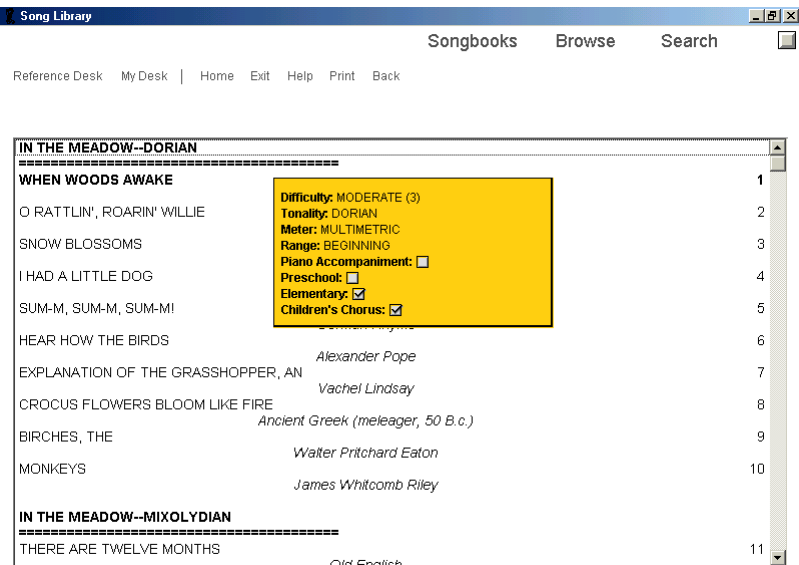
Penguin

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MARY ELLEN PINZINO

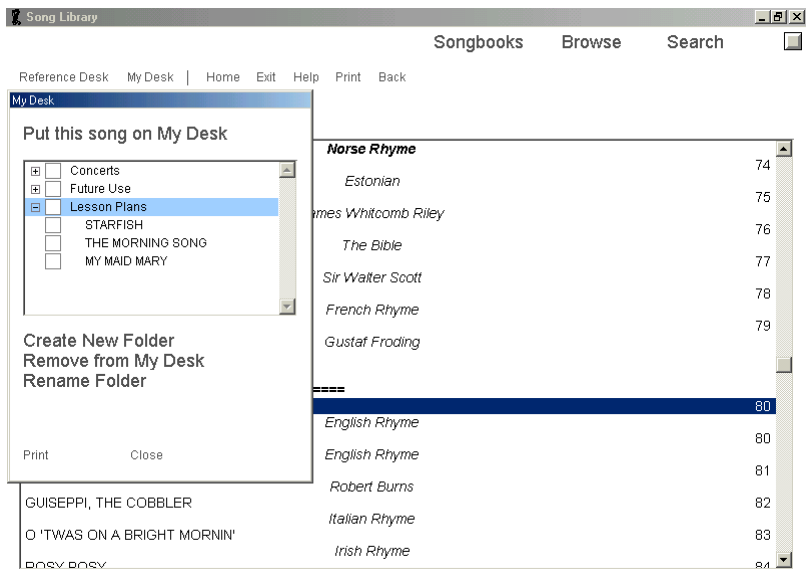
whether it was presented in concert. Click on piano to see, hear, and print the piano accompaniment.

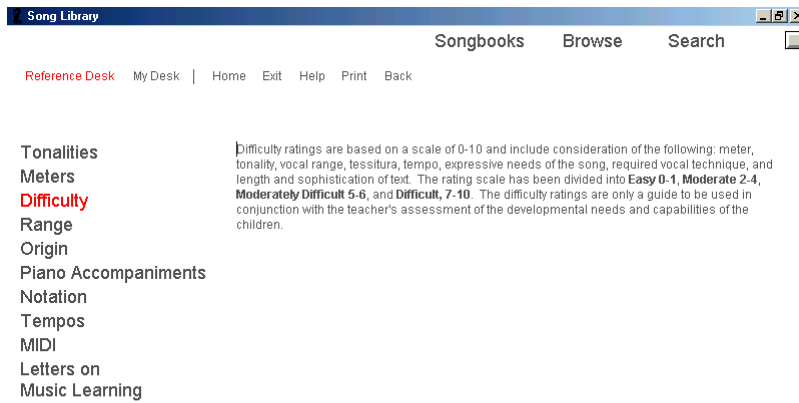
View the notation of each of the songs in the SONG LIBRARY, play the song, and print copies for classroom use. Click and drag the notation to adjust your view. Click the arrows of **<Review List>** to page the list of songs generated through Browse, Search, or Table of Contents. Click **Teacher Notes** to keep a record of when the song was used with a particular group of children, and



Place the pointer on any song in the list generated by Songbooks, Browse, or Search to display its various parameters that help to choose appropriate songs.

Click on **My Desk** from any list or notation and click on a folder to put songs in folders for lesson plans, concerts, or future use. Or, create a folder for each group of children. Print all songs in a folder from My Desk.





Click on **Reference Desk** to find out more about the classification and presentation songs.

The electronic SONG LIBRARY was developed at the Come Children Sing Institute, a center for research and development in music learning (www.comechildrensing.com). The conceptual design of the SONG LIBRARY CD-ROM software and user interface evolved through many years of teaching children and music teachers. Implementation of the design was done by Electronic Courseware Systems (www.ECSmedia.com).

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Resources by Mary Ellen Pinzino

www.comechildrensing.com



SONG LIBRARY—More than 500 new songs for children of all ages—preschool, elementary, children’s chorus. See notation, hear songs, print copies. Many songs in various tonalities and meters, including art songs for young children, songs for choral performance, and songs and chants without words. Developed at the Come Children Sing Institute, composed by Mary Ellen Pinzino. CD-ROM
www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/songlibrary.php

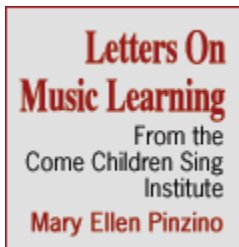


Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for Infants, Babies and Toddlers—Early childhood music classes for parent and child in their own home, on their own schedule—includes MP3 files, activities, parent tips, and a resource for busy parents about early childhood music learning. Curriculum developed at the Come Children Sing Institute. Classes taught by Mary Ellen Pinzino.
www.comechildrensing.com



Gift Certificates—Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for Infants, Babies and Toddlers—Gift Certificates for early childhood music classes for parent and child in their own home, on their own schedule—includes MP3 files, activities, parent tips, and a resource for busy parents about early childhood music learning. Curriculum developed at the Come Children Sing Institute. Classes taught by Mary Ellen Pinzino.

<https://www.comechildrensing.com/catalog/index.php>



Letters On Music Learning—reflections on music teaching and learning at the Come Children Sing Institute. Topics include movement, art songs for young children, a new tonal syllable system, music reading and writing, and classroom research on the development of tonal and rhythm audiation in relation to the work of Edwin Gordon. Written by Mary Ellen Pinzino. E-Book—128 pages. Printable PDF file.

<https://www.comechildrensing.com/catalog/index.php>

Articles by Mary Ellen Pinzino

“Awakening Artistry in the Choral Rehearsal.” Article addressing the use of movement in the choral rehearsal, spanning children through college singers. (International Choral Bulletin, 2006.)

www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“A Conversation with Edwin Gordon.” Interview with Edwin Gordon, discussing various aspects of his work. (Musicstaff.com, 1998.)

www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“Audiation In Flight.” Article addressing movement with song in the elementary school context. (Michigan GIML, 2005.)

www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“Feed the Meter.” Article addressing the importance of meter in choral performance. (Southwest Division ACDA, 2006.)

www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for Infants, Babies and Toddlers.

Includes extensive writing for parents about early childhood music development.

<https://www.comechildrensing.com/catalog/index.php>

Selected Articles from “Letters On Music Learning,”

E-Book addressing music teaching and learning at the Come Children Sing Institute

“Audiation—Another Way of Knowing”

https://www.comechildrensing.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“Ode to Movement”

https://www.comechildrenging.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“Art Songs for Young Children”

https://www.comechildrenging.com/public_pages/forteachers.php

“Song Writing”

https://www.comechildrenging.com/public_pages/forteachers.php



Mary Ellen Pinzino is the Founder/Director of the Come Children Sing Institute, a center for research and development in music learning since 1984. She is the composer of the Come Children Sing Institute SONG LIBRARY, a CD-ROM resource of more than 500 new songs for preschool, elementary school and children’s chorus, and creator of the Come Children Sing Institute music curriculum for children from birth through thirteen. She is the developer of Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes for infants, babies and toddlers, and leads the production of *Come Children, Sing!*, the television program for preschool music.

Mary Ellen has taught all ages from birth through graduate students, teaching preschool classes and conducting the children’s choruses at the Come Children Sing Institute, and directing the Institute’s teacher training program. She has also taught elementary school music, high school choral music, graduate school music education courses, and served as conductor of the Women’s Choral Ensemble at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She authored 14 issues of *Letters On Music Learning* for music teachers, now compiled as an E-Book, has written additional articles for national and international publications, and writes extensively for parents about early childhood music learning for Come Children, Sing! Online Music Classes.

Mary Ellen’s comprehensive work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers, her research on the process of music learning and music literacy, her work with children’s choirs and the application of movement in the choral rehearsal with singers of all ages, her many compositions for children, and her unique applications of technology to music learning have put her on the cutting edge in the field of music education. She is in demand as a clinician, presenting nationally and internationally for music educators’ organizations, including the International Society for Music Education, the Music Educators National Conference, the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, the Organization of American Kodaly Educators, the American Choral Directors Association, Suzuki Institutes, and the Gordon Institute for Music Learning. She has also presented in Portugal at the University of Lisbon, and most recently in Indonesia for the East Asian Regional Council of Overseas Schools and the Jakarta International School.

Mary Ellen received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in music education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and studied extensively with Edwin Gordon. She can be reached at mepinzino@comechildrenging.com.