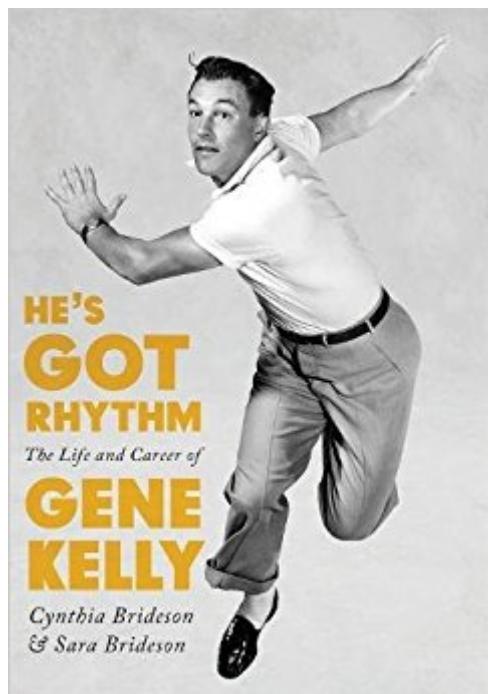


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# He's Got Rhythm: The Life And Career Of Gene Kelly (Screen Classics)



## Synopsis

He sang and danced in the rain, proclaimed New York to be a wonderful town, and convinced a group of Parisian children that they had rhythm. One of the most influential and respected entertainers of Hollywood's golden age, Gene Kelly revolutionized film musicals with his innovative and timeless choreography. A would-be baseball player and one-time law student, Kelly captured the nation's imagination in films such as *Anchors Aweigh* (1945), *On the Town* (1949), *An American in Paris* (1951), and *Singin' in the Rain* (1952). In the first comprehensive biography written since the legendary star's death, authors Cynthia Brideson and Sara Brideson disclose new details of Kelly's complex life. Not only do they examine his contributions to the world of entertainment in depth, but they also consider his political activities—including his opposition to the Hollywood blacklist. The authors even confront Kelly's darker side and explore his notorious competitive streak, his tendency to be a taskmaster on set, and his multiple marriages. Drawing on previously untapped articles and interviews with Kelly's wives, friends, and colleagues, Brideson and Brideson illuminate new and unexpected aspects of the actor's life and work. *He's Got Rhythm* is a balanced and compelling view of one of the screen's enduring legends.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The authors have created a comprehensive biography of Gene Kelly that balances his extensive career with his complex private life. Although there have been several biographical studies published about this Irish American star, *He's Got Rhythm* is by far the most detailed and

encompassing work on its subject. This book should become the new definitive biography on the multitalented Gene Kelly." •James Robert Parish, author of *The Hollywood Book of Extravagance*"Any biographer of Gene Kelly had better be light on his/her literary feet. The Bridesons have given us a thoroughly readable biography of Kelly that is conscientiously researched and authoritative." •Page Laws, Norfolk State University"[R]eaders will get a well-documented recounting of a man who, despite shortcomings, believed that 'true talent seems to show itself most often in kindness.'" •Library Journal"The Brideson sisters •the authors of *Ziegfeld and His Follies* •cover Kelly's professional story in full detail. . . . *He's Got Rhythm* provides a comprehensive overview enhanced by references to many previously published works." •Jeanine Basinger, *New York Times Book Review*

Cynthia Brideson is coauthor of *Ziegfeld and His Follies: A Biography of Broadway's Greatest Producer and Also Starring . . . : Forty Biographical Essays on the Greatest Character Actors of Hollywood's Golden Era, 1930–1965*. Sara Brideson (1990–2017) was coauthor of *Ziegfeld and His Follies: A Biography of Broadway's Greatest Producer and Also Starring . . . : Forty Biographical Essays on the Greatest Character Actors of Hollywood's Golden Era 1930–1965*.

Such a sad end for a remarkable person.

How can I read it in Spanish, please?

After reading the 1st 100 pages, I'm so impressed with the depth of the research and seeing pictures previously unknown to most of the public. This book is thoroughly enjoyable with a unique writing style that flows effortlessly off the pages. It is hard to put it down. I don't know whether to race through it or take my time and enjoy the view. Having read virtually every other book on Gene, I was standing at my door waiting for this one and it was worth the wait. Stay tuned for further updates.

I love anything that's Gene Kelly, including this book. I did find that there was so many minute details, that I had to put it down after a while to give my brain a chance to recoup.

Incredibly detailed and candid biography of Gene Kelly. Kelly's impact on the American musical was monumental in the 1950's and "Singin' in the Rain" is, of course, still regarded as a film classic,

having been revived as a Broadway production in recent years. In spite of the ongoing affection for his work, there hasn't been a great deal of information on Kelly the man out there. This book solves that problem with a sometimes overwhelming amount of information on each and every Kelly project over the years, but it doesn't solve another--how to make the last twenty years or so of his life interesting. His professional activity in those years consisted of directing films that weren't very good or acting in ones that were close to embarrassing ("Xanadu" and, unbelievably, "Viva Knievel!" where he played Evel Knievel's mechanic!). But, up until you reach that period, it's a very good read, giving plenty of insight into Kelly's personality, his relationships and his approach to his craft. Kelly doesn't come across as the most likable of guys, but his drive for excellence is undeniable and his legacy unforgettable.

I was entertained throughout this book. Getting a glimpse of his life development opened my eyes to what made him the great performer he was. As noted in the book, he was a perfectionist who kept driving himself through his career never fully satisfied with his performances. He lived a long and full life dedicated to those who sought out his works, but later in life, he dedicated himself to his family. If you enjoy Hollywood biographies you will not be disappointed in this one.

As one who knew Mr Kelly, I find this book is an exceptionally well-researched, detailed, and balanced presentation of him, his background, and his "inner workings." In my opinion, this is the definitive biography of the man. I especially appreciated all of the interviews with family members and the pain-staking attention to detail. Great job! Thank you!!

This is great read! I appreciate the attention to detail including the lovely selections of photos of Gene Kelly's career and private life. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about Kelly the entertainer and the man in this sophisticated yet approachable style of writing. Whether you're reading this for entertainment or for research you won't be disappointed!

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