

# The Great American Songbook

Speaker Roger Browne writer and pianist

The December talk will bring to life the lives and fascinating back stories of various American composers, lyricists and publishers of the first half of the Twentieth Century. The speaker, Roger Browne, will be sharing how the Jewish immigrant families from Central and Eastern Europe, who settled in New York, created what came to be known as Tin Pan Alley. He will also provide a sample of the music of Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein and more while discussing the roots of the various types of American music such as ragtime and jazz.

Roger Browne is a professional raconteur, writer, director, vocalist and pianist. He has appeared in jazz clubs and jazz festivals in the UK, North America, and Canada and accompanied many national and international legends such as George Melly.