

Kay Starr - Movin'! (1959)

Written by bluesever

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A1 On A Slow Boat To China A2 I Cover The Waterfront A3 Around The World A4 Sentimental Journey A5 Night Train A6 Riders In The Sky B1 Goin' To Chicago Blues B2 Indiana B3 Song Of The Wanderer B4 Swingin' Down The Lane B5 Lazy River B6 Movin'! Kay Starr - Vocals Van Alexander - conductor

Movin' marked Kay Starr's return to Capitol after a four-year spell with RCA. RCA had Starr cut "Rock & Roll Waltz" and the Rockin' with Kay album, but Capitol sought to "reaffirm her status as a great jazz vocalist," as the Movin' liner notes say. The dozen songs are mostly jazz and pop standards arranged by Dave Cavanaugh with Van Alexander for a big band on most selections. A few others feature arrangements for five trombones and a rhythm section, reminiscent of the Four Freshmen's 1956 album Four Freshmen and 5 Trombones, another Capitol product. The album's emphasis on rhythm may have hinted at rock & roll, but Movin' delivers pure big band and traditional pop music with a swingin beat and Starr's soulful phrasing. Only the cowboy tale "Riders in the Sky" strays from the album's pure pop and jazz trajectory, although even that enjoyed wide currency in pop circles. Movin' yielded no hits, and one suspects that Capitol may have wooed Starr back by letting her record more of the music she liked. ---Greg Adams, AllMusic Review

Katherine Laverne Starks (July 21, 1922 – November 3, 2016), known professionally as Kay Starr, was an American pop and jazz singer who enjoyed considerable success in the late 1940s and 1950s. She is best remembered for introducing two songs that became No. 1 hits "Wheel of Fortune" in 1951 and "(The) Rock and Roll Waltz" in 1955.

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Starr was successful in every field of music she tried, such as jazz, pop, and country; but her roots were in jazz. Billie Holiday called her "the only white woman who could sing the blues."
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