



G O L D M E D A L S E R I E S

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

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WORDS & MUSIC

Greg Hoeltzel

ARRANGEMENT

David Wright

OLD ST. LOUIE

as sung by The Gas House Gang

STOCK NO. 8828

Chorus

1 Old St. Lou - ie, you and I — 2 sit - tin' on the lev - ee watch-in' 3

4 time roll by. — 5 Mam - my sings to ba - by a soft, sweet lul - la - by — 6

7 in the eve - ning. 8 You "Gate - way Cit - y," re - 9

You "Gate - way

## Old St. Louie

10 mem - ber the fair?\_ 11 Don't it al - most seem like 12 we're still there?\_

Detailed description: This system contains measures 10, 11, and 12. The music is in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure 10 starts with a treble clef and a key signature change to one flat. Measure 12 has a sharp sign above the staff, likely indicating a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

13 Rag - time mel - o - dies 14 float - in' in the cool night air 15

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13, 14, and 15. Measure 13 has a sharp sign above the staff. Measure 15 has a sharp sign above the staff. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass line remains in the bass clef.

16 down by the riv - er. 17 Steam - boats with cot - ton and 18 sug - ar - cane, \_

Detailed description: This system contains measures 16, 17, and 18. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure 18 has a sharp sign above the staff.

19 ban - jos strum - min' a - way. 20 strum - min' a - way. 21 Gas - lights wink - in' down a

Detailed description: This system contains measures 19, 20, and 21. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure 21 has a sharp sign above the staff.

\* see performance notes

22 23 24

sleep - y lane\_ will show you a glimpse of yes - ter - day\_

3  
St. Lou-ie

25 26 27

St. Lou - ie wom - an, you know I'll be true\_ No shin - y new ci - ty's gon - na  
wom - an\_

28 29 30

take me from you\_ You've got my love,\_ old St. Lou - ie, you do\_

31 32 33

my old *ritard* St. Lou - ie. **Tag freely** You've got my love,\_ my love,\_

my

## Old St. Louie

you do.

34 35 36

St. Lou - ie, St. Lou - ie, you do.

## Performance Notes

This arrangement was sung by the arranger's first quartet, **The Quadratic Equation**, who used it in winning the Central States District contest in 1979. At that time it was considered borderline as a contest arrangement because of its "swing-rhythm" nature, but changing standards have by now affirmed its contest worthiness, and it has become popular around the Society. As of this writing, performers who sing this song in contest should change the first two tenor notes of measure 22 to  $\text{D}\sharp$  to make those chords acceptable.

The composer, Greg Hoeltzel, is an orthodontist in St. Louis who played piano in an instrumental jazz trio at the time this song was composed.

"Old St. Louie" is best performed as a slow swing tune, with a gentle syncopation, a lightly accentuated back beat, and a smooth, lilting delivery. The lyrics provide rich opportunities for color, texture, and inflection in portraying the quaint, nostalgic images. One popular interpretive option is to sing *ad lib* beginning with measure 21, returning to tempo either at measure 23 or at the bass pickup to measure 25. The tag should be sung freely and tuned carefully, with a colorful and engaging tenor melody.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.