

Starr-Waterman

American Popular Music

Chapter 9: “Good Vibrations”: American Pop and the British Invasion, 1960s

Key People

**Antônio Carlos Jobim** (1927–1994): Musician who composed the first bossa nova recording, “Chega de Saudade” in 1958.

**Barry Mann** (b. 1939): Influential songwriter who, along with his songwriting partner Cynthia Weil, worked at the Brill Building in New York City during the 1960s.

**The Beatles:** Incredibly influential British band consisting of Paul McCartney, John Lennon, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr that inspired “Beatlemania” and launched the “British Invasion” with their North American tour of 1964.

**The Beach Boys:** The best-selling American group of the 1960s and probably the most nationally and internationally celebrated American rock group ever.

**Berry Gordy Jr.** (b. 1929): Founder of Motown Records.

**Brian Wilson** (b. 1942): Songwriter, arranger, producer, and performer and guiding spirit of the Beach Boys during the first decade of the group’s existence, when their artistic and commercial importance and influence were at a peak.

**Carole King** (b. 1942): Influential songwriter who, along with her songwriting partner Gerry Goffin, worked at the Brill Building in New York City during the 1960s and later had a successful performing career.

**Chubby Checker** (b. 1941): Stage name of Ernest Evans, who recorded “The Twist” in 1960.

**Cynthia Weil** (b. 1940): Influential songwriter of the 1960s who, along with her songwriting partner Barry Mann, worked at the Brill Building in New York City.

**Dick Clark** (1929–2012): Host of the popular television show *American Bandstand*.

**Herb Alpert** (b. 1935): Los Angeles–born trumpet player and songwriter who led the Tijuana Brass and cofounded A&M records.

**João Gilberto** (b. 1931): Guitarist and singer most often credited with initiating bossa nova.

**Phil Spector** (b. 1940) Pioneering and influential music producer associated with the “wall of sound” who founded Philles records at the age of twenty-one.

**Ramon “Mongo” Santamaria** (1917–2007): Latin soul artist who released the influential song “Watermelon Man” in 1963.

**Ray Barretto** (1929–2006): Latin soul artist who released the influential song “El Watutsi” in 1962.

**Stan Getz** (1927–1991): California-based jazz saxophonist passionately interested in bossa nova who released the single “The Girl from Ipanema” in 1964.

**The Supremes**: All-female singing group signed to the Motown label; launched the eventual solo career of Diana Ross.