

MAG

MUSICIANS ACTION
GROUP



SONG BOOK



Musicians Action Group (MAG) is an ad-hoc group of musicians, horn players and percussionists, who have played at Bay Area actions and events for progressive political causes for over thirty-five years.

We use our music to mobilize for union causes, against war, for civil rights, against fascism, for women's rights, against police brutality, for the rights of immigrants, and with left/progressive movements in our local communities and around the world.

Our repertoire consists of arrangements of songs and anthems from decades of American and international struggles for peace and social justice. We recognize the power of song and music to unify, uplift, and unite, and we share the music that has brought people together in struggles for justice. Our songs are chosen for their melodies and their histories.

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Berkeley ★ Oakland ★ San Francisco

SONG LIST

1. **The Saints**
2. **We Shall Not Be Moved**
3. **We Shall Overcome**
4. **Which Side Are You On?**
5. **Huelga En General**
6. **El Pueblo Unido**
7. **Solidarity Forever**
8. **Union Maid**
9. **De Colores**
10. **Bella Ciao***
Italy, Anti-fascist Partisans
11. **Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika***
South Africa, National Anthem
12. **Respect***
*USA, Civil Rights
& Feminist Movements*
13. **The Internationale**
14. **A Cimma***
*From ottoni a scoppio –
Milan, Italy ***
15. **CC Rider***
USA, Traditional Blues
16. **Ain't Gonna Study
War No More**
17. **Eyes On the Prize**
18. **Not My President***
USA, Modern Anti-Fascist Movement
19. **Bread and Roses**
20. **This Little Light Of Mine**
21. **Lift Every Voice and Sing**
22. **La Adelita***
Mexico, Mexican Revolution
23. **Ain't Gonna Let Nobody
Turn Me Round**
24. **Freedom Highway***
USA, Civil Rights Movement
25. **Que Bonita Bandera***
*Puerto Rico, Puerto Rican
Independence Movement*
26. **Yes We Can Can***
USA, Civil Rights Movement
27. **Oh Freedom**
28. **Wein A Ramallah ***
29. **War ***
30. **Get Up Stand Up***
*Jamaica, International
Human Rights Movement*

* *Lyrics not included*

** *"we feel in the music a memory of all the friends and comrades
who have left us."*

1. The Saints

Traditional, New Orleans

Oh when the Saints go marching in
Oh when the Saints go marching in
Oh how I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

2. We Shall Not Be Moved

USA, Labor & Civil Rights Movements

***We shall not, we shall not be moved (2x)
Just like a tree that's standing by the water
We shall not be moved***

The union is behind us, we shall not be moved (2x)

Chorus

Juntos en la lucha, no, nos moverán (2x)
Como un árbol firme junto al río
No, nos moverán

***No, no, no nos moverán (2x)
Como un árbol firme junto al río
No, nos moverán***

3. We Shall Overcome

USA, Civil Rights Movement

We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome some day

*Oh deep in my heart I know that I do believe
That we shall overcome some day*

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand some day

Chorus

4. Which Side Are You On?

USA, Labor & Civil Rights Movements

Come all of you good workers,
Good news to you I'll tell
Of how the good old union
Has come in here to dwell.

Which side are you on? (4x)

My daddy was a miner
And I'm a miner's son,
And I'll stick with the union
Till ev'ry battle's won

Chorus

They say in Harlan Country
There are no neutrals there;
You're either with the union
Or a thug for J.H. Blair.

Chorus

Don't scab for the bosses,
Don't listen to their lies.
Us poor folks haven't got a chance
Unless we organize

Chorus

5. Huelga En General

USA, Farmworkers' Movement

Hasta México ha llegado
La noticia muy alegre
Que Delano es diferente.
Pues el pueblo ya esta en contra
Los rancheros y engrécidos
Que acababan con la gente.
Y como somos hermanos la alegría compartimos
Con todos los campesinos.

Viva la revolución

Viva nuestra asociación

Viva Huelga En General

Viva La Huelga en el fil

Viva La Causa en la historia

La Raza llena de gloria

La victoria va cumplir

El día ocho de septiembre de los campos
De Delano salieron los Filipinos.
Y después de dos semanas para unirse a
La batalla salieron los mexicanos.
Y juntos vamos cumpliendo con la marcha
De la historia para liberar el pueblo.

Coro

6. El Pueblo Unido

Chile, Anti-dictatorship movement

El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!
El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!

De pie cantar [luchar], que vamos a triunfar
Avanzan ya banderas de unidad
Y tú vendrás marchando junto a mí
Y así verás tu canto y tu bandera
Florecer. La luz de un rojo amanecer
Anuncia ya la vida que vendrá

Y ahora el pueblo que se alza en la lucha
Con voz de gigante gritando; adelante!

El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!
El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!

De pie marchar [luchar], el pueblo va a triunfar;
Será mejor la vida que vendrá
A conquistar nuestra felicidad
Y en un clamor mil voces de combate se alzarán;
Dirán canción de libertad
Con decisión la patria vencerá

Y ahora el pueblo que se alza en la lucha
Con voz de gigante gritando; adelante!

El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!
El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!

7. Solidarity Forever

USA, Labor & Farmworkers' Movement

When the union's inspiration
through the workers' blood shall run,
There can be no power greater
anywhere beneath the sun.
Yet what force on earth is weaker
than the feeble strength of one?
For the union makes us strong.

Solidarity forever (3x)

For the union makes us strong.

They divide us by our color.
They divide us by our tongue.
They divide us men and women.
They divide us old and young.
But they'll tremble at our voices
When they hear these verses sung,
For the union makes us strong.

Solidarity forever (3x)

For the union makes us strong

8. Union Maid

USA, Labor Movement

There once was a union maid;
Who never was afraid
Of the goons and the ginks and the company finks
And the deputy sheriffs that made the raid.
She went to the union hall
When a meeting it was called,
And when the company boys came around
She always stood her ground.

Oh you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union.

I'm sticking to the union. I'm sticking to the union.

Oh you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union.

I'm sticking to the union till the day I die.

A woman's struggle is hard
Even with a union card.
She's got to stand on her own two feet
And not be a servant to the male elite
It's time to take a stand,
Start working hand in hand
There is a job that's gotta be done
And a fight that's gotta be won.

Chorus

9. De Colores

USA, Farmworkers' Movement

De Colores, De colores
Se visten los campos en la primavera.
De Colores, de colores
Son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera.
De Colores, de colores
Es el arco iris que vemos lucir,

Y por eso los grandes amores

De muchos colores me gustan a mi (2x)

Canta el gallo, canta el gallo
Con el kiri, kiri, kiri, kiri, kiri.
La Gallina, la gallina
Con el kara, kara, kara, kara, kara.
Los polluelos, los polluelos
Con el pio, pio, pio, pio, pi.

Coro

11. Nkosi Sikelel' IAfrika

Nko-si si-ke-le-li A-fri-ka
Ma-lu-pa-ka-nyis-wuu-pon-do
Iwa-yo
Yi-zwa i-mi-tan-da-zo ye-tu
Nko-si si-ke-le-la
Nko-si si-ke-le-la

Nko-si si-ke-le-li A-fri-ka
Ma-lu-pa-ka-nyis-wuu-pon-do
Iwa-yo
Yi-zwa i-mi-tan-da-zo ye-tu
Nko-si si-ke-le-la
Ti-na lu-sa-po-lwa-yo

Wo-za mo-ya (wo-za mo-ya wo-za)
Wo-za mo-ya (wo-za mo-ya wo-za)
Wo-za mo-ya o-ying cwe-le
Nko-si si-ke-le-la
Ti-na lu-sa-po lwa-yo

13. The Internationale

Sung by workers around the world

Arise, ye prisoners of starvation
Arise ye wretched of the earth.
For justice thunders condemnation
A better world's in birth.
No more tradition's chains shall bind us,
Arise ye slaves, no more in thrall!
The earth shall rise on new foundations,
We have been naught, we shall be all.

*'Tis the final conflict,
let each stand in their place.
The international working class
shall be the human race! (2x)*

16. Ain't Gonna Study War No More

USA, Anti-war Movements

I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield
Down by the riverside (3x)
I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield
Down by the riverside
Ain't gonna study war no more.

I ain't gonna study war no more (6x)

We're gonna join hands around the world
Down by the riverside (3x)
We're gonna join hands around the world
Down by the riverside
Ain't gonna study war no more.

Chorus

17. Eyes On the Prize

USA, Civil Rights Movement

Paul and Silas bound in jail
Got no money for to go their bail.
Keep your eyes on the prize
Hold On

Paul and Silas began to shout,
Jail doors opened and they walked out,
Keep your eyes on the prize
Hold On

Hold On! Hold On!
Keep your eyes on the prize
Hold On!

Well the one thing we did wrong
Stay'd in the wilderness way too long
Keep your eyes on the prize
Hold On

But the one thing we did right
Was when we began to fight
Keep your eyes on the prize
Hold On

Chorus

19. Bread and Roses

USA, Labor Movement

As we come marching, marching,
in the beauty of the day
A million darkened kitchens,
a thousand mill lofts gray
Are touched with all the radiance
that a sudden sun discloses
For the people hear us singing:
“Bread and Roses! Bread and Roses!”

As we come marching, marching,
we are standing proud and tall
For the rising of the women,
means the rising of us all
No more slaves and no more masters;
thousands toil while one reposes
But a sharing of life's glories:
“Bread and Roses! Bread and Roses!”

20. This Little Light Of Mine

USA, Civil Rights Movement

This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, all the time.

All over _____ I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

Chorus

I've got the light of freedom I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

Chorus

I've got the light of justice I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

21. Lift Every Voice and Sing

USA, Black National Anthem

Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
that a dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope
That the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

23. Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Round

USA, Civil Rights Movement

Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round
turn me 'round, turn me 'round
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,

***I'm gonna keep on a walkin', keep on a talkin'
Marching up to freedom land.***

Ain't gonna let no segregation turn me 'round
turn me 'round, turn me 'round (2x)

Chorus

Ain't gonna let no jailhouse turn me 'round...

Ain't gonna let no policeman turn me 'round...

27. Oh Freedom

USA, Civil Rights Movement

Oh Freedom, Oh Freedom,
Oh Freedom over me

***and before I'll be a slave
I'll be buried in my grave
and go home to my lord and be free***

No more Jim Crow, No more Jim Crow,
No More Jim Crow over me, over me,

Chorus

No more moaning, No more moaning,
No more moaning over me, over me

Chorus