

Thank you. Thank you very much.

It's time now to feature our special cowboy artist for the evening. He was known as the "singing cowboy." Who am I speaking of? You got it - Gene Autry. During his lifetime, he contributed more to the legacy of cowboy music than any other artist of that genre of music.

He was born in 1907 in north Texas and moved to Oklahoma as a teenager, learned the guitar, and shortly thereafter, in 1928, he was singing on a Tulsa radio station. Thus, his career began, and it lasted for more than three decades, during which time he made over 600 recordings of cowboy songs, many of which he composed himself. Today/Tonight, we'll feature three of his songs.

Our first song that we'll be presenting by the "Singing Cowboy" was recorded back in 1944. It was chosen as one of the top 100 cowboy songs of all time and might be considered as one of the original "protest songs" before protest songs became very common.

Here's _____ with this great Gene Autry song. She says, "Don't Fence Me In."