A Birthday Song

Words Jonathon Odell
Melody © George W. Lyon 1993

composed at New York, in honour of the anniversary of the King's birthday, June 4th, 1777..." (Sargent 11).

Time was when America hallow'd the morn upon which the lovd monarch of
Brit-ain was born, Hallow'd the day and joyful-ly chant-ed God save the King! Then
flour-ish'd the bless-ings of free-dom and peace, And plen-ty flow'd in with a year-ly in-crease.

year-of our lot we chant-ed mer-ri-ly Glor-y and joy crown the King!

But see! how rebellion has lifted her head!
How honour and truth are with loyalty fled!
Few are there now who join us in chanting
God save the King!
And see! how deluded the multitude fly
To arm in a cause that is built on a lie!
Yet are we proud to chant thus merri-ly
Glory and joy crown the King!

Somewhere out there, there are young performers writing songs that could very easily replace "Sunwheel Dance," "Rock and Roll Song," "Beresford Street" or "Forty-Five Years" in your heart. Songs that you will come to immediately associate with that performer, that you will want to share with your friends, and you will automatically greet with "recognition applause" at concerts in years to come. But you'll never hear those songs if you continue to turn out for the same old gang of players and ignore the rest.