

As HVAC specialists, we love the holidays because we take pride in keeping you toasty. When your furnace is purring, so are we. One thing we can't fix however, are the holiday earworms- you know, those songs that accost you in department stores, in your car, or out of nowhere in the middle of the night. Everyone loves the classics, but sometimes there's such a thing as too much of a good thing (another handful of Moose Munch, anyone?)

Here, we have a playlist of somewhat less ubiquitous holiday tunes. Something for everyone. Think of it as the cure for when you've heard the 12 Days of Christmas one (or twelve) too many times!

### **For The Nostalgic**

She & Him

"Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"

Sure it's been sung many times, many ways, but this version by duo Zooey Deschanel and M. Ward, puts a fresh coat of holiday nostalgia on an old favorite. Go check on those chestnuts!

Vince Guaraldi

"Christmas Time Is Here"

This may not be "lesser known", but somehow we never tire of this classic, which instantly transports us to the days of watching "A Charlie Brown Christmas" (Not DVR'd) in real time, with real butter on our popcorn, and a sense of anticipation in the holiday air. Drown out the grown up "wah wah wah wah" concerns of modern times, and just let yourself be a kid again.

Anything by Tony Bennett

We've lost count of how many Christmas album this warm and fuzzy crooner has crooned, but we're transported to simpler times no matter the track or album. We've left our hearts in Tony Bennett's self-proclaimed "tenor who sings like a baritone" vocal richness.

### **For The Moper**

Dolly Parton

"Hard Candy Christmas"

Dolly tells it like it is. In this forlorn love song from the great movie romp that is "The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas" (check out the fab chemistry between Dolly and Burt Reynolds), she croons, "Hey, maybe I'll learn to sew, Maybe I'll just lie low, Maybe I'll hit the bars, Maybe I'll count the stars until dawn, Me, I will

go on...” It’s the perfect song for the down and out, but perpetually hopeful. Keep hope alive this holiday season, we say!

Kacey Musgraves  
“Christmas Makes Me Cry”

Think of it as a new version of the classic, “River”, Joni Mitchell’s weepy holiday carol (“*Oh, I wish I had a river I could skate away on.*”) Kacey Musgraves has written a song for the melancholy among us in a season where we’re practically force fed happiness. With lyrics like, “*Seems like everybody else is having fun, I wonder if I’m the only one whose broken heart still has broken parts just wrapped in pretty paper...*”, it’s a warm cup of it’s-okay-to-be-sad, and that makes us feel a little less so.

The Paradise Islanders  
“Silver Bells”

Sometimes Christmas makes us wanna escape to a tropical island. Well, here’s a song where you can do just that, if only for a few minutes (perhaps while waiting for your significant other outside the dressing room.) The ukulele and steel guitars in this version of the holiday classic will carry you on a warm wind of Mele Kalikimaka. Pina colada not included.

## **For The Spiritual**

Aaron Neville  
“O, Holy Night”

Nothing evokes the peace of the star-lit manger like New Orleans treasure Aaron Neville as he places his gentle vibrato on this sacred hymn. His whole Christmas album will become a staple in your holiday repertoire (if it hasn’t already.)

Martina McBride  
“Away In A Manger”

There’s nothing like the bold, rich voice of a Country and Western diva to wrap you in the American traditions of Christmastime. Blanket the horses, kick off your cowboy boots, and have a listen.

Carrie Underwood  
“The First Noel”  
See Above.

## **For The Showtune Lover**

“Annie” Original Broadway Cast Recording  
“New Deal For Christmas”

Thanks to “Hollywood-ization”, not many remember (or ever knew) that the original Broadway musical “Annie” was set at Christmas time. This finale number is filled with exuberance, Roosevelt-era hope, and deliciously joyous Christmas imagery. Let this yuletide celebration of the end of the Depression lift your sprits like a tree topper.

Full Album

“White Christmas” Original Broadway Cast Recording

Based on the 1954 film of the same name, this classic romp (circa 2000’s) is filled with lush vocals and instrumentation that will have you dreaming of, well.... Just like the ones we used to know!

“Mame” Original Broadway Cast Recording

“We Need A Little Christmas”

Haul out the holly, kids! Let Angela Lansbury and the gang delight you in the ways only Auntie Mame can. This is another one you might hear somewhat frequently, but it’s always effective in getting us in the holiday spirit “right this very minute.”

So, turn on the heat, turn up the speakers, and settle in to some tunes. Whether you’re having a Blue Christmas, or one filled with light and laughter, we hope these ditties help keep you warm (and you know who to call- your HVAC specialists- if not!) May all your wishes be answered, in stereo.