

## **KEY PEOPLE**

**Carlos Gardel** (1890–1935): Legendary French-born superstar of tango.

**Dink Roberts** (1894–1984): Banjoist and songster known for his repertoire of songs and playing techniques learned from older players and crossing the official color line intended to separate blacks and whites in rural North Carolina.

**Francisco Canaro** (1888–1964): Uruguay-born violinist and bandleader born to poor Italian immigrants, learned the tango in Buenos Aires and became a successful performer, composer, and bandleader who did much to promote the style through his performances at nightclubs in Paris.

**James Gideon (Gid) Tanner** (1885–1960): Chicken farmer and fiddler from northern Georgia who founded and led the Skillet Lickers beginning in 1926.

**Jean Ritchie** (1922-2015): Folk singer and song collector who grew up in an isolated, mountainous region of Kentucky and became an inspiration for the first generation of urban folk musicians playing in the nightclubs and coffee houses of Greenwich Village.

**José (“El Negro”) Ricardo** (1888–1937): Guitarist who worked with Carlos Gardel and demonstrated the importance of Afro-Argentine musicians in the tango tradition.

**Lightning Washington**: African American musician who recorded the work song “Long John” in 1934 with fellow convicts.

**Mississippi John Hurt** (1892–1966): African American guitarist representative of the songster tradition.

**The Skillet Lickers**: Quartet of musicians from northern Georgia founded in 1926 and one of the first southern string bands to appear on commercial recordings.

**Tommy Jarrell** (1901–1985): An influential old-time fiddler and banjo player from Mt. Airy, in the mountains of North Carolina.