

Working at an investment company in New York, Carmichael was composing in his spare time and wrote "Georgia on My Mind" at the suggestion of friend and saxophonist Frankie Trumbauer. According to Richard Sudhalter in his Carmichael biography, Trumbauer asked Carmichael, "Why don't you write a song about Georgia? Nobody ever lost money writing songs about the South." Carmichael followed the advice, with Stuart Gorrell thinking of the title and helping out with the lyrics.