

AUGUST 2019

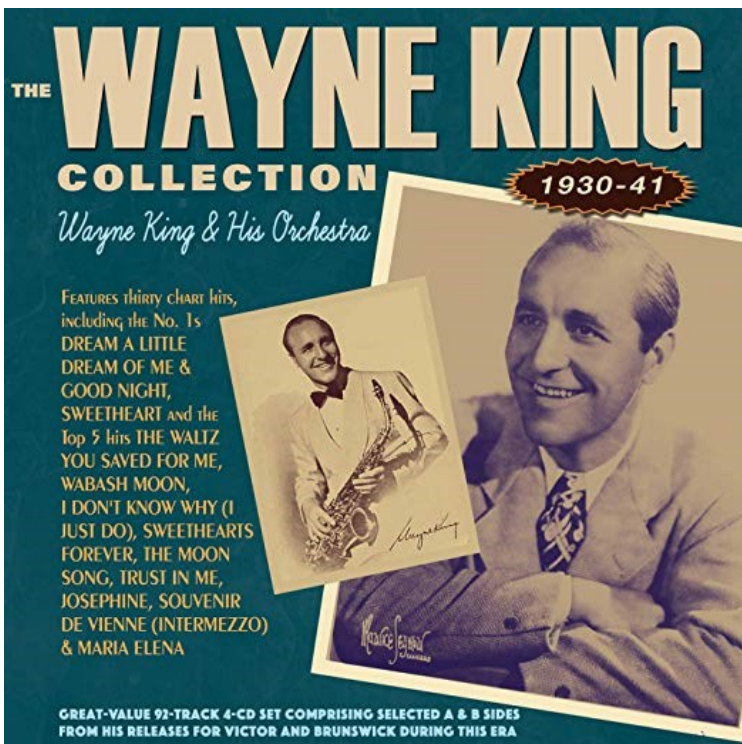


BIG BAND NEWS

by Music Librarian **CHRISTOPHER POPA**

THE BIGGEST CD SET OF HIS MUSIC

WAYNE KING



Anyone who says that big bands don't sell anymore should check with Acrobat Music in England.

Once again, they have a famous sweet band on their release schedule of compact discs and, in this case, "The Wayne King Collection," no. ACQCD7137, is no less than four CDs with 92 tracks!

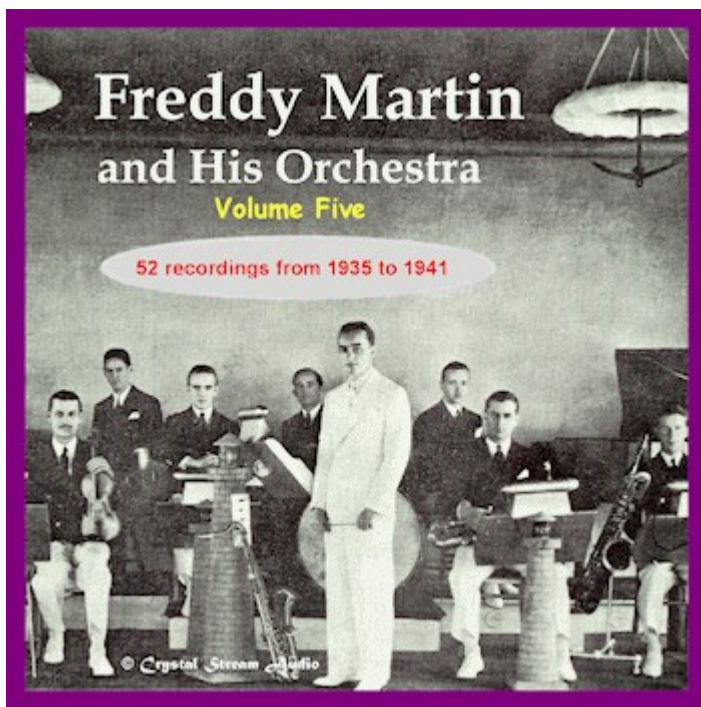
Of course, King's most familiar recordings, such as his theme song *The Waltz You Saved for Me*, *Josephine*, *Dream a Little Dream of Me*, and *Goodnight, Sweetheart* are included among the Brunswick and Victor sides.

Acrobat Music noted that these 92 selections, dating from 1930 to 1941, represent "somewhere around half of the titles he recorded which were released across that initial era of his career."

Without hesitation, I consider this the CD release of the month. Congratulations to Acrobat Music!

MORE NEW CDS

RARE RECORDINGS



FREDDY MARTIN

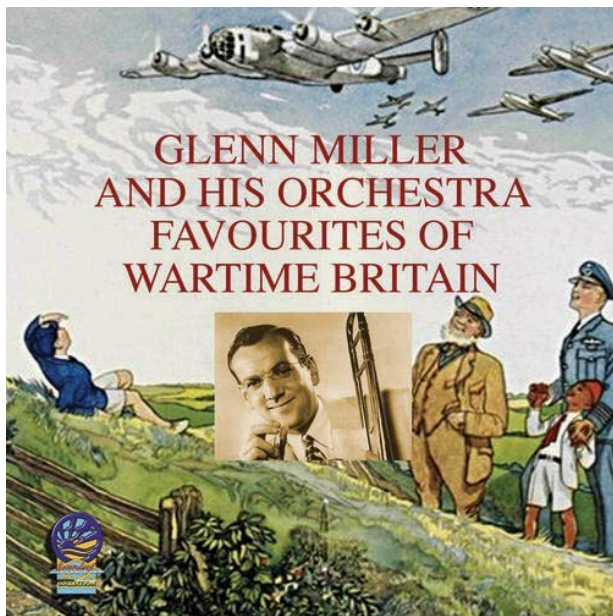
& THE MARTIN MEN

Crystal Stream in Australia has just released more rare Freddy Martin performances. This time, "Volume Five" (IDCD411~412) presents 52 recordings from 1935 to 1941.

Among the selections are *A Little Bit Independent*, *Goody-Goody*, *You Couldn't Be Cuter*, *Don't Wake Up My Heart*, *Wolverine Blues*, *Milenberg Joys*, *Only Forever*, and *You Say the Sweetest Things, Baby*.

Martin always led a good band, and his playing was admired by other saxophonists. In fact, one of the stars of the Duke Ellington band, Johnny Hodges, called him "Mr. Silvertone."

Crystal Stream has done a fine job with the sound, and the playing time of both discs is generous (78:40 and 79:35, respectively).



An interesting study of the differences in musical tastes of the United States and the United Kingdom is shown by “Favourites of Wartime Britain,” the latest Glenn Miller CD from Sounds of YesterYear, no.DSOY 2157.

While all of the selections will easily be recognized by Miller fans, it’s curious that, according to the chart listings, *Chattanooga Choo Choo* evidently failed to resonate in England and so it is not included.

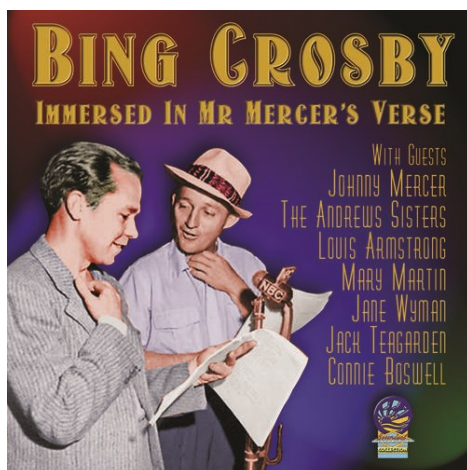
But other Miller hits like *Kalamazoo*, *A String of Pearls*, *I Know Why*, *Moonlight Serenade*, *Elmer’s Tune*, and *American Patrol* are.



The first in a series of three Stan Kenton CDs is out this month from Sounds of YesterYear. “A Kenton Trilogy Part One,” no. DSOY 2156, contains “Dance Time” music from the 1950s.

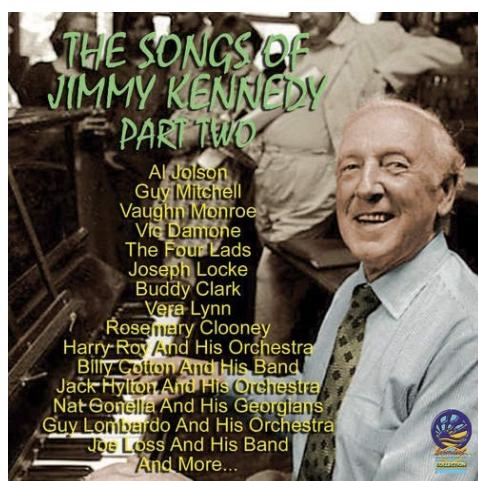
The 23 tracks include *Opus in Chartreuse*, *Under a Blanket of Blue*, *Intermission Riff*, *Lullaby of Broadway*, *Laura*, *When I Fall in Love*, and *Cha Cha Sombbrero*.

Future portions will emphasize Kenton’s jazz and concert music.



Sounds of YesterYear has a new Bing Crosby CD, “Immersed In Mr. Mercer’s Verse,” no. DSOY 2151, that focuses on the lyrics of Johnny Mercer.

Participants on the various performances which date from 1936 to 1953 include, besides Bing and Johnny Mercer himself, Spike Jones on drums (with “Victor Young and His Small Fryers”), as well as the bands of Jimmy Dorsey, Bob Crosby, Jack Teagarden, Russ Morgan, and Louis Armstrong.

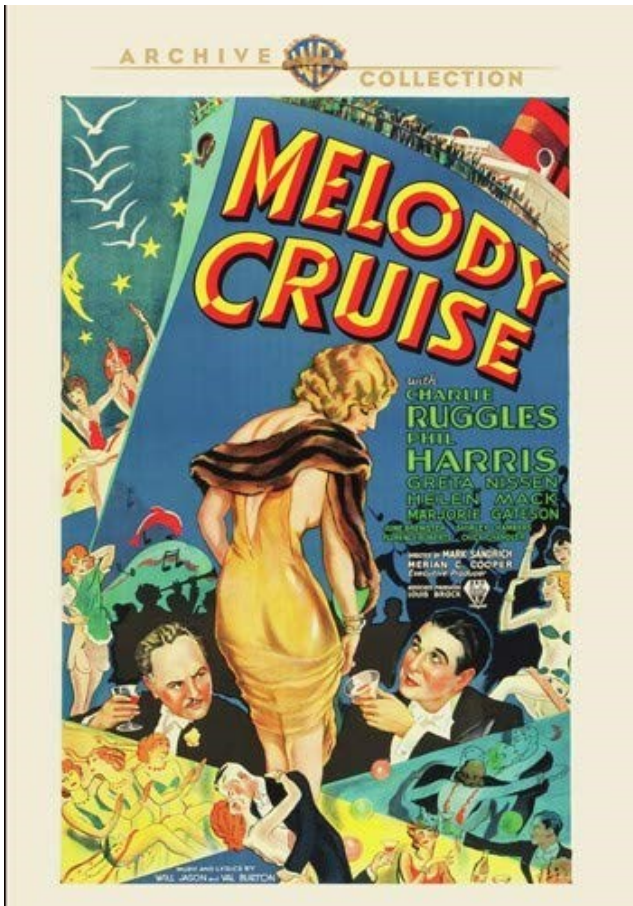


Another Sounds of YesterYear title, “The Songs of Jimmy Kennedy Part 2,” no. DSOY 2154, has a couple of bandleaders included, namely Guy Lombardo (*The Merry-Go-Round Waltz*) and Vaughn Monroe (*The Phantom Stagecoach* and *All Roads Lead to the Fiesta*).



Coleman Hawkins is featured on “The Complete 1960 Essen Jazz Festival,” from Essential Jazz Classics. This is about the fourth time it’s been released on a CD (previously by Black Lion Records, DA Music, and Jazzline).

NEW DVD



Warner Archives has “Melody Cruise,” a 1933 motion picture with Phil Harris, available as a MOD (“made-on-demand”) DVD. Meanwhile, Twilight Time has released “Pin-Up Girl,” a 1944 movie with Charlie Spivak but it was *already* available on DVD from 20th Century-Fox in 2006.

NECROLOGY



Bob Efford, 91, d. April 29, 2019. Saxophonist with Heath '58-'67; Goodman '70-'71; Anthony '88.

ITINERARIES



THE COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA **directed by Scotty Barnhart**

Aug 3-50th Anniv Concord Jazz Festival, Concord, California
Aug 8-Wolfsburg, Germany
Aug 9-Amsterdam, Netherlands
Aug 10-Petuis, France
Aug 11-13-Ronnie Scott's, London, England
Aug 14-Oslo Konserthus, Oslo, Norway
Aug 16-Strasbourg, France
Aug 20-22 and Aug 24-Birdland, New York City, New York

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (USA) **directed by Nick Hilscher**

Aug 1-Tim McLoone's Supper Club, Asbury, New Jersey
Aug 3-Harrison Opera House, Norfolk, Virginia
Aug 4-Carpenter Theatre, Richmond, Virginia
Aug 6-Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Aug 7-Illinois Central College Perf Arts Ctr, Peoria, Illinois
Aug 8-Coralville Center, Coralville, Iowa
Aug 9-Roof Garden Ballroom, Arnolds Park, Iowa
Aug 11-Hettenhausen Center for the Arts, Lebanon, Illinois
Aug 12-Lyric Theatre, Harrison, Arkansas
Aug 15, Coney Island Park, Cincinnati, Ohio
Aug 17-private, Mt. Arlington, New Jersey

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (UK) **directed by Ray McVay**

Aug 4-Pavilion Theatre, Worthing, England
Aug 24-The Great Dorset Steam Fair, Dorset, England
Aug 25-Twinwood Festival, Clapham, Bedfordshire, England

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (SWEDEN) **directed by Jan Slottenas**

Aug 10-Hagelbyparken, Tumba, Sweden

MILLER MUSIC



Karl Pearson has let me know that he will again be Steve Darnall's guest on the WDCB 90.9 FM "Those Were the Days" program, from 1 to 5 pm CST on Saturday, August 31, 2019. The theme will be "Glenn Miller On the Air."

Along with Miller's May 17, 1939 opening night broadcast from the Glen Island Casino in New Rochelle, New York, there will be two of his "Chesterfield Moonlight Serenade" CBS broadcasts (namely, February 13, 1940 and July 16, 1942); two November 23, 1940 and November 3, 1941 NBC remotes from the Café Rouge of The Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City; and a "Music for the Wehrmacht" broadcast from November 1944 by Miller and his American Band of the AEF.

BELLSON BEATS



A new video posted to YouTube acclaims Louie Bellson as "World's Best Drummer: Bellson Beats, The Heart of the Story."

It's the latest addition to the "Heart of the Story" series with award-winning journalist Gary Metvier. Bellson's widow Francine is interviewed and young Quad Cities drummer Josh Duffee offers admiring comments about Bellson.

The link is [youtube.com/watch?v=sv7Fbgt1L6s&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sv7Fbgt1L6s&t=2s).