

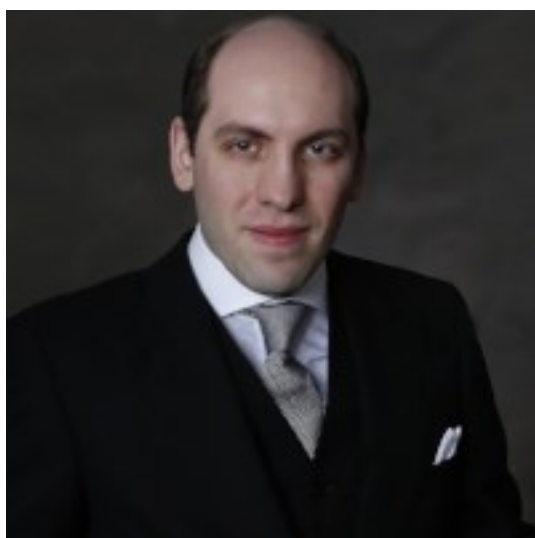
MAY 2019



# BIG BAND NEWS

by Music Librarian **CHRISTOPHER POPA**

## *IN ADMIRATION OF JOSEPH RUBIN*



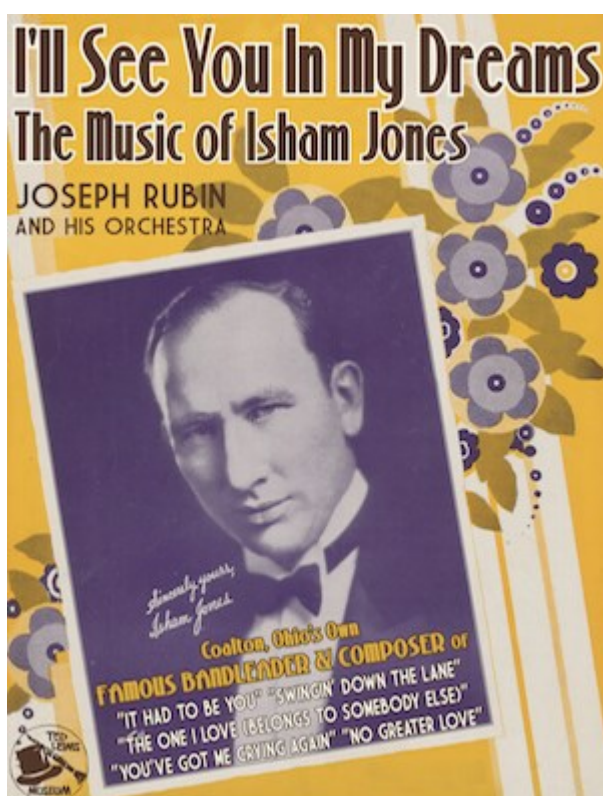
A native of Canton, Ohio, conductor and historian Joseph Rubin is an expert on American popular music and has been working very tirelessly to honor the achievements of some of the big bands from the 1930s and '40s.

He was appointed Curator of The Ted Lewis Museum in Circleville, Ohio in 2012, and proceeded to catalog all of Lewis' manuscript music arrangements, personal papers and photographs, and recordings for them, then spearheaded a renovation of the Museum for its 40th anniversary in 2017. Meanwhile, he formed a revived Ted Lewis Orchestra using those original arrangements and custom-made costumes and music stands. He performs an uncanny impersonation of Lewis on-stage!

But he hasn't stopped there.

In the next year or two, Joseph will present various concerts in honor of bandleaders Isham Jones, Hal Kemp, Freddy Martin, and Clyde McCoy. He has sought out their archival collections and laboriously copied or transcribed a sampling of each of those leaders' arrangements.

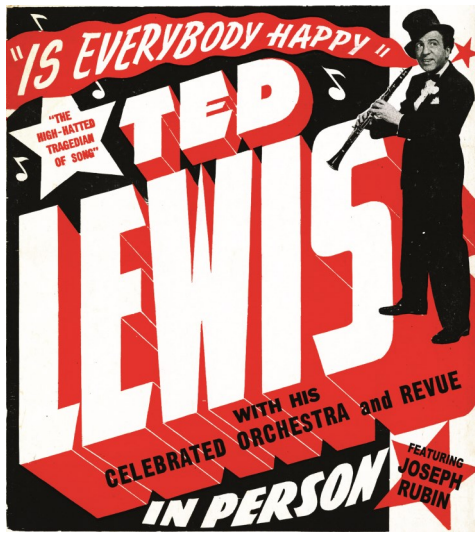
*UPCOMING CONCERTS  
CREATED BY JOSEPH RUBIN*



**June 1, 2019, Circleville High School Auditorium, Circleville, Ohio  
and June 2, 2019, Markay Theatre, Jackson, Ohio**



**June 22, 2019, Palace Theatre, Canton, Ohio**



Here is a photograph of Joseph imitating Ted Lewis:



As Joseph explained to Kevin Joy of The Columbus Dispatch newspaper, “Most people today don’t know what a *revue* is . . . We have dancers, singers and the band, all put together in one package . . . It’s non-stop, bang-bang, something happening all the time.”

When he performs with The Ted Lewis Orchestra, he follows Lewis to the very step.

“He made audiences absolutely adore him . . . They felt like he was part of their family. That’s what made him popular for so long.”

I saw Joseph and the band in concert in 2017 and thought they did an excellent job!

I am happy to note that Joseph has been honored with several awards for his contribution to the arts, including a Proclamation from the State of Ohio for Outstanding Achievement.

I can’t praise him enough for his good work and his musical abilities, and wish him continued success!

# BIG BAND ITINERARIES

## GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (USA)

DIRECTED BY NICK HILSCHER

May 2, 2019, The Red Apple Inn, Heber Springs, AR  
May 4, 2019, Falany Performing Arts Center, Waleska, GA  
May 5, 2019, Spivey Hall, Morrow, GA  
May 6, 2019, Jabez Sanford Hardin Perf Arts Center, Evans, GA  
May 7, 2019, Oxford Performing Arts Center, Oxford, AL  
May 11, 2019, North Andover High School, North Andover, MA  
May 12, 2019, Greenwich Odeum, East Greenwich, RI  
May 17, 2019, Mayo Performing Arts Center, Morristown, NJ  
May 18, 2019, Sellersville Theatre, Sellersville, PA  
May 21, 2019, Overdrive Entertainment, Celina, OH  
May 22, 2019, Hoogland Center for the Arts, Springfield, IL  
May 23, 2019, The Howard, Oshkosh, WI  
May 24, 2019, Marcus Center, Milwaukee, WI  
May 26, 2019, Fisher Music Center, Detroit, MI  
May 28, 2019, Davis Brothers Pharmacy Pavilion, Chester, WV  
May 29, 2019, Victoria Theatre, Dayton, OH  
May 30, 2019, Devos Performance Hall, Grand Rapids, MI

## GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (SWEDEN)

DIRECTED BY JAN SLOTTENAS

May 4, 2019, Culture House, Bolinas, Sweden  
May 19, 2019, Brygga Kultursal, Halden, Norway  
May 20, 2019, Concert Hall, Oslo, Norway  
May 21, 2019, Oseberg Kulturhus, Tonsberg, Norway  
May 22, 2019, Concert Hall, Orebro, Sweden  
May 25, 2019, Concert Hall, Vasteras, Sweden  
May 26, 2019, Berwald Hall, Stockholm, Sweden

## BUDDY RICH BAND

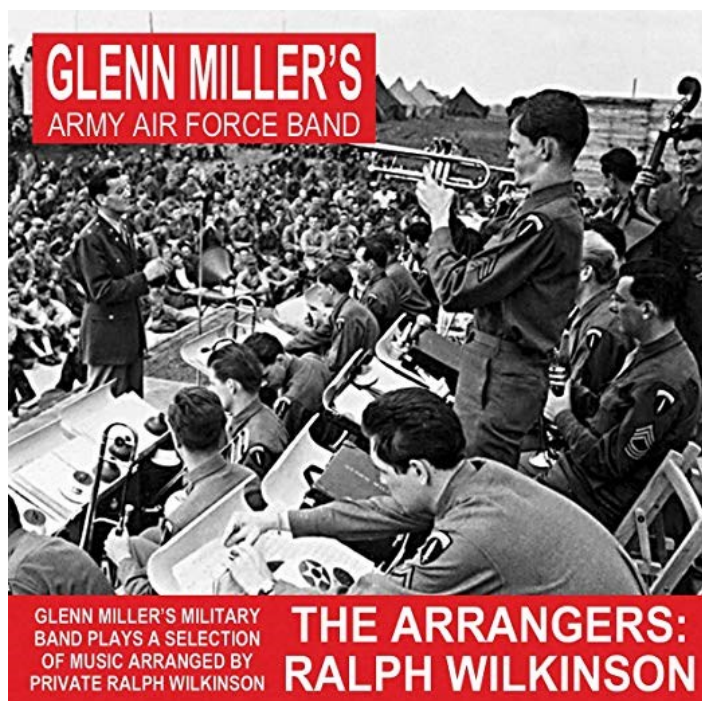
FEATURING ICATHY RICH AND GREGG POTTER  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST IAN PAICE

May 20-25, 2019, Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, London, England





# BIG BAND COMPACT DISC OF THE MONTH



Sounds of YesterYear has now released the third in a three-part series of CDs focused on some of the major arrangers with the Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. This final portion, catalog no. SOY 2158, contains arrangements made for Miller by Ralph Wilkinson (1912-1990).

Among the songs is *Speak Low*, which, in my opinion, is one of the very best ballad charts that the AAF band performed, as well as *Stormy Weather*, *Pistol-Packin' Mama*, and *People Will Say We're in Love*.

Just like the first two volumes, liner notes are by Glenn Miller expert Tony Eaton. As he recently pointed out, in Britain they will always think of the group as "Glenn Miller's American Band of the AEF."

This one deserves a place on your shelf next to the other two parts, which contained arrangements by Jerry Gray (1915-1976) and Norman Leyden (1917-2014). With these three volumes and the 4-CD "Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band" set (Bluebird 63852-2) released in 2001, you will have a very enjoyable and comprehensive representation of Miller during World War II.

## SNEAK PEEK

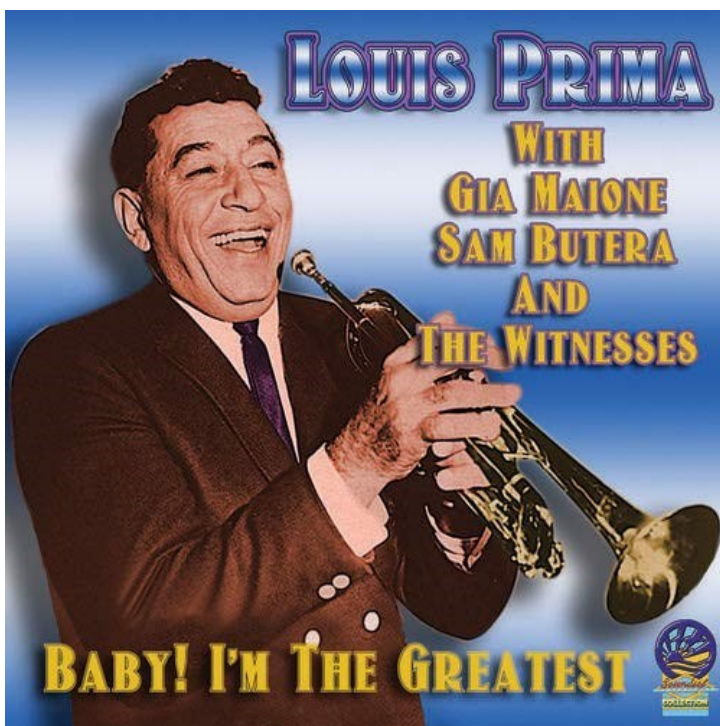
In July's "Big Band News," details of a new must-have CD with many giants of jazz, including Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Louis Armstrong, Lionel Hampton, and Charlie Barnet.



# MORE NEW BIG BAND COMPACT DISCS



Here's a band that doesn't get much attention nowadays, so this Acrobat 2-CD set, "The Horace Heidt Hits Collection: 1937-45" (number ADDCD 3300), with 50 songs, sort of makes up for it. In fact, Acrobat has done a bunch of sweet bands recently, including Russ Morgan, Sammy Kaye, and Kay Kyser. (What's keeping Freddy Martin?) Anyway, the Heidt offering is nearly all vocals, by people like Larry Cotton, Donna and Her Don Juans, and Charles Goodman, including his biggest hits such as *The Hut Sut Song* and *I Don't Want to Set the World On Fire*.



Even after he and Keely Smith divorced, Louis Prima's popularity continued as he managed to "re-invent" himself, like with "The Jungle Book" film project. "Baby! I'm The Greatest," from *Sounds of YesterYear* (number SOY 2142 ) features him in the mid-1960s with his new wife and singer, Gia Maione, and Sam Butera and The Witnesses on four shows transcribed for the radio series "The Navy Swings." The sound quality is very good.

# NECROLOGY



**STANLEY APPLEBAUM, arranger, 96, d.Feb. 23, 2019.**  
Composed *Blues with a Kick* with Hackett '59 (Capitol),  
arranged *Banjo Boy* for Mooney '60 (MGM), *Lili Marleen /  
Schwalbenwinkel* for Marterie '62 (United Artists), arranged  
and conducted "Big Band Beatlemania" LP for Morrow '64  
(Epic), arranged *Blue Velvet / Elmer's Tune / More* for Miller  
Orch-McKinley '65 (Epic).

