

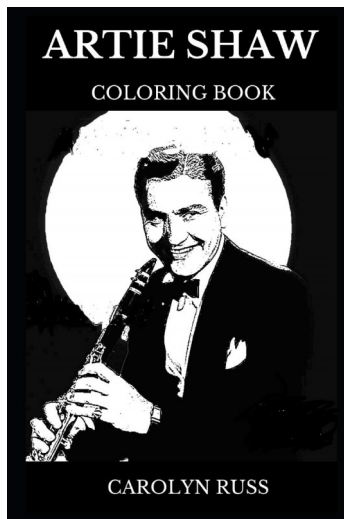
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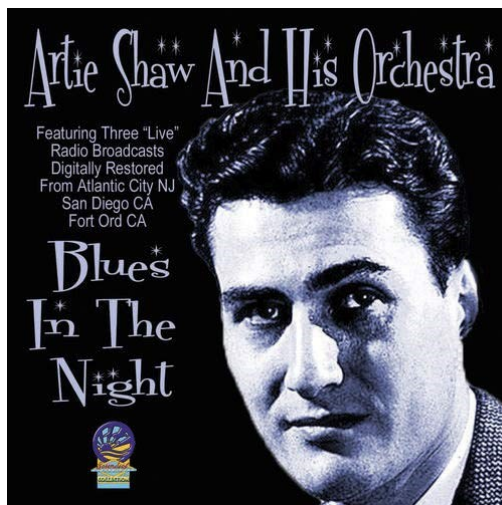
BIG BAND NEWS

by Music Librarian **CHRISTOPHER POPA**

TWO NEW WAYS TO ENJOY THE ARTISTRY OF ARTIE SHAW



Adults have re-discovered coloring books as a fun, stress-free activity. But this has to be a first: an Artie Shaw coloring book! The cover drawing is from one of the publicity stills made for Shaw's appearance in the 1940 motion picture "Second Chorus." The book has about 30 images of Shaw to color. I bought one, but I wouldn't recommend it.



Of course, the more conventional way to enjoy Shaw is with his music, and some examples once played over the radio are gathered on "Blues In The Night," Sounds of YesterYear (E) DSOY 2161. Most of this has been issued before (and in better sound) but some collectors may not have the broadcast from the Steel Pier in Atlantic City, New Jersey on September 6, 1941 which included *Frenesi*, *Dancing in the Dark*, *Time Was*, *There'll Be Some Changes Made*, *Blues in the Night*, and *Little Gate's Special*. Is this arty? You bet!

MORE SHAW CONNECTIONS



One of the musicians in Artie Shaw's 1940 band was pianist Johnny Guarnieri, who is the subject of a new bio-discography, Superstride, by Derek Collier (New Orleans, LA: Jazzology Books, 2019). Collier traces Guarnieri's roots back to the famous Guarnierius family of violin makers. And fellow pianist Dick Hyman describes Guarnieri's style and its place in the history of jazz.

Perhaps Shaw's most famous band vocalist was Helen Forrest, who, despite her excellence and fame, after her death in 1999 suffered the indignity of not having a gravestone at her burial site in Mount Sinai Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, California.



Vintage music aficionado Don Romano recently conducted a successful GoFundMe campaign and purchased her a proper marker, which was placed at Forrest's grave in time for the 20th anniversary of her passing.



As Don reported, "None of this would have been possible without your donations, shares, and support. The sentiment on Helen's marker was not only a #1 hit for her and Artie Shaw's band in 1939 (written by Harry Revel and Mack Gordon) but also reflects our gratitude for Helen's work."

NEW COMPACT DISCS



Sounds of YesterYear (E) DSOY2160 is a combination of music from “Strings with Wings” performances as played by Glenn Miller, the postwar Miller Orchestra directed by Tex Beneke, as well as George Melanchrino. As it was observed in advance publicity, “It is unusual to have a complete CD featuring the string sections of these three Miller inspired orchestras and it is sure to be popular with all Glenn Miller collectors.” The Miller performances are from a BBC broadcast from November 24, 1944, while the Benekes are taken from various “On the Beam” airchecks from 1948.



The ‘30s Harlem jazz band of pianist Claude Hopkins is heard on “Just You Just Me,” Sounds of YesterYear (E) DSOY2158. The tunes include *My Kinda Love*, *June Night*, *Sunday*, *Hodge Podge*, *Truckin’*, and *The Preacher and the Bear*. Be advised that this material has already been out in the superior titles “Claude Hopkins: Monkey Business” (Hep CD 1031) and “Claude Hopkins: The Transcription Performances 1935” (Hep CD 1049).



Retrospective offers “The Songs of Jimmy McHugh: I Feel A Song Comin On,” no. RTS4354, a 2-CD set which contains 52 of his compositions by Duke Ellington (*Harlem River Quiver*), Teddy Wilson (*I Must Have That Man*), Ben Pollack (*Futuristic Rhythm*), Joe Venuti (*Hey, Young Fella*), Benny Goodman (*Livin’ in a Great Big Way*), Fats Waller (*I’ve Got My Fingers Crossed*), Hal Kemp (*With All My Heart*), Glenn Miller (*Say It*), Kay Kyser (*Can’t Get Out of This Mood*), Vaughn Monroe (*Let’s Get Lost*), and other performers who aren’t big bands.

ITINERARIES

THE COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA

directed by **Scotty Barnhart**

Sep 15-Morioka Fall Festival, Iwate, Japan

Sep 16 through 19-Blue Note Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

Sep 20-Blue Note, Nagoya, Japan

Sep 20-Hoshigaoka Premium Jazz Live, Nagoya, Japan

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (USA)

directed by **Nick Hilscher**

Sep 7-The Rose, Pasadena, California

Sep 8-The Coach House, San Juan Capistrano, California

Sep 10-Turlock Community Theatre, Turlock, California

Sep 13-Robert Z. Hawkins Amphitheater, Reno, Nevada

Sep 14-Bankhead Theater, Livermore, California

Sep 15-Harris Center, Folsom, California [two shows]

Sep 18-Numerica Perf Arts Ctr, Wenatchee, Washington

Sep 19-Richland High School, Richland, Washington

Sep 20-Warhawk Air Museum, Nampa, Idaho

Sep 21-Blackfoot Performing Arts Center, Blackfoot, Idaho

Sep 22-Butte Ctr for the Perf Arts, Butte, Montana

Sep 25-Calrkson Community Opera House, Clarkson, Nebraska

Sep 26-Johnson Fine Arts Ctr, Aberdeen, South Dakota

Sep 28-Stiefel Theatre, Salina, Kansas

Sep 29-Colby High School Auditorium, Colby, Kansas

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (UK)

directed by **Ray McVay**

Sep 8-New Victoria Theatre, Woking, England

Sep 15-Town Hall, Loughborough, England

Sep 29-De Montfort Hall, Leicester, England

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (SWEDEN)

directed by **Jan Slottenas**

Sep 28-Concert Hall, Helsingborg, Sweden

Sep 29-private, Copenhagen, Denmark

NECROLOGY



Arno Marsh, 91, d.Jul 12, 2019. Tenor saxophonist for Herman '52-'53 / '58, Beneke '62, James '66.