SONGS OF OUR TIMES

Song Hits of

1940

I DREAM OF JEANIE WITH THE LIGHT BROWN HAIR • ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE • ON THE ISLE OF MAY
INDIAN SUMMER • EMBRACEABLE YOU • THE DONKEY SERENADE • MAKE-BELIEVE ISLAND • WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR
SIERRA SUE • I'LL NEVER SMILE AGAIN • TRADE WINDS • I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS
SIX LESSONS FROM MADAME LA ZONGA • I'M NOBODY'S BABY • TUXEDO JUNCTION • PERFIDIA • SAY "SI SI"
WITH THE WIND AND THE RAIN IN YOUR HAIR • THE BREEZE AND I • ONLY FOREVER • BLUEBERRY HILL
FERRY-BOAT SERENADE • WHEN THE SWALLows COME BACK TO CAPISTRANO • THE WOODPECKER SONG

CHARLES BAUM and His Orchestra

DECCA RECORDS

Album No. A-1940
(1) FERRY-BOAT SERENADE  (2) WHEN THE SWallows COME BACK TO CAPISTRANO
(3) THE WOODPECKER SONG
[(1) E. Di Lazzaro-H. Adamson]
[(2) Leon Rene]
[(3) E. Di Lazzaro-H. Adamson-C. Bruno]
CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra
24092 A
DECCA PERSONALITY SERIES

MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK, U.S.A.

(71028) 1940
Album No. A-
8 Sides — 2

Fox Trot Medley
With Vocal Chorus

(1) ONLY FOREVER  (2) BLUEBERRY HILL
(3) WITH THE WIND AND THE RAIN
IN YOUR HAIR

(1) J. V. Monaco-J. Burke
(2) A. Lewis-L. Stock-V. Rose
(3) J. Lawrence-C. Edwards

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra

24092 B
Charles Baum
And His Orchestra

(1) Perfidia
(2) Say "Si Si"
(3) The Breeze and I

Alberto Dominguez-Milton Leeds
Ernesto Lecuona-Al Stillman-Francia Luban
Ernesto Lecuona-Al Stillman
DECCA
PERSONALITY SERIES
MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK, U.S.A.

(71030) 1940 Fox Trot Medley
Album No. A- With Vocal Chorus
8 Sides — 4

(1) SIX LESSONS FROM MADAME LA ZONGA
(2) I'M NOBODY'S BABY
(3) TUXEDO JUNCTION
[(1) J. V. Monaco-C. Newman]
[(2) B. Davis-M. Ager-L. Santly]
[(3) E. Hawkins-W. Johnson-J. Dash-B. Feyne]

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra
24093 B
DECCA
PERSONALITY SERIES
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK, U.S.A.

1940
(8 sides 5)

Fox Trot Medley
with Vocal Chorus

(1) I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS
(2) I'LL NEVER SMILE AGAIN
(3) TRADE WINDS

(1) Richard Rodgers-Lorenz Hart  (2) Ruth Lowe
(3) Cliff Friend-Charlie Tobias

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra

24094 A
DECCA
PERSONALITY SERIES

MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK, USA

Fox Trot Medley with Vocal Chorus

(1) MAKE BELIEVE ISLAND
(2) WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR
(3) SIERRA SUE

(1) W. Grosz - N. Kenny - C. Kenny - S. Costow
(2) L. Harline - N. Washington
(3) Joseph B. Carey

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra

24094 B
DECCA
PERSONALITY SERIES

MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK U.S.A.

Album No. A-71026
8 Sides — 7

1940
Fox Trot Medley
With Vocal Chorus

(1) INDIAN SUMMER (2) EMBRACEABLE YOU
(3) THE DONKEY SERENADE

[(1) Victor Herbert]
[(2) G. Gershwin-I. Gershwin]
[(3) R. Friml-H. Stothart-B. Wright-C. Forrest]

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra

24095 A
DECCA PERSONALITY SERIES
MANUFACTURED BY DECCA RECORDS, INC., NEW YORK, U.S.A.

(71029) 1940
Album No. A 8 Sides — 8
— Fox Trot Medley With Vocal Chorus

(1) I DREAM OF JEANIE WITH THE LIGHT BROWN HAIR (2) ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE
(3) ON THE ISLE OF MAY
[(1) Stephen C. Foster]
[(2) J. Kern-O. Hammerstein II]
[(3) P. Tchaikovsky-A. Kostelanetz-M. David]

CHARLES BAUM
And His Orchestra
24095 B
The past seems lovely and admirable from the viewpoint of a stormy present. This is particularly true of the songs of a bygone day. There is healing as well as comfort in the memory of a half-forgotten tune.

Through SONGS OF OUR TIMES we recapture our moods of yester-year. These songs help us to remember the year we fell in love—the time of romance—the tune to which we first danced together—the year we were married—the year our child was born—the year we went to war—or some other notable event which proved to be a milestone in our lives.

Certain years hold particular significance for each of us. These years have something which lingers in the mind and quickens the heart. Such a time, with its blend of reminiscence and popular tunes, is a vital part of your experience. Whatever the year, sit back, relax, listen—and let the world pass by in review "before your ears."

This was the enemy's year. A vast threat from abroad disturbed American complacency and challenged the very existence of democratic ideas. The star of Germany was definitely in the ascendant. The swastika flew triumphantly over Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, Luxembourg, Belgium, and France. The cherished motto of freedom, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," turned in the hands of a Norwegian trader, Vidkun Quisling. thereby adding a new synonym for treachery ("quisling") to the English language.

Rumania fell into the Nazi orbit. King Carol abdicated, and fled to Switzerland with his mistress, the famous red-haired Magda Lupescu. On September 25 the Germans occupied Rumania and invaded the country. King Carol was told that further resistance was futile. A puppet government was set up at Nanking under Wang Wei and, a few months later, Japan and Thailand (Siam) signed a five year treaty in which Japan pledged itself not to assist any power attacking Thailand.

In March the Russians crushed the Finnish chief defense, the Mannerheim line, and took Viipuri. The Russo-Finnish War ended on March 12th with the signing of the peace treaty. Less than a month later the Germans occupied Denmark and invaded Norway. The German High Command announced that henceforth Germany would rule Norway with "unrestricted control."

Early in May Germany repeated its pattern of Blitzkrieg, the sudden blow of conquest. The Nazis stormed the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg by air and invaded by land. England was rocked by the bad news. The Chamberlain government resigned and Winsom Churchill formed a new coalition cabinet with labor leaders holding important offices. In a historic address Churchill told Britain that war meant "blood, sweat, and tears," and that Englishmen were prepared to fight on every beach-head and in every street. The Allies rushed aid to the Low Countries, but the German motorized forces were too swift; they cut the Netherlands in two and, on May 15, Holland surrendered.

Worse was to follow. On May 27 King Leopold of Belgium ordered the Belgian army to lay down its arms. The Belgian cabinet disowned the king and called upon its soldiers to continue to fight. But persistence was useless; its own army was demobilized and the army from Great Britain was trapped. Toward the end of May there began the famous British evacuation of Dunkirk. By June three-quarters of the British army had been rescued from the Dunkirk beaches, but all the tanks and material were lost.

On June 10 Italy, hitherto neutral, declared war on France. President Roosevelt characterized it as a "stab in the back." On June 13 the Germans marched into Paris. Three days later Marshal Petain became Premier of France and asked Germany for peace terms. On the 21st the French received the German armistice terms at Compiègne, in the same railroad car in which the Germans had acknowledged defeat.

On July 29 Germany launched mass air raid attacks against Great Britain; the Luftwaffe continued to launch all-out bombardments on undefended English towns. On September 3 President Roosevelt announced that fifty destroyers (most of them over-age) would be given to England in exchange for naval and air bases in Newfoundland, Bermuda, British Guiana, and the British West Indies.

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never aid fallen democracies. Italy invaded Greece, and Hungary joined the Axis. The Luftwaffe bombed Coventry, leaving 1,000 dead, and ruining the historic cathedral city.

Neville Chamberlain, who had been Prime Minister at the start of the war, died November 10. Other deaths of celebrities during the year included Senator William Borah, John Buchan (Lord Tweedsmuir), Walter F. Chrysler, Samuel Untermeyer, Speaker William B. Bankhead, Tom Mix, and Leon Trotsky, exiled Russian ex-war minister, who was beaten to death on the outskirts of Mexico City by a political agent.

America had its own internal problems. A ring of commercialized killers, known as “Murder, Inc.” was uncovered in Brooklyn. In Atlanta, Georgia, a bottle of beer, an encyclopedia, and a movie magazine were chosen, along with many other objects, to typify life as it was lived in current America. All the objects were deposited in a “Crypt of Civilization” at Oglethorpe University, and the sealed was not to be broken until the year 8113. A new style newspaper was launched in New York by Marshall Field. It contained no advertisements, featured liberal editorials, and called itself "P.M." because it appeared in the afternoon. Within a short time it came out with all the other morning newspapers, but it still adhered to its original name. Another newspaper publisher, M. L. Annenberg, got three years for a tax evasion amounting to $1,200,000.

The political scene was confused. On June 27 the popular Wendell Willkie was nominated for President by the Republicans at Philadelphia. On July 17 the Democrats countered with a shattering precedent; they nominated F. D. Roosevelt for a third successive term as President. His running mate was Henry Wallace. On November 6 America got its first third-term President when Roosevelt was re-elected, winning 38 states to Willkie’s 10.

The war kept on creeping closer. The United States got its first peace-time draft and President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing a two-ocean Navy to cost four billion dollars. The President ended the year by announcing lend-lease and called for full war aid to Britain. By this time the United States was recognized as the “Arsenal of Democracy.”

The former King of England, now the Duke of Windsor, was in the news when he was appointed by the British government to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bahamas Islands. Another notable, Albert Einstein, and his daughter, Margot, took the oath of allegiance to the United States and became American citizens.

The New York World’s Fair closed its doors on October 27. More than 45 million people had paid to get in. The Cincinnati Reds (National League) defeated the Detroit Tigers (American League) in a hard-fought contest. They won the World Series 4 games to 3.

In the musical world the Metropolitan Opera opened a public subscription campaign to purchase its opera house. Stephen Collins Foster, “our unlettered Schubert,” was the first American composer to be chosen for New York University’s Hall of Fame.

The year’s motion pictures were many and varied.

They ranged from the searching and poetic Abraham Lincoln in Illinois, starring Raymond Massey, to the tongue-in-cheek Road to Singapore and its almost- eternal triangle, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, and Dorothy Lamour; from the starkly realistic Grapes of Wrath to the skylarking Strike Up the Band with Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney. Other outstanding motion pictures of the year were Too Many Husbands with the impassioned Jean Arthur; The Philadelphia Story, a comedy of manners brilliantly acted by Katherine Hepburn, James Stewart, and Cary Grant; The Long Voyage Home, a grim but sympathetic reworking of Eugene O’Neill’s sea plays; Waterloo Bridge with Vivien Leigh and Robert Taylor; No Time For Comedy with James Stewart and Rosalind Russell; They Knew What They Wanted with Charles Laughton and Carol Lombard; and Charlie Chaplin’s much-discussed The Great Dictator, which was a Chaplinesque farce with serious implications.

The season in the Broadway theater was chiefly distinguished by a series of successful comedies. It opened with The Male Animal by James Thurber and Elliott Nugent, a gay extravagana of college life which managed to be both a fantasy and a satire. Elmer Rice’s Two On An Island was a more romantic comedy which starred the author’s wife, Betty Field, and ran to 96 performances. My Dear Children was a thinly disguised biographical portrait of John Barrymore, who died the leading role. The most successful of the plays was Robert Sherwood’s There Shall Be No Night was one of the most surprising events of the season. It dealt with the Russian invasion of Finland and starred Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne in undeniatively serious roles. Louisiana Purchase was the most popular of the summer shows; with music and lyrics by Irving Berlin, it had an all-star cast, including Victor Moore, William Gaxton, Vera Zorina, Carol Bruce, and Irene Bordoni. Rodgers and Hart added another link to their chain of successes with Higher and Higher. Kind Lady, dramatized by Edward Chodorov from Hugh Walpole’s The Silver Mask, was revived by Grace George, who had been playing it in summer theaters ever since 1934. Hold On To Your Hats was a knockabout musical show which included Martha Raye, Joyce Matthews, "Jinx" Falkenburg, Gil Lamb, Jack Whiting, and particularly — Al Jolson.

Sonja Henie put on a big ice show at the Center Theater on a stage which had been rebuilt for the purpose; it was called It Happened on Ice and totalled 276 performances. October brought four sure-fire successes. The first was a revival of the old farce, Charley’s Aunt, originated in London in 1892. This version featured Jose Ferrer in skirts and ran through the season, proving that 48 years is nothing in the life of a good farce. George S. Kaufman, America’s premier collaborator, joined Moss Hart to write George Washington Slept Here. This comedy of country life anticipated the burlesque novel Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House, which also recorded the saga of the man who buys a place in the country. Can’t Buy Me, the story of Ethel Waters, Rex Ingram, Dooley Wilson, and Katherine Dunham. The big month ended with Panama Hattie, in which Ethel Merman was even more riotous than usual. In November the Theatre Guild revived Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night with Helen Hayes and Maurice Evans. Late November brought one of the most important plays of the year, a London success, The Corn Is Green. It was a psychological drama which proved to be a perfect vehicle for Ethel Barrymore.

The year closed with several spectacular successes. John Van Druten’s Old Acquaintance paired Jane Cowl and Peggy Wood. Pal Joey was a tough musical comedy by John O’Hara with lyrics by Lorenz Hart and music by Richard Rodgers. It presented Vivienne Segal, Leila Lace, June Hayos, and a new dancing and singing star, Gene Kelly. My Sister Eileen, based on the book by Ruth McKenney, ran to 200 performances. Flight to the West, an anti-Nazi drama by Elmer Rice, wound up the year.

The book world boomed. Among the best sellers were Jan Struther’s quiet celebration of English life, Mrs. Miniver; Richard Llewellyn’s How Green Was My Valley; Thomas Wolfe’s rhapsodic You Can’t Go Home Again; Margery Sharp’s witty The Stone of Chastity; F. Van Wyck Mason’s adventure-filled Stars on the Sea; and Ernest Hemingway’s passionate For Whom the Bell Tolls, which challenged complacency and made readers re-read their John Dos Passos.

The Pulitzer Prize for the novel was awarded to John Steinbeck for the cycle of the “Okies.” The Grapes of Wrath. The award for history went to Carl Sandburg’s Abraham Lincoln: The War Years; for biography to Ray Stannard Baker’s Woodrow Wilson: Life and Letters; for verse to Mark Van Doren’s Collected Poems; and for drama to William Saroyan’s The Time of Your Life, which was made into a motion picture in 1948. Saroyan refused to accept the prize on the grounds that he disapproved of patronage of the arts. The $1000 awarded to him reverted to the Prize Fund.

Whispered sentiment ruled the musical idiom. Among the songs most oft-sung — and most softly — sung were “The Boll Weevil,” and “Say ‘Si Si’” (imported from Spain) by Ernesto Lecouna. “Only Forever,” “With the Wind and the Rain in Your Hair,” “When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano” and “When You Wish Upon a Star.” Similar in mood were Richard Rodgers’ “I Didn’t Know What Time It Was” and Ruth Lowe’s “I’ll Never Smile Again.” Other outstanding hits were “Ferry-Boat Serenade,” “Blueberry Hill,” “Perfidia,” “Six Lessons from Madame La Zonga,” “I’m Nobody’s Baby,” “Tuxedo Junction,” “Trade Winds,” “Make-Believe Island,” “Sierra Sue,” “And the Automobile,” “Embraceable You,” “On a Sunny Day,” “My One and Only.” “Dream of Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair,” “All the Things You Are,” “On the Isle of May” and “The Woodpecker Song.” a novelty which was echoed countless voices and tapped out by countless feet.

Notes collated and edited by Louis Untermeyer