



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Jazz and Big Band Collection

NMAH.AC.1388

Archives Center Staff

2021

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Jazz and Big Band Collection
Date:	1930-1975
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1388
Creator:	Mooney, Art (Creator) Morrow, Buddy (Creator) Stacy, Jess, 1904-1995 (Creator) Timbrell, Tiny, 1917-1992 (Creator) Wilson, Teddy, 1912-1986 (Creator) Glen Gray Band (Creator) Gabler, Milt (Creator) Fields, Shep (Creator) Dick Jurgens (Creator) James, Harry (Creator) Horace Heidt (Creator) Lombardo, Guy, 1902-1977 (Creator) Kay Kyser (Creator) Duchin, Eddy, 1909-1951 (Creator) Goodman, Benny (Benjamin David), 1909-1986 (Creator) McIntyre, Hal, -1959 (Creator) Krupa, Gene, 1909-1973 (Creator) Barron, Blue, 1912-2005 (Creator) Elman, Ziggy (Creator) Cohasco, Inc. Cugat, Xavier, 1900-1990 (Creator)
Extent:	1.5 Cubic feet (3 boxes, 1 map folder)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Jazz and Big Band Collection

Administrative Information

Ownership and Custodial History

Purchased at auction by the Archives Center from Cohasco, Inc. in 2016.

Preferred Citation

Jazz and Big Band Collection, 1927-1966, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists of 235 pieces of music ephemera assembled by an anonymous California musicologist over several decades. The contents include such things as concert ticket stubs; show programs; handbills; publicity stills; record store posters; nightclub souvenirs; autographs; contracts, lobby cards; movie stills; postcards; fan and record industry magazines; sheet music; an oversize RKO theatre owners' advertising book for the 1942 sensation "Syncopation," starring Charlie Barnet, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Gene Krupa, et al; and miscellany such as matchbook covers and novelty promotional pieces. There are just a few letters in the collection. The collection contains materials representing both bands and band members, and individual artists. In many cases, there are only one or a few relevant items. Persons and acts represented include: Ray Anthony, Louis Armstrong, Charlie Barnet, Tex Beneke, Les Brown, Dave Brubeck, Cab Calloway, June Christy, Nat King Cole, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Erroll Garner, Stan Getz, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Glen Gray, Fletcher Henderson, Woody Herman, Harry James, Louis Jordan, Sammy Kaye, Stan Kenton, Gene Krupa, Kay Kyser, Frankie Laine, Peggy Lee, Guy Lombardo, Vincent Lopez, Jimmy Lunceford, Gordon MacRae, Freddy Martin, Billy May, Johnny Mercer, Glenn Miller, Vaughn Monroe, Gerry Mulligan, Red Norvo, Patti Page, Buddy Rich, Artie Shaw, Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Charlie Spivak, Rudy Vallee, Sarah Vaughan, Fred Waring, Chick Webb, Ted Weems, Lawrence Welk, Paul Whiteman, Margaret Whiting, and Benny Goodman. In other cases, the collection contains an item or items (such as menus) that have been autographed. The collection contains autographs or autographed items for the following: Gene Krupa, Jess Stacy, Teddy Wilson, Blue Barron, Eddie Duchin, Shep Fields, Ziggy Elman, Glen Gray Band, Milt Gabler, Horace Heidt, Dick Jurgens, Kay Kyser, Guy Lombardo, Xavier Cugat, Hal McIntyre, Art Mooney, Buddy Morrow, Harry James and "Tiny" Timbrell.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into six series.

Series 1: Magazines, 1939-1950

Series 2: Programs, 1930-1975

Series 3: Publications, 1949-1965

Series 4: Sheet Music, 1935-1943

Series 5: Advertisements, 1932-1954

Series 6: Ephemera, 1938-1953

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Big band music
- Jazz
- Jazz musicians -- United States
- Music -- 20th century
- Musicians
- Popular music

Types of Materials:

- Contracts
- Handbills
- Magazines (periodicals)
- Matchcovers
- Menus
- Motion picture stills
- Postcards
- Posters
- Programs -- Concerts
- Publicity photographs
- Sheet music
- Signatures (names)
- Tickets

Names:

- Anthony, Ray, 1922-
- Armstrong, Louis, 1901-1971
- Barnet, Charlie, 1913-1991
- Beneke, Tex
- Brown, Les, 1912-2001
- Brubeck, Dave
- Calloway, Cab, 1907-
- Christy, June, 1925-
- Cole, Nat King, 1917-1965
- Dorsey, Tommy, 1905-1956
- Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974
- Fitzgerald, Ella, 1917-1996
- Frankie Laine
- Garner, Erroll
- Getz, Stan, 1927-1991
- Gillespie, Dizzy, 1917-1993
- Gray, Glen, 1906-1963
- Henderson, Fletcher, 1897-1952
- Herman, Woody, 1913-1987
- Jordan, Louis, 1908-1975
- Kaye, Sammy, 1910-1987
- Kenton, Stan
- Lee, Peggy
- Lopez, Vincent, 1894-1975

Lunceford, Jimmie
MacRae, Gordon
Martin, Freddy, 1906-1983
May, Billy
Mercer, Johnny, 1909-1976
Miller, Glenn
Monroe, Vaughn, 1911-1973
Mulligan, Gerry
Norvo, Red, 1908-1999
Page, Patti
Ray McKinley
Rich, Buddy
Shaw, Artie, 1910-2004
Shore, Dinah, 1917-1994
Sinatra, Frank, 1915-1998
Spivak, Charlie
Vallée, Rudy, 1901-1986
Vaughan, Sarah, 1924-1990
Waring, Fred, 1900-1984
Webb, Chick, 1909-1939
Weems, Ted
Welk, Lawrence, 1903-1992
Whiteman, Paul, 1890-1967
Whiting, Margaret

Container Listing

Series 1: Magazines, 1939-1950

Box 1, Folder 1	All- American Band Leaders Magazine, 1942-04
Box 1, Folder 2	All- American Band Leaders Magazine, 1942-10
Box 1, Folder 3	All- American Band Leaders Magazine, 1943-05
Box 1, Folder 4	Band Leaders Magazine, 1944-01
Box 1, Folder 5	Band Leaders Magazine, 1944-03
Box 1, Folder 6	Band Leaders Magazine, 1944-07
Box 1, Folder 7	Band Leaders Magazine, 1944-09
Box 1, Folder 8	Band Leaders Magazine, 1945-03
Box 1, Folder 9	Band Leaders Magazine, 1945-09
Box 1, Folder 10	Band Leaders Magazine, 1945-11
Box 1, Folder 11	Band Leaders Magazine, 1946-01
Box 1, Folder 12	Band Leaders Magazine, 1946-03
Box 1, Folder 13	Band Leaders Magazine, 1946-04
Box 1, Folder 14	Band Leaders Magazine, 1946-05
Box 1, Folder 15	Band Leaders Magazine, 1946-08
Box 1, Folder 16	Band Leaders and Record Review Magazine, 1947-02
Box 1, Folder 17	RCA Victor Picture Record Review, 1950-04
Box 1, Folder 18	New Baton Magazine, 1945-08
Box 1, Folder 19	Dance Band Album, 1942
Box 2, Folder 1	International Musician, 1949-10
Box 2, Folder 2	Metronome, 1942-06

Box 2, Folder 3	Metronome, 1944-07
Box 2, Folder 4	Orchestra World, 1941-05
Box 2, Folder 5	Radio Guide, 1939-08
Box 1, Folder 20	Capitol News, 1948-08
Box 1, Folder 20	Capitol News, 1949-04
Box 1, Folder 21	RCA Victor's In The Groove, 1948-02

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Series 2: Programs, 1930-1975

Box 2, Folder 6	Biggest Show of '51, 1951
Box 2, Folder 7	Biggest Show of '52, 1952
Box 2, Folder 8	Biggest Show of '53, 1953
Box 2, Folder 9	Horace Heidt, 1948
Box 2, Folder 10	Guy Lombardo in Concert, 1975
Box 2, Folder 11	Tommy Dorsey, 1949
Box 2, Folder 12	Duke Ellington Concert, 1954
Box 2, Folder 13	Duke Ellington and His Famous Orchesta, 1949
Box 2, Folder 14	Rudy Valee and His Connecticut Yankees, 1930

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Series 3: Publications, 1949-1965

Box 2, Folder 15	Ray Anthony - Young Man with a Horn, 1951
Box 2, Folder 16	Louis Armstrong and His Concert Group, 1952
Box 2, Folder 17	Duke Ellington, 1965
Box 2, Folder 18	Benny Goodman, 1958
Box 2, Folder 19	Guy Lombardo and His Royal Canadians, 1954 Notes: Autographed
Box 2, Folder 20	Guy Lombardo and His Royal Canadians, 1949
Box 1, Folder 22	Benny Goodman, Swingmaster, 1936
Box 1, Folder 23	Music Coporation of America, Dorrway to Bigger box office Receipts, 1926

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Series 4: Sheet Music, 1935-1943

Box 2, Folder 21	I've Got A Girl in Kalamazoo, 1942 Notes: Glenn Miller Orchestra
Box 2, Folder 22	Let's Dance, 1935 Notes: Benny Goodman
Box 2, Folder 23	Sunrise Serenade, 1938 Notes: Glenn Grey Orchestra
Box 1, Folder 24	I Lost My Sugar in Salt Lake City, 1943 Notes: Cab Calloway Band

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Series 5: Advertisements, 1932-1954

Box 3, Folder 29	Louis Armstrong, 1939 Notes: Apollo Theater, New York
Box 3, Folder 30	Charlie Barnet, 1940 Notes: Friars Club
Box 3, Folder 31	Ben Bernie, 1939 Notes: Orpheum Theater , Madison, WI
Box 3, Folder 32	Bob Crosby, 1943 Notes: Blackhawk, Chicago
Box 3, Folder 33	Tommy Dorsey, 1943 Notes: Trianon, Chicago
Box 2, Folder 24	Tommy Dorsey, 1942 Notes: 400 Restaurant , New York
Box 2, Folder 25	Tommy Dorsey, 1940 Notes: Film "Ship Ahoy"
Box 3, Folder 34	Duke Ellington, 1932 Notes: Orpheum Theater , Madison, WI
Box 3, Folder 35	Benny Goodman, 1944 Notes: Marine Ballroom, Atlantic City
Box 3, Folder 36	Benny Goodman, 1937 Notes: Film "Sweet and Low Down"
Box 3, Folder 37	Benny Goodman, 1937 Notes: Savoy Ballroom, New York
Box 3, Folder 38	Glen Gray, 1933 Notes: Grape Nuts Radio Program
Box 3, Folder 39	Fletcher Henderson, 1943 Notes: Roseland Ballroom, New York
Box 2, Folder 26	Woody Herman, 1940 Notes: Film "Wintertime"
Box 3, Folder 40	Art Kassel, 1954 Notes: Orpheum Theater , Madison, WI
Box 2, Folder 27	Stan Kenton, 1938 Notes: University of Michigan

Box 3, Folder 41	Gene Krupa, undated Notes: Westchester co Center , NY
Box 3, Folder 42	Hal McIntyre, 1946 Notes: Syracuse, NY
Box 3, Folder 43	Glenn Miller, 1944 Notes: Trianon, Chicago
Box 3, Folder 44	Glenn Miller, Undated Notes: Fim "Orchestra Wives"
Box 3, Folder 45	Glenn Miller, 1942 Notes: Syracuse , NY
Box 3, Folder 46	Russ Morgan, undated Notes: Orpheum Theater , Madison, WI
Box 2, Folder 28	Red Norvo, undated Notes: Savoy Ballroom, New York
Box 3, Folder 47	Paul Whiteman, undated Notes: Chesterfield Radio Show
Box 3, Folder 48	Paul Whiteman, 1947 Notes: Syracuse, NY
Box 3, Folder 49	Charlie Spivak, undated Notes: Newark, NJ
Box 3, Folder 50	Fred Waring, 1942 Notes: Syracuse, NY
Box 3, Folder 51	Ted Weems, 1942 Notes: Orpheum Theater , Madison, WI
Box 2, Folder 29	All American Dance Band Notes: Film "Syncopation"

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Series 6: Ephemera, 1938-1953

Box 2, Folder 30	Palladium Ballroom , New York, New York, Menu , 1941 Notes: Autographed by Glen Gray Orchestra
Box 3, Folder 52	Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago Menu , 1940's Notes: Autographed by Horace Heidt Orchestra
Box 3, Folder 53	Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, New York, menu, 1940's Notes: Autographed by Gene Krupa
Box 3, Folder 54	Waldorf Astoria, New York, New York, menu, 1940's Notes: Autographed by Guy Lombardo
Box 3, Folder 55	Blue Barron, contract, 1952
Box 3, Folder 56	Ben Bernie, 1935, 1939
Box 3, Folder 57	Les Brown, undated
Box 3, Folder 58	Tommy Doresey, 1939
Box 3, Folder 59	Milt Gabler, 1943
Box 3, Folder 60	benny Goodman, 1938
Box 3, Folder 61	Dick Jurgens, 1942
Box 3, Folder 62	Kay Kyser, 1928, 1940
Box 3, Folder 63	Hal McIntyre, contract, 1953
Box 3, Folder 64	Art Mooney, contract, 1953
Box 3, Folder 65	Bobby Sherwood, 1946
Box 3, Folder 66	Paul Whiteman, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 67	Matchbook covers with band leaders, undated
Box 3, Folder 68	Photographs of band leaders with advertisement for film "Syncopation" , 1942
Box 3, Folder 69	Capitol Records, publicity photographs of band leaders and lead singers , undated Notes: Includes images of: Peggy Lee, Gordon McRae, Johnny Mercer, Andy Russell, Jack Smith, Jo Stafford, and Margaret Whiting.

Box 3, Folder 70	Record lists for Decca, RCA and Columbia , 1940s
Box 3, Folder 71	Concert tickets, undated
Box 3, Folder 72	Autographs , undated
Map-folder 1	Point of purchase advertisement, Horace Heidt, Columbia Records, undated
Map-folder 1	Point of purchase advertisement, Benny Goodman, Columbia Records, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Sammy Kaye, Victor Records Artist, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Freddy Martin, Victor Records, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Glenn Miller Orchestra, RCA Victor Records, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Glenn Miller and his Orchestra, Bluebird Record Artist , undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Artie Shaw, Victor Record Artist, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Dinah Shore, Bluebird Record Artist, undated
Map-folder 1	Poster, Charlie Spivak, Victor Recording Artist, undated

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