

The World's most comprehensive collection of Light Music on Compact Disc

# THE GOLDEN AGE OF LIGHT MUSIC

## By Special Request: David Rose & Sidney Torch

GLCD 5214



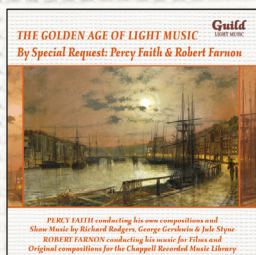
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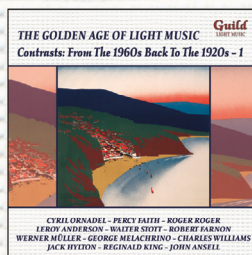
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**DAVID ROSE** conducting his own compositions  
and arrangements including 'The Stripper'  
**SIDNEY TORCH** conducting a selection of Light Music  
including his own compositions and arrangements

## BY SPECIAL REQUEST: DAVID ROSE AND SIDNEY TORCH

### David Rose and his Orchestra

- |    |   |        |      |
|----|---|--------|------|
| 1  | The Magic Music Box (David Rose) – MGM C 788  | 1959   | 2:16 |
| 2  | Theme from “Carnival” (Bob Merrill) – MGM SE 3895   | 1961   | 2:05 |
| 3  | Autumn Holiday (David Rose) – MGM SE 3592   | 1957   | 1:46 |
| 4  | Penthouse Serenade (Val Burton;Will Jason) – MGM E 515  | 1950   | 3:03 |
| 5  | Fascinating Rhythm (George Gershwin) – MGM 771  | 1954   | 2:21 |
| 6  | Serenade To A Lemonade (David Rose) – MGM E 3289  | 1955   | 3:12 |
| 7  | Vanessa (Bernie Wayne, <i>real name</i> Bernard Weitzner)<br>–World Programme Service (Australia) 404 | c.1952 | 3:30 |
| 8  | Love For Sale (Cole Porter) –World Programme Service (Australia) 166                                  | c.1948 | 2:31 |
| 9  | Whispering Waters (David Rose) –World Program Service (USA) 280                                       | c.1948 | 2:05 |
| 10 | Suddenly (Im Chambre Séparée) (Richard Heuberger)<br>–World Programme Service (Australia) 404         | c.1952 | 2:46 |
| 11 | I've Got You Under My Skin (from the film “Born To Dance”) (Cole Porter)<br>– RCA Victor 20-1879      | 1946   | 3:23 |
| 12 | Lovers' Serenade (David Rose) – MGM E 3289  | 1955   | 2:40 |

- |           |                                     |           |                                       |
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| GLCD 5180 | Bright and Breezy                   | GLCD 5200 | A Glorious Century of Light Music     |
| GLCD 5181 | The Lost Transcriptions – Vol. 2    | GLCD 5201 | Fiddles and Bows                      |
| GLCD 5182 | A Second A-Z of Light Music         | GLCD 5202 | Cinema Classics                       |
| GLCD 5183 | A Return Trip to the Library        | GLCD 5203 | Great British Composers – Vol. 2      |
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| GLCD 5185 | Christmas Celebration               | GLCD 5205 | Here's To Holidays                    |
| GLCD 5186 | Light Music While You Work – Vol. 3 | GLCD 5206 | Non-Stop To Nowhere                   |
| GLCD 5187 | Light and Easy                      | GLCD 5207 | Ça C'est Paris                        |
| GLCD 5188 | The Art of the Arranger – Vol. 1    | GLCD 5208 | The Lost Transcriptions – Vol. 4      |
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| GLCD 5195 | Great British Composers – Vol. 1    | GLCD 5215 | Song of the West                      |
| GLCD 5196 | Melodies for the Starlight Hours    | GLCD 5216 | Springtime                            |
| GLCD 5197 | Melody Mixture                      | GLCD 5217 | By Special Request: Faith & Farnon    |
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#### A GUILD LIGHT MUSIC RELEASE

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 GLCD 5177 The Composer Conducts – Vol. 1  
 GLCD 5178 The Composer Conducts – Vol. 2

13 River Kwai March (theme from the film "The Bridge On The River Kwai")  
 (Malcolm Arnold, based on 'Colonel Bogey' by F.J. Ricketts) – MGM SE 3894 1961 2:26

14 The Stripper (David Rose) – MGM K 13064 1962 1:54

**Sidney Torch and his Orchestra**

*(except where stated that Sidney Torch is conducting other orchestras)*

15 London Playhouse (Sidney Torch)  
 NEW CENTURY ORCHESTRA Conducted by SIDNEY TORCH  
 – Francis, Day & Hunter FDH 008 1947 2:35

16 Nola (Felix Arndt, arr. Sidney Torch) – Parlophone R 3450 1951 3:02

17 A Song By The Way (Eric Coates) – Parlophone R 3201 1949 3:22

18 Fiddler's Folly (Len Stevens, arr. Sidney Torch) – Parlophone R 3224 1949 2:36

19 Speakeasy (Lewis Gensler) – Parlophone R 3155 1948 2:34

20 Whisper While You Waltz (from "Dear Miss Phoebe") (Harry Parr Davies, arr. Sidney Torch)  
 – Parlophone R 3375 1951 3:01

21 Fiddlin' For Fun (Les Violons s'Amusents) (Faustin Jean-Jean; Maurice Jean-Jean)  
 – Parlophone R 3467 1951 2:40

22 The Galloping Major (George Bastow, arr. Gordon Jacob) – Parlophone R 3406 1951 2:27

23 Pale Moon (Knight Logan, arr. Cecil Milner)  
 QUEEN'S HALL LIGHT ORCHESTRA Conducted by SIDNEY TORCH  
 – Columbia DB 2564 1949 2:38



- |    |  |      |      |
|----|--|------|------|
| 24 | Cresta Run (Claude Yvoire) – Parlophone R 3450   | 1951 | 2:34 |
| 25 | Song of Capri (featured in the film "That Dangerous Age") (Mischa Spoliansky, arr. Sidney Torch) |      | 3:14 |
|    | QUEEN'S HALL LIGHT ORCHESTRA Conducted by SIDNEY TORCH   |      |      |
|    | – Columbia DB 2564   | 1949 |      |
| 26 | Meandering (Sidney Torch)  |      | 2:30 |
|    | QUEEN'S HALL LIGHT ORCHESTRA Conducted by SIDNEY TORCH – Chappell C 350                          | 1948 |      |
| 27 | Domino (Louis Ferrari) – Parlophone R 3467   | 1951 | 2:27 |

Stereo: tracks 2, 3, 13 & 14; rest in mono

*The copyright dates after the catalogue numbers state when the original recording was first released, according to printed catalogues and/or information on disc labels or sleeves. Compiled from the collections of David Ades and Alan Bunting, who also wish to thank Alan Heinecke for his generous assistance in supplying some of these recordings. Dating transcription recordings can be extremely difficult, partly because they were often repackaged and leased to various distributors years after they were originally recorded. There is little doubt that the David Rose tracks in this collection from World Program Service originated in the 1940s and early 1950s, but the dates quoted should only be regarded as a general guide. A few tracks contain minor imperfections due to their age, and the unreliability of the recording equipment in use at the time. They have been retained in this collection in view of their historical interest.*



DAVID ROSE



SIDNEY TORCH

*The Golden Age of Light Music – Compiled by dedicated enthusiasts to provide light music lovers with superior collections of recordings often difficult to find elsewhere, with the majority making their first appearance on CD. Remastered to the highest standards, each CD plays between 70 and 79 minutes with no duplication of tracks within the series.*

If you have difficulty in finding copies of other CDs in the Guild Golden Age of Light Music series at your local record store, you can always order them direct from Guild Music.

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almost twenty years in this series, until his retirement in 1972.

During this period Torch became one of the most popular and respected conductors in Britain. His countless broadcasts included many celebrity concerts, often at London's Royal Festival Hall as part of the BBC's regular Light Music Festivals. He had a reputation as something of a martinet, according to the musicians and singers who performed under his baton. Singers dreaded 'the glare of the Torch' if they failed to please the maestro. But he was also remembered for various acts of kindness, seldom made public, but nevertheless appreciated by some of his musicians who needed temporary financial assistance. He demanded smartness in dress from his musicians, and always had in reserve an extra pair of gloves or black socks in case of need.

Following his retirement Sidney Torch seemed to lose interest in his previous musical activities. He rarely wanted to talk about his pre-war stardom as a cinema organist, and similarly dismissed most attempts to get him to recall his great moments in light music. In a rare radio interview in 1983 he admitted that he had been cruel to most of his producers, although he felt that most of them probably benefited from the experience. He was appointed MBE in 1985.

He died from an overdose at his Eastbourne, Sussex home on 16th July 1990 at the age of 82, having been pre-deceased by his wife Elizabeth Tyson (a former BBC producer) the previous March. Sidney Torch's music is still remembered by the many admirers of the cinema organ and light music. "Friday Night Is Music Night" is regarded by many as 'his' programme, and his own compositions and arrangements are still regularly performed by 'his' BBC Concert Orchestra. Few musicians could have a better memorial to their talents.

Many more recordings by Sidney Torch are already available on Guild CDs. The following (all his own compositions) are just a few:

All Strings And Fancy Free [GLCD 5150]  
Barbecue [GLCD5181]  
Bicycle Belles [GLCD5131]  
Blue Night [GLCD5129]  
Comic Cuts [GLCD5214]  
Fandango [GLCD5181]  
Going For A Ride [GLCD5101]

My Waltz For You [GLCD5212]  
On A Spring Note [GLCD5171]  
Radio Romantic [GLCD5149]  
Samba Sud [GLCD5200]  
Shooting Star [GLCD5162]  
Shortcake Walk [GLCD5103]  
Wagon Lit [GLCD5102]

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The world's capital cities have been the birthplace of many great musicians, and London, England, is certainly no exception. During the first decade of the 20th century two future Light Music composer/conductors were born to parents who had originally sought refuge there from troubles in their homeland. One remained in England, and became a leading figure in Britain's musical scene. The other was taken by his parents across the Atlantic to the USA where he would achieve world-wide fame for the unique orchestral sound he created, and which would influence many of his peers.

**David Rose** tends to be remembered today for two great instrumentals – *Holiday For Strings* (his own extended version is on Guild GLCD5189) and *The Stripper* (1962) which ends his part of this collection. But he achieved far more than that during his long and illustrious career. He was born in London, England on 15 June 1910, and the family moved to the USA when he was just four-years-old.

After leaving the Chicago College of Music at the age of 16, he joined Ted Fio Rito's dance band, and three years later became a pianist/arranger/conductor for NBC Radio. He moved to Hollywood, and in 1938 formed his own orchestra for the Mutual Broadcasting System, and featured on the programme "California Melodies".

Rose began working in movies in 1941 and is credited with scoring 36 films. In 1943 he had a big hit with his own composition *Holiday For Strings* which firmly launched him as a light music composer in the eyes of the public. Other catchy novelties soon followed, such as *Dance Of The Spanish Onion* (on GLCD5101) and *Manhattan Square Dance* (GLCD5102). During military service in World War II Rose was conductor for the Army-Air Force morale-boosting stage musical "Winged Victory", which was filmed in 1944. By the late '40s he was a regular on Red Skelton's radio show, moving with him into television. He later wrote scores and themes for over 20 television series and won Emmy awards for his 14 year stint on "Bonanza", 10 years with "Little House On The Prairie" and his work on three much-acclaimed Fred Astaire television specials.

After chart success with *Calypso Melody* in 1957, Rose had a worldwide smash hit in 1962 with another of his own tunes, a humorous and satirical piece called *The Stripper*. He had actually composed this four years previously for a television show called "Burlesque", and it gathered dust on his record company's shelves until they needed a 'B' side for *Ebb Tide*. A Los Angeles disc jockey picked it up, and the rest – as they say – is musical history. It spawned a complete album - "The Stripper and Other Fun Songs for the Family", one of the 50 or so LPs he recorded, including the best-selling "Like Young" and "Like Blue", made with André Previn. He won numerous Emmy and Grammy awards and six gold records.

Apart from his record, film and television work, Rose was guest conductor with several symphony orchestras. His *Concerto For Flute And Orchestra* was first played by the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra

and later by the Boston Pops. Towards the end of his life his enduring passion was miniature steam trains, which ran on 900 feet of track around his house. On several occasions he travelled back to his native land where he met fellow English train enthusiasts. Such visits usually prompted invitations to conduct, and in October 1971 he was one of four distinguished conductors with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, who introduced their own music to a packed Royal Albert Hall audience as part of Filmharmonic '71.

His private life attracted media attention in 1941 when he became the first husband of Judy Garland. The marriage didn't survive the pressures of Hollywood fame, but David eventually found the right partner in his third wife, Betty. He died on 23 August 1990, at his home in Burbank, California, aged 80.

David Rose's music has already been widely represented on numerous Guild Light Music CDs. Some of the most memorable tracks include:

American Hoe-Down [GLCD5201]	Holiday For Strings (extended version) [GLCD5189]
California Melodies [GLCD5199]	Holiday For Trombones [GLCD5154]
The Christmas Tree [GLCD5169]	Manhattan Square Dance [GLCD5102]
Dance Of The Spanish Onion [GLCD5101]	One Love [GLCD5136]
Fiesta In Seville [GLCD5161]	Rose Of Bel-Air [GLCD5184]
Frenchman In New York [GLCD5214]	Stringopation [GLCD5200]
Gay Spirits [GLCD5166]	Waltz Of The Bubbles [GLCD5103]

**Sidney Torch**, MBE, distinguished himself in two musical spheres. In his early years he gained a reputation as a brilliant cinema organist, but in the second half of his career he switched to writing and conducting Light Music, with even greater success. As well as his conventional work for radio and commercial records, he became a master of composing, arranging and conducting Mood Music (now better known as Production Music).

He was born Sidney Torchinsky of Ukranian parents, at 27 Tottenham Court Road, London, on 5 June 1908. His father, an orchestral trombonist, decided to anglicise the family name, and it was he who introduced his son to the rudiments of music. Young Sidney studied piano at the Blackheath Conservatoire, and he must have been a talented pianist, because his first professional engagement was as accompanist to the celebrated violinist Albert Sandler. He then moved into several cinema orchestras playing for silent films, but the arrival of the talkies forced him to consider a musical change of direction. Full orchestras were no longer needed in cinemas, and even prestigious ensembles such as Emanuel Starkey's orchestra at the Regal, Marble Arch, (in which Torch also played piano) had to go. But every picture palace of note decided to install an organ and Torch became assistant

organist to Quentin Maclean at the Regal, taking over this famous Christie Organ full time from 1932 to 1934. Despite the popularity of his jazzy arrangements with cinema-goers and buyers of his 78s, the BBC did not invite Torch to broadcast regularly until 1934. His signature tune became, appropriately, the popular song "I've Got To Sing A Torch Song" (from the Hollywood film "Gold Diggers of 1933") to which he added his own special lyrics. In 1937 he opened the magnificent Wurlitzer Organ at the Gaumont State, Kilburn, which was then the largest cinema organ in England.

In 1940 he was called into the Royal Air Force, and initially was stationed near Blackpool, where he continued to record at the Opera House. He first trained as an air gunner in the RAF, but was subsequently commissioned and attained the rank of Squadron Leader. He became conductor of the RAF Concert Orchestra, which gave him the opportunity to study more closely the intricacies of orchestral scoring. This experience was to stand him in good stead when he returned to civilian life after the war.

Astutely Torch realised that the days of the cinema organ as he knew it were numbered, so he turned to light orchestral composing, arranging and conducting, where he quickly established himself through his radio broadcasts and commercial recordings (in a period of less than ten years he conducted over 60 78s for EMI's Columbia and Parlophone labels). He discovered that his composing talents were ideally suited to the requirements of the production music publishers that were rapidly establishing libraries in London. Chappells had already started recording light music for the use of radio, film, newsreel and television companies as far back as 1942, drawing mainly upon the talents of Charles Williams, who conducted the Queen's Hall Light Orchestra on those early 78s. From 1946 onwards Sidney Torch contributed many different works to the Chappell catalogue, both under his own name and also as Denis Rycoth (an anagram). He also conducted the Queen's Hall Light Orchestra on many of these special recordings. Francis, Day & Hunter employed Torch to conduct their New Century Orchestra when their library was founded in 1947, and he remained with them for two years until a Musicians' Union ban halted all such work in Britain.

Although the BBC originated most of the material it broadcast on the radio in those days, London musicians were also employed by transcription services (Lang-Worth, Muzak etc.) and overseas broadcasting organisations such as Radio Luxembourg and IBC. Torch was closely associated with the Harry Alan Towers radio production company which supplied programmes to Radio Luxembourg and, occasionally, even to the BBC.

In 1953 the BBC decided that it needed a new programme whose brief was: "to help people relax after the week's hard work and put them in the right mood for a happy weekend". With Sidney Torch's full participation, the formula for "Friday Night Is Music Night" was devised - with such foresight that the programme survives to this very day. The BBC Concert Orchestra had been formed the previous year, and Torch conducted them for