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THE GOLDEN AGE OF LIGHT MUSIC

And At The Piano ...

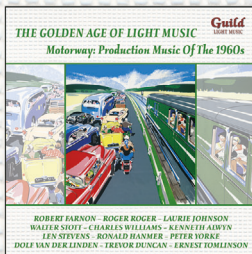
GLCD 5224



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GLCD 5230



**PETER NERO - CARMEN CAVALLARO - DOLORES VENTURA
RUSS CONWAY - WINIFRED ATWELL - ROBERTO INGLEZ
RAWICZ AND LANDAUER - SEMPRINI - BILL SNYDER
FERRANTE AND TEICHER - JOE HENDERSON - LIBERACE**

AND AT THE PIANO . . .

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|---|--|------|
| 1 | On The Sunny Side Of The Street (Jimmy McHugh)
SKITCH HENDERSON (piano) with Orchestra – Columbia CS 8623 1962 © | 1:59 |
| 2 | Autumn Concerto (Camillo Bargoni arr. Brian Fahey)
RUSS CONWAY (piano) with MICHAEL COLLINS & HIS CONCERT ORCHESTRA
– Columbia SCX 3299 1960 © | 3:20 |
| 3 | Manhattan (Richard Rodgers) (featured in the film “The Eddy Duchin Story”)
CARMEN CAVALLARO (piano) with MORRIS STOLOFF & HIS ORCHESTRA
– Decca DL 8289 1956 © | 4:43 |
| 4 | Scarlet Ribbons (Evelyn Danzig / Jack Segal)
PETER NERO (piano) with MARTY GOLD & HIS ORCHESTRA – RCA Victor LSP 2618 1962 © | 2:55 |
| 5 | All The Things You Are (from “Very Warm For May”) (Jerome Kern arr. Morton Gould)
MORTON GOULD (piano) & HIS ORCHESTRA
– Columbia ML 4657 1953 | 5:58 |
| 6 | Diamond Dust (Peter De Rose / Domenico Savino)
BILL SNYDER (piano) & HIS ORCHESTRA – Decca DL 8437 1956 | 2:51 |
| 7 | Smoky Eyes (Peggy Stuart)
PEGGY STUART (piano) with Orchestra – Top Rank RM 444 1960 | 2:31 |
| 8 | Copacabana Samba (Joseph F Kuhn)
DOLORES VENTURA (piano) with THE CARNIVAL ORCHESTRA – Valiant V 4926 1959 © | 2:32 |
| 9 | They Didn’t Believe Me (from “The Girl from Utah”) (Jerome Kern)
ART WANER (piano) & THE LATIN QUARTER ORCHESTRA – MGM D 124 1954 | 2:36 |

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|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| GLCD 5185 | Christmas Celebration |
| GLCD 5186 | Light Music While You Work – Vol. 3 |
| GLCD 5187 | Light and Easy |
| GLCD 5188 | The Art of the Arranger – Vol. 1 |
| GLCD 5189 | Holidays for Strings |
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| GLCD 5191 | Strings Afire |
| GLCD 5192 | Stereo into the Sixties |
| GLCD 5193 | The Art of the Arranger – Vol. 2 |
| GLCD 5194 | Nature’s Realm |
| GLCD 5195 | Great British Composers – Vol. 1 |
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| GLCD 5198 | Light Music While You Work – Vol. 4 |
| GLCD 5199 | Three Great American Light Orchestras |
| GLCD 5200 | A Glorious Century of Light Music |
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| GLCD 5203 | Great British Composers – Vol. 2 |
| GLCD 5204 | Salon, Light & Novelty Orchestras |
| GLCD 5205 | Here’s To Holidays |
| GLCD 5206 | Non-Stop To Nowhere |

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| GLCD 5207 | Ça C’est Paris |
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A GUILD LIGHT MUSIC RELEASE

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- Executive Production: Guild GmbH

■ Guild GmbH, Bärenholzstrasse 8, 8537 Nussbaumen/TG, Switzerland Tel: +41 (0)52 742 85 00

■ Guild GmbH., PO Box 5092, Colchester, Essex CO1 1FN, Great Britain

■ e-mail: info@guildmusic.com World WideWeb-Site: <http://www.guildmusic.com>

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Guild presents *The Golden Age of Light Music*

GLCD 5101	An Introduction	GLCD 5142	The 1950s Vol. 5 : Sunny Side Up	10	Kitten On The Keys (Zes Confrey arr. Percy Faith)	2:26
GLCD 5102	The 1940s	GLCD 5143	Animal Antics		PERCY FAITH & HIS ORCHESTRA Pianos – STAN FREEMAN & BERNIE LEIGHTON	
GLCD 5103	The 1950s – Vol. 1	GLCD 5144	Childhood Memories – Vol. 2		– Columbia CL 6242 1953	
GLCD 5104	Great British Light Orchestras	GLCD 5145	Scenic Grandeur			
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GLCD 5108	British Cinema & Theatre Orchestras	GLCD 5149	The Show Goes On		– Columbia DB 3167 1952	
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GLCD 5111	The 1950s – Vol. 2 : Midnight Matinee	GLCD 5152	From Stage And Screen	12	Parakeet (Lobsa)	2:23
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		GLCD 5183	A Return Trip to the Library			
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- 19 Pixie Holiday (Harry Sukman)
VICTOR YOUNG & HIS ORCHESTRA Piano – HARRY SUKMAN – Decca DL 8466 1956
- 20 Lucy's Theme From "Parrish" (Max Steiner)
GEORGE GREELEY (piano) & ORCHESTRA – Warner Bothers 5218 1961 ©
- 21 Cheek To Cheek (from "Top Hat") (Irving Berlin)
JOE "Mr Piano" HENDERSON (piano) with BILL SHEPHERD & HIS ORCHESTRA
– Pye NSPL 83006 1959 ©
- 22 I'm In The Mood For Love (Jimmy McHugh / Dorothy Fields)
FERRANTE AND TEICHER (pianos) – United Artists WWS 8514 1961 ©
- 23 Distancia - Bolero (Marino Pinto / Mario Rossi)
ROBERTO INGLEZ (piano) & HIS ORCHESTRA
– Parlophone R 3604 1952
- 24 Melody Of Love (Hans Engelmann)
STANLEY BLACK (piano) & HIS ROMANTIC MUSIC – Decca F 10462 1955
- 25 Beer Barrel Polka (Jaromír Vejvoda)
LIBERACE (piano) with GEORGE LIBERACE & HIS ORCHESTRA – PHILIPS PB 384 1954

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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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2:51 Becoming a major American 'easy listening' act, they were well-known for their arrangements of light classical pieces and made numerous recordings. Their four big US hits included the main theme from the 1960 film 'Exodus' by Ernest Gold.

2:05 **Roberto Inglez** (born Robert Inglis 1913-1978) hailed from Elgin, Scotland and commenced playing professionally at fifteen. 1937 found him studying in at the Royal Academy of Music, but he was soon recruited as pianist for the newly-formed Edmundo Ros Orchestra. It was Ros – recently arrived in England from Venezuela – who suggested that he 'Latinized' his name. He began recording in 1945 and sales, especially in Spain and South America, were enormous, sometimes selling up to ten-thousand copies per day! After a highly successful tour of Brazil in 1952 his orchestra became resident at London's Savoy Hotel. In 1954 he married a Chilean woman, Patricia Palma, and emigrated to Santiago, forming a successful broadcasting orchestra. From then on, he did very little new recording.

2:20 Making a welcome return to the Guild series, **Stanley Black** OBE. (London-born as Solomon Schwartz 1913-2002) was an orchestral conductor, composer, arranger and pianist. Prodigiously talented, he recorded extensively throughout his long career for the UK Decca / US London label. During the early '30s, he collaborated with American jazz stars such as Coleman Hawkins and Benny Carter and, towards the end of that decade, he moved into arranging and recording in the Latin American style for which he became world famous. World War II found him organising entertainments for the Royal Air Force and, in 1944, he was appointed conductor of the BBC Dance Orchestra, a position he would hold for almost nine years, during which time he made over four thousand broadcasts. He continued with radio work for many more years thereafter, in addition to writing, arranging and directing music for around two-hundred movies – for Ealing Studios and mainly Associated British Picture Corporation, Elstree, where he was appointed Head of Music in succession to Louis Levy.

2:28 Although George Liberace and his orchestra have featured before on Guild CDs, this marks the first appearance of his famous younger brother – pianist and entertainer Wladziu Valentino 'Lee' **Liberace** (1919-1987). A child prodigy son of working-class immigrants to America, his career spanned four decades of concerts, recordings, television and motion pictures. At the height of his fame, he was the highest-paid entertainer in the world, with established residences in Las Vegas and an international touring schedule. He affected a style of flamboyant excess both on and off stage, and was known as 'Mr Showmanship'. He is accompanied here by 'my brother George', who regularly appeared on Liberace's TV shows during the 1950s.

London-born and Chicago-raised, **David Rose** (1910-1990) has previously contributed ninety-five tracks to the Guild series. He graduated from the Chicago College of Music and during World War II served as a music director in the US Army Air Force. His work as a composer and conductor in TV, Film and Recordings earned him four 'Emmy' awards, twenty-two 'Grammys' and an Oscar nomination. With a career spanning sixty-five years, his most well-known compositions include *Holiday For Strings* (Guild GLCD 5189), *The Stripper* (Guild GLCD 5219), and the music for the American television series 'Bonanza'. Hollywood studio musician **Ray Turner** (1903-1976) for many years the Head Pianist at Paramount Pictures was the performer on the famous children's record 'Sparky's Magic Piano'.

Chicago-born **Victor Young** (1900-1956) has already made eleven appearances in the Guild series as a performer and many more as a composer. A member of a talented musical family, he began playing the violin at the age of six. At ten he studied violin at the Warsaw Imperial Conservatory, and later piano at the Paris Conservatoire. He eventually turned his energies to popular music and moved to Hollywood, concentrating on Films, Light Music Recordings and backing many famous singers. Although nominated for twenty-two Academy Awards, he sadly only received one - posthumously - for his score for 'Around The World In Eighty Days'. *Pixie Holiday* was written by another native of Chicago, his friend and colleague **Harry Sukman** (1912-1984), who is also the pianist on this recording; he was yet another prolific composer, with a huge list of credits for his Film and TV work.

Italian-American **George Greeley** (born Georgio Guariglia, 1917-2008) was a versatile musician who worked extensively across the whole spectrum of the American entertainment industry. Initially a pianist / arranger for several notable Big Bands and after serving in World War II as conductor of an Army Air Force band, he became a staff pianist for Columbia Pictures in 1950, working thereafter on several hundred motion pictures. Greeley received a special accolade for his contribution to the 'The Eddie Duchin Story' of 1956; it has been widely suggested that his hands played the piano in that movie for Tyrone Power to mime to although, as previously mentioned, the same claim has been made for Carmen Cavallaro.

Glasgow-born **Joe 'Mr. Piano' Henderson** (1920-1980) played professionally in dance bands from the age of 15. During the 1950s he became well-known as an accompanist, notably to the singer Petula Clark. He made a number of records as a soloist, his biggest success being his own 1957 composition 'Trudie', which won a Novello Award. He continued recording and TV work until May 1980, until his sudden death from a heart attack. He is backed by the orchestra of **Bill Shepherd**, a talented conductor, arranger and producer, active from the '50s through to the '70s, who worked closely with the Bee Gees pop group during their early years.

Musical prodigies **Arthur Ferrante** (1921-2009) and **Louis Teicher** (1924-2008) began performing as a piano duo whilst studying at the Julliard School, New York, and launched their full-time concert career in 1947.

Following-on from the success of *The Pianist In The Spotlight* (Guild GLCD 5173), we are pleased to present a further selection for your enjoyment.

Within the sphere of Light Music, compositions and arrangements for a virtuoso pianist accompanied by a large orchestra have always had a popular appeal. Many were concert pieces in their own right but others were composed specially for films. These were often dubbed 'The Denham Concertos' by the late pianist and broadcaster Steve Race, after the British film studio responsible for many of them.

Making his first Guild appearance, American-born Lyle Russell '**Skitch' Henderson** (1918-2005) was a pianist, conductor and composer. Of Norwegian descent, he learned piano from the age of four. Although not educated at a music conservatory, he received classical training from several notable conductors and composers. He became a member of the music department of MGM Films and his long career also embraced both Radio and Television work. He made dozens of records, spanning the era from 78s to CDs.

'**Russ Conway**' was the performing alter-ego of Bristol-born Trevor Herbert Stanford (1925-2000) although his compositions were always published under his real name. He was largely self-taught and the loss of the tip of one finger in an accident did not diminish his considerable pianistic abilities! He made numerous recordings, including twenty chart hits and several albums of light music. Tracks from three of these may be found on GLCD 5192, 5202 and 5223. In addition, he enjoyed a very successful career as a live performer with regular concert appearances and a great deal of Radio and Television work.

Carmen Cavallaro (1919-1989) is another first-timer in the Guild series. Born in New York City, he was known as the 'Poet of the Piano', having shown a gift for music from the age of three. His rendition of *Manhattan* featured in the 1956 movie 'The Eddie Duchin Story'. Duchin – another celebrated pianist – was a great influence on Cavallaro, who is reputed to have played the piano music for actor Tyrone Power's hands to mime to in the film. However, the same claim has also been made for another pianist, George Greeley, who makes his second Guild appearance on this CD.

Yet another native of New York City, and indeed another newcomer to the ranks of Guild artistes, is **Peter Nero** (born Bernard Niero 1934). Classically trained at the famous Julliard School of Music, he recorded his first two LPs in 1961 and 1962 (from which the two tracks here are taken) accompanied by the very talented arranger/ conductor Marty Gold. Nero ultimately released sixty-seven albums and worked with a long list of notable musicians, including Sarah Vaughan, Ray Charles and Dizzy Gillespie; He has been hailed as one of the greatest interpreters of the music of George Gershwin, and at the time of writing is still performing in live concerts, having reached the tender age of eighty!

In contrast, **Morton Gould** (1913-1996) has contributed almost twenty tracks to the Guild series. He was regarded as one of the most highly respected figures in the world of American Music, as a composer, arranger,

pianist and conductor. The pinnacle of his long and distinguished career occurred a year before his death, at the age of 82, when he received a Pulitzer Prize for his 'Stringmusic', commissioned by Mstislav Rostropovich. From 1986 to 1994, he was President of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

Child prodigy **Bill** (William P.) **Snyder** (1916-2001) became another significant musical personality during the 1950s and '60s as a pianist, bandleader and songwriter. He rose to fame in 1950 with his massive hit 'Bewitched, Bothered And Bewildered', from the Rogers and Hart musical 'Pal Joey'. He went on to become the USA's most recorded Light Music pianist, with one Platinum and nine Gold awards for his singles and albums.

Peggy Stuart (1913-1981) was a native of Massachusetts, USA. She learned piano from the age of five and wrote her first song at the age of nine. The founder and first director of the Junior League Orchestra in Boston, she later became associated with a Music Psychotherapy Project in New York. A prolific writer, her works include scores for film, theatre, a ballet specifically composed for ice skating, and a host of orchestral pieces, many including the piano. *Smoky Eyes* is one of a number of her more 'popular' instrumental compositions.

Regrettably, there is very little information available about **Dolores Ventura**, who died in 2013; it is believed that she was a native of Australia. Married to the British composer and virtuoso oboe player Ivor Slaney, she was proficient on both the piano and the violin, which appears to have been her preferred instrument. Latterly a resident of Hampshire, England, she played in local string quartets and for a short time with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

During the '40s and '50s pianist **Art Waner** conducted the orchestra at the famous Latin Quarter Nightclub, Miami Beach. There seem to be no details available about Waner, but it is known that many top stars such as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Jack Benny and Dean Martin appeared at that venue under his musical direction, often playing three shows a night to the winter crowds of tourists who had escaped to the Florida sunshine.

Happily, there is a wealth of available information about **Percy Faith** (1908-1976). Born and raised in Toronto, Canada and proficient on both violin and piano, his ambition to become a performer was thwarted when his hands were badly damaged in a fire. He turned to arranging and conducting, his orchestra embracing the then new medium of broadcast radio. He became famous for his lush arrangements, and for promoting 'easy listening' or 'mood music' in the USA during the '50s and '60s. Around this time the two pianists featured on the recording, **Stan Freeman** and **Bernie Leighton**, were both prominent performers in the worlds of jazz and film music. Faith has the distinction of being one of the largest contributors to the Guild series, with no less than 128 tracks to his credit!

The name of **Charles Williams** (London-born as Isaac Cozerbreit 1893-1978) has also featured on many previous Guild CDs, both as conductor and composer. He began his career as a freelance violinist. With the advent of talking pictures in the early '30s, he joined Gaumont-British Films as an in-house composer and during World

War II he established the famous Chappell Music Library. Of the two titles featured here, *Romantic Rhapsody* is in effect a sequel to his huge 1947 hit *The Dream Of Olwen* (Guild GLCD5192), whilst *Jealous Lover*, composed for a long-forgotten 1949 film 'The Romantic Age', enjoyed a second lease of life in the 1960 US movie 'The Apartment'; in this new guise, it became Williams' most lucrative composition. **Arthur Dulay** and **Arthur Sandford** often appeared as soloists on a number of 'piano and orchestra' recordings for different conductors and orchestras in the UK during the 1940s and '50s.

A familiar voice on BBC Radio music broadcasts was that of **Albert Semprini** (1908-1990). Born in Bath, England, to Italian parents, he received his musical training at the Verdi Academy in Milan. His regular programme 'Semprini Serenade', in which he introduced the compositions – 'Old Ones, New Ones, Loved Ones, Neglected Ones' – was extremely popular and ran for twenty-five years from 1957; he acted as both arranger/ conductor and soloist, performing a wide range of pieces. Semprini has made a previous appearance on Guild (GLCD 5171) playing two compositions including his own *Mediterranean Concerto*, which became his signature tune.

Trinidad-born (Una) **Winifred Atwell** (1914-1983) originally qualified as a pharmacist but later studied at London's Royal Academy of Music, where she became the first female to be awarded that august establishment's top grades. An accomplished concert pianist she nonetheless achieved her greatest success playing boogie-woogie and ragtime on her famous honky-tonk 'other piano', which she had purchased very cheaply from a London junk-shop and which travelled with her when she performed in concerts around the world. She has contributed to five previous CDs in this Guild series.

Ron (Ronald Alfred) **Goodwin** (1925-2003) has now made over thirty appearances on Guild. Born in Plymouth, England, he played piano and trumpet from the age of five, eventually studying the latter instrument at London's Guildhall School of Music. By the 1950s he had become a leading conductor, arranger and composer for Parlophone Records, and he made quite a number of '78' and '45' singles with his Concert Orchestra; these were also very successful in the USA when released on an LP. One such title is heard here, with an (unfortunately) anonymous solo pianist. Goodwin later became an internationally acclaimed film-music composer with the scores to more than seventy movies to his credit.

Polish-born **Maryan [Marjan] Rawicz** (1898-1970) and Viennese **Walter Landauer** (1910-1983) were a very well-known performing partnership, active from 1932 until Rawicz's death in 1970. Initially based in Vienna, they escaped from Nazi Europe in 1935 and settled in the UK. Renowned for their fine arrangements of popular classics, they achieved a formidable reputation as a two-piano team. They sold tens of thousands of records, regularly appeared on BBC Radio broadcasts, and in the post-war years toured extensively in the USA, Europe, Australia and South Africa. From 1970, Walter Landauer continued performing as a solo pianist until his own death in 1983.