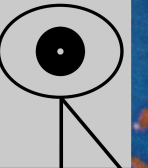


CL 967

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COLUMBIA

Dance, Be Happy!



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PERCY FAITH
PAUL WESTON
XAVIER CUGAT

CLAUDE THORNHILL
SAMMY KAYE

DUKE ELLINGTON
BENNY GOODMAN
BOYD RAEBURN
ART VAN DAMME
LES ELGART
BELMONTE
LES BROWN



DANCE, BE HAPPY!

What Is This Thing Called Love?—*Percy Faith*

Sweet Sue—Just You—*Boyd Raeburn*

Mambo No. 5—*Xavier Cugat*

Ain't She Sweet—*Les Elgart*

Harbor Lights—*Sammy Kaye*

Under the Willow Tree—*Claude Thornhill*

You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me—*Benny Goodman*

My Silent Love—*Paul Weston*

I Married an Angel—*Art Van Damme*

Suburban Beauty—*Duke Ellington*

Cha-Cha Lament—*Belmonte*

A Fine Romance—*Les Brown*

Anybody wanting superlative entertainment need look no further: this is it. Here are twelve of the finest dance organizations ever to fill a dance floor, twelve of their very best arrangements, ten memorable songs and two delightful originals. All this in one handy package, providing entertainment for the dancer, entertainment for the listener, and plenty of fun for everyone.

The collection gets under way with a contribution by Percy Faith and his Orchestra, Cole Porter's *What Is This Thing Called Love?* Best known as a composer, conductor and arranger of splendid music, Percy Faith is just as adept with dance music, as this selection shows. Already famous in Canada when he came to the United States a few years ago, he is now an international favorite, with his records and radio broadcasts over the CBS network.

Boyd Raeburn and his Orchestra appear next with that old favorite, *Sweet Sue—Just You*. The Raeburn orchestra was well known through the swing era, but really came into its own with the development of the modern school of big-band jazz in the late Forties. Various reasons—largely the expense of touring with a sizable group—forced Raeburn to disband when the group was at the height of its fame and powers, but recently he has reactivated the orchestra with an orientation less toward experimentation than toward dance music. There are still plenty of fresh ideas on hand, however, along with a light, danceable beat.

In *Mambo No. 5* Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra take over the stand. Señor Cugat has long headed one of the most popular orchestras in the country, and his recent appearances in Europe have made him a favorite there, too. It was he who helped popularize the rhumba, the samba, the conga and various other Latin-American dances, and his rich, full-toned dance music has been as popular on records as it has on the dance floor. In this selection, Cugie delivers a sizzling mambo in his most distinctive style.

One of the newest and most successful orchestras to appear since the war is that of

Les Elgart. The ripe sound, the firm beat and the highly imaginative arrangements of the Elgart organization have made it a prom favorite in only three years, and those same qualities have proved equally adept in enticing slightly more mature dancers out on the floors of hotel ballrooms. Here Les is heard in *Ain't She Sweet*, a memorable morsel from the Twenties which demonstrates all the admirable attributes of this lively young outfit.

As a contrast, the swing-and-sway music of Sammy Kaye comes next, presenting *Harbor Lights*, one of his biggest hits. Sammy has long been famous for his easy-going music, as pleasant to listen to as dance to, and for the showmanship of his group as well. His "Sunday Serenade," for years a radio favorite, and his "So You Want to Lead a Band," have both been among America's best-loved presentations. But best-loved of all is the smooth, tuneful swing-and-sway music exemplified here.

Claude Thornhill and his Orchestra close the first half of the program with *Under the Willow Tree*, a tune which deftly shows off the sonorous arrangements so closely associated with this group, as well as the deft pianism of Thornhill himself. One of the most popular orchestras of the Forties, the band is still a prime favorite at college dances, with its imaginative arrangements, rich tone and fine beat.

The second half of the program gets under way with a contribution by that old master Benny Goodman. The symbol of the swing era, Benny is still one of the finest musicians in popular music and a notable artist in classical music as well. From the beginning of swing, right through the unforgettable night of his Carnegie Hall Jazz Concert, right up to the present, he has been a major voice in music, gifted with taste, musical wit and a splendid tone. He is heard here in a characteristic performance of *You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me*.

Paul Weston continues the program with a smooth, romantic arrangement of *My Silent Love*. It was conductor-arranger Weston who virtually originated what is

now known as "mood music" some ten years ago, and his various Columbia collections are testimony to his sure hand with that style. What may have been overlooked is that each of his arrangements has a firm, quiet beat making them eminently suitable for dancing. Before his debut as a conductor, he was arranger for most of the notable dance orchestras of the early Forties, and his skill is splendidly demonstrated in this selection.

Moving from a large orchestra to a smaller group, the Art Van Damme Quintet appears with *I Married an Angel*. The Van Damme group began as a trio, grew to a quartet and finally took shape as a quintet as the need for more voices and expressions was felt. The result has been one of the most highly-acclaimed and widely popular small combos to appear in a long, long time. The basis of their music is jazz, and the result is a joy to hear as the instruments engage in a light-hearted interplay of statements. The toe-tickling rhythm of this number is an indication of the Quintet's merry way with a tune.

One of the legendary names in popular music is that of Duke Ellington, who conducts his orchestra here in his own composition, *Suburban Beauty*. Whether working in dance rhythms or in the large-scale suites and tone poems written for his concert appearances, Duke Ellington has consistently produced some of the most exciting music of the last decades. His work is taken seriously by serious musicians, and it has been enthused over with equal seriousness by listeners who just like to dance. Whether in concert hall or dance hall, the music of the Ellington orchestra is invariably fascinating, and this selection—one of his newest—is in the same tradition.

Belmonte and his Orchestra appeared on the scene some three years ago, just as the mambo, the cha-cha-cha and the merengue were growing in popularity. And along with them, his fame spread. The reasons for this are evident in the *Cha-Cha Lament*, a neatly orchestrated and crisply played exercise in Latin-American music. When the music called for something wild and exciting, Belmonte was ready with a number that delighted the dancers; when something more moody and

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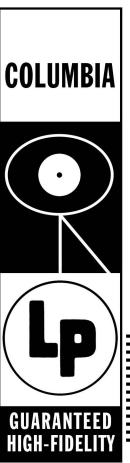
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sultry was needed, there he was again. This number, one of his own compositions, is a fine demonstration of the Belmonte music at its intriguing best.

To round out this dance program, Les Brown and his Orchestra turn up with one of their specialties, the lightly swinging *A Fine Romance*. Some years ago, just about the time everyone thought the dance-band business was dead, Les and his crew began turning out arrangements like this that swiftly drew people back on the dance floor and reminded them that the Band of Renown was one of the finest groups of its kind. On radio, on records and in dance halls, Les Brown and his Orchestra have never ceased to provide audiences with merry music like this, and with such an arrangement, a clear invitation to "dance, be happy," the collection closes.



COLUMBIA

DANCE, BE HAPPY!

1. WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED LOVE?
- Cole Porter -
PERCY FAITH & his ORCH.
2. SWEET SUE - JUST YOU -W. J. Harris-V. Young-
BOYD RAEBURN & his ORCH.
3. MAMBO NO. 5 Prado-
XAVIER CUGAT & his ORCH.

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4. AIN'T SHE SWEET -Yellen-Ager-
LES ELGART & his ORCH.
5. HARBOR LIGHTS - Vocal by Tony Alamo and
the Kaydets -Kennedy-H. Williams-
SWING & SWAY with SAMMY KAYE
6. UNDER THE WILLOW TREE - Vocal
by Buddy Hughes -Reid-
**CLAUDE THORNHILL &
his ORCH.**

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DANCE, BE HAPPY!

1. YOU BROUGHT A NEW KIND OF LOVE
TO ME - Vocal: Jane Harvey -Fain-Kahal-Norman-
BENNY GOODMAN & his ORCH.
2. MY SILENT LOVE -Heyman-Suesse-
PAUL WESTON & his ORCH.
3. I MARRIED AN ANGEL -Hart-Rodgers-
ART VAN DAMME QUINTET

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SIDE 2
(x"LP" 39349)

4. SUBURBAN BEAUTY -D. Ellington-
DUKE ELLINGTON & his ORCH.
5. CHA-CHA LAMENT (Cha-Cha-Cha)
-Maik-Belmonte-
BELMONTE & his ORCH.
6. A FINE ROMANCE -Fields-
-Kern-
**LES BROWN &
his ORCH.**

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