

## THE WORLD FAMOUS

# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA ®

Suggested leads:

...**A Legend Lives On**

...**The Glenn Miller Orchestra Plays Here**

...**The Miller Sound Lives Forever!**

...**Glenn Miller Orchestra Swings Into (location) on (day)**

...**(Venue/city) In The Mood for the Glenn Miller Orchestra**

The first **Glenn Miller Orchestra** did not make it at all. It was a total and absolute economic failure. But Glenn knew what he wanted, held to that dedication and relentlessly worked to succeed. He launched his second band – the one that lives on today – in March of 1938. The Glenn Miller Orchestra has been a “hit” ever since.

The legendary Glenn Miller was one of the most successful of all dance bandleaders back in the Swing Era of the 1930’s and 40’s. A matchless string of hit records, the constant impact of radio broadcasts and the drawing power at theatres, hotels and dance pavilion, built and sustained the momentum of popularity.

Glenn disbanded his musical organization in 1942 at the height of its popularity to volunteer for the Army. There, he organized and led the famous **Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band**. It went to Europe to entertain servicemen performing numerous live and radio shows. On December 15, 1944, Major Miller took off in a single engine plane from Europe to precede his band to France, disappearing over the English Channel, never to be seen again. The army declared him officially dead a year later.

With the release of the major motion movie **The Glenn Miller Story** featuring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson in 1954, interest and popular demand led the Miller Estate to authorize the formation of the present Glenn Miller Orchestra. On June 6, 1956, and under the direction of drummer Ray McKinley who had become the unofficial leader of the Army Air Force Band after Glenn’s disappearance, the reformed Glenn Miller Orchestra performed its first concert and has been on the road ever since. Other leaders have followed Ray including clarinetists Buddy DeFranco and Peanuts Hucko, trombonists Buddy Morrow, Jimmy Henderson, Larry O’Brien and Gary Tole, and tenor saxophonist Dick Gerhart. Since January 2012, vocalist Nick Hilscher leads the band.

Today, the 18 member ensemble continues to play many of the original Miller arrangements both from the civilian band and the AAFB libraries. Additionally, it also plays some more modern selections arranged and performed in the Miller style and sound.

Just as it was in Glenn’s day, the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** today is still the most sought after big band in the world.

[www.glennmillerorchestra.com](http://www.glennmillerorchestra.com)

## THE WORLD FAMOUS

# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA ®

### Some Notes of Interest

The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** is owned and operated by Glenn Miller Productions, Inc., under license from the Miller Estate. Glenn Miller Productions, Inc., has the sole and exclusive right to use the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** name.

The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** is a fully self-contained group consisting of the music director, five saxophone players, four trumpeters, four trombonists, and three rhythm musicians (piano, bass and drums). Also, there are two vocalists, one male and one female, who perform individually and as part of *The Moonlight Serenaders*® vocal group.

The big-band business today requires almost constant travel as a result of an arduous schedule of one-night stands. The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** is “on the road” longer and more continuously than any other in the whole world, having celebrated its 56<sup>th</sup> year anniversary on June 6, 2012. It covers over a hundred thousand miles a year, working most every night for 48 weeks out of every 52-nearly 300 playing dates, performing for an “in person” audience that adds up to more than a half million people annually.

The orchestra has performed in all 50 United States, as well as throughout Europe, Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Guam, the Philippines, South and Central America. The orchestra’s tour of Japan during November/December 2013 will be its 46<sup>th</sup> annual tour of that country.

The “Road Book” carried by the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** adds up to over 300 charts-many of them out of the original library. Today, the complete library totals over 1,700 compositions including all of the original charts from both the civilian band and the Army Air Force Band.

Of course, all of the biggest hits are included in a regular program. But so are arrangements of less well-known tunes like *The White Cliffs of Dover*, *Rainbow Rhapsody*, *Everybody Loves My Baby*, and *That’s Sabotage*. The Miller library features contributions from many fine arrangers including Bill Finegan, Jerry Gray, Billy May, Mort Lindsay, Deane Kinkaide, Joe Cribari, and Dave Wolpe. They have added such numbers as *Over the Rainbow*, *September Morn*, *The Body Electric* from the T.V. series *Fame*, *Up Where We Belong*, from the hit movie, *An Officer and a Gentleman*, and *Star Wars/War of The Stars*.

The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** has always been very musical, disciplined, and visually entertaining. And it has its own distinctive “sound.”

That sound is created by the clarinet holding the melodic line, doubled or coupled with the tenor sax playing the same notes; and the harmonies produced by three other saxophones, while growling trombones and wailing trumpets add their oo-ahs.

**Glenn Miller and His Orchestra** made a big impact right before and during the war. And it had more hit records in one year than anybody in the history of the recording industry. In fact, its recording of *Chattanooga Choo-Choo* earned the first Gold Record ever awarded to a performing artist. Additional Gold Record recordings include “In the Digital Mood” and “In The Christmas Mood,” Volume I & II.

Back in the days of the big band era of the forties, any dance band “worth its salt” had a distinctive theme song. It was the musical signature with which they signed on and signed off at their engagements and radio broadcasts. The theme of **Glenn Miller and His Orchestra** was the beautiful *Moonlight Serenade*, and it is still the signature tune of the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** today. Interestingly enough, Glenn Miller originally wrote the music of the song himself as an exercise for a course in arranging. He composed it long before he organized his band, when he was a trombonist and arranger with Ray Noble’s famous band.

Today, it is considered a standard in the field of popular music with its popularity as an instrumental continuing undiminished through the years.

It is now more than 75 years since Glenn Miller first succeeded with the Orchestra, which still bears his name until this day. Except for a few years following his disappearance, Glenn’s orchestra and music have been heard around the world continuously since 1938.

# The World Famous *Glenn Miller Orchestra*

## **Nick Hilscher** *Music Director & Vocalist*

Nick Hilscher is a first rate singer of the American Songbook. A native of Atlanta, Georgia, he began his professional career in his teens, playing piano and singing in the Atlanta area. His early musical influences were Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Frank Sinatra, Glenn Miller, and Tommy Dorsey. A piano student of Atlanta's Harris Wheeler, Nick was encouraged to pursue music professionally. Nick continued his studies in college under the tutelage of Donald Sanders at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. During this time he was awarded runner up in the 1997 Alabama Collegiate Artists Piano Competition. He graduated from Samford University in the spring of 2000 with a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance.

In 1998, Nick became the featured male vocalist with the Glenn Miller Orchestra. He worked with the Glenn Miller Orchestra for one year, taking a year off from college, and then returned to school to finish his degree. After earning his degree in 2000, Nick returned to his singing post with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, performing an average of 300 shows a year in venues like the Hollywood Bowl and New York City's Birdland. His touring has taken him to all fifty United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, South America, and Japan.

During this period, Nick had the pleasure of working with trombone great and musical director for the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Larry O'Brien. Nick is featured on several albums with the Glenn Miller Orchestra: *On The Air* (2002) and *Steppin' Out* (2005).

In 2002, Nick recorded his first solo album entitled *Nick Hilscher Sings with the Glenn Miller Orchestra*, produced by Charlie Bertini of Orlando, FL ([www.applejazz.com](http://www.applejazz.com)), and engineered by Freddie Breitberg of Chicago, IL. This recording features original big band arrangements written by Raleigh Dailey, Paul Ferguson, Mike Kamuf, Tony Migliore, Jeffrey Steinberg, and Dave Wolpe.

Nick worked with the Glenn Miller Orchestra until February 2005. Since that time, he has been performing solo acts as well as small tours as a featured artist with various bands. In 2005, Nick was the featured vocalist for a 100th birthday celebration of Tommy Dorsey with the Julliard Jazz Orchestra, under the direction of Victor Goines. During the same year he was the featured vocalist with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra on a cruise celebrating Tommy Dorsey's 100th birthday, and continued in that role working closely with the legendary Buddy Morrow. Buddy, who directed the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra from 1977-2010, served as a great encouragement and mentor to Nick, bringing out the best in Nick's performances and musicianship. Nick was chosen to carry on as director of the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra after Buddy's passing.

In April 2010, Nick released his newest solo album with big band, *Young and Foolish*. The album features the music of Hank Williams, Sr., Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Roger Miller, Nat "King" Cole, and Cole Porter. All of the music on this recording is arranged and orchestrated by Nick.

Nick's first performance as music director of the Glenn Miller Orchestra was on January 12, 2012.

---

**Larry O'Brien**, former music director of the Glenn Miller Orchestra, says, "(Nick) brings so much authenticity to the role of romantic balladeer and is a pleasure, both personally and professionally."

Former lead trombonist with Glenn Miller from 1939-'42, **Paul Tanner**, has remarked, "It is rare today to find a young man who sounds so great."

#### How Nick feels about the Glenn Miller Orchestra

"Been listening to Glenn Miller and His Orchestra play the hits. Man, that band could swing! No wonder it hit me like a ton of bricks, knocked me out, and changed my life when I was eleven! I'd never heard anything like that kind of music. It hit me at the deepest level a kid at that age could be hit."

***The MILLER SOUND Lives Forever!***

# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA®

## Program

Directed by Nick Hilscher

Today's performance will include some of the following selections from the  
**Glenn Miller Orchestra** library:

Moonlight Serenade	Sunrise Serenade	St. Louis Blues March
Little Brown Jug	At Last	Danny Boy
Serenade in Blue	Tuxedo Junction	Stardust
A String of Pearls	The American Patrol	Elmer's Tune
Anvil Chorus	In The Mood	Bugle Call Rag
Chattanooga Choo-Choo	Runnin' Wild	I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo
Pennsylvania 6-5000	Adios	Song of the Volga Boatmen
Handful of Stars	Rhapsody in Blue	Perfidia
I Dreamt I Dwelt in Harlem	Jeep Jockey Jump	Someone To Watch Over Me
I Know Why	The Nearness of You	Tail End Charlie
Caribbean Clipper	Sun Valley Jump	Here We Go Again
Juke Box Saturday Night	Everybody Loves My Baby	Swing Low Sweet Chariot
That's Sabotage	Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree	
Moonlight Cocktail	A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square	

**THE MILLER SOUND LIVES FOREVER!®**



# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA ®

## Highlights

- ♪ Glenn Miller was born on March 1, 1904, in Clarinda, Iowa.
- ♪ Glenn Miller originally wrote the music for *Moonlight Serenade* (later to become his theme song) as an exercise when he was studying with noted arranger, Joseph Schilinger.
- ♪ The first **Glenn Miller Orchestra**, formed in 1937, was a financial failure.
- ♪ In March 1938, Glenn Miller launched his second band, and unlike the first band, it became an enormous success with multiple hit records and huge box office sales.
- ♪ At the height of the orchestra's popularity, Glenn Miller disbanded his musical organization in 1942 to volunteer for the army. He then organized the famous **Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band**.
- ♪ On December 15, 1944, Major Glenn Miller took off in a single engine plane from England – against his better judgment – to precede his band to France, never to be seen again. The army officially declared him dead one year later.
- ♪ Due to popular demand, the Miller Estate authorized the formation of the present **Glenn Miller Orchestra** in 1956.
- ♪ In 1941, Glenn Miller and His Orchestra had more hit records in one year, including *A String of Pearls*, than anybody in the history of the recording industry.
- ♪ Although other songs had sold over a million record copies, in 1941 Glenn Miller's recording of *Chattanooga Choo Choo* received the first Gold Record ever to be awarded.
- ♪ The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** has been “on the road” longer and more continuously than any other Big Band ever.
- ♪ The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** travels over 100,000 miles each year, playing nearly 300 dates.
- ♪ More than 500,000 people annually attend performances of the **Glenn Miller Orchestra**.
- ♪ The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** has toured Japan annually since 1964. You might say the Japanese have “A Yen for Glenn.”
- ♪ A Guinness Book Record for the “Largest Dance” was established on July 20, 1984, in Buffalo, New York, when a crowd, estimated at 25,000 danced to the music of the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** on a specially designed 450 foot long dance floor.
- ♪ The entire **Glenn Miller Orchestra** repertoire now exceeds 1,700 compositions, which keeps the band popular with both young and old.
- ♪ The **Glenn Miller Orchestra**, along with other big bands, recorded “Singing With The Big Bands” with Barry Manilow in 1994.

# GLENN MILLER SOUND STILL TOPS

**Glenn Miller** disappeared on December 15, 1944. The bandleader went down over the English Channel on a flight from London to Paris at the height of his popularity. In September 1942, just prior to going into the army, he had disbanded his famous orchestra and eventually formed the **Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band** to entertain the servicemen.

Not long before he enlisted, he nosed-out Tommy Dorsey, the “Best Sweet Band” in the Downbeat poll. His recordings of *In The Mood*, *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, *A String of Pearls*, *Moonlight Serenade* and *Tuxedo Junction* were all major hit records. Miller played to sell out crowds, and his music constantly dominated the airwaves.

On December 15, Major Miller took off in an ancient, single engine plane to precede his band to Paris. The weather was foreboding. Not very confident, he said to the pilot, “Maybe we ought to call this off?” The flight officer ribbed him about his fear of flying, “Do you want to live forever?”

Now, over sixty years since the public first embraced the successful Miller Sound, both the legend and the music live on. The **Glenn Miller Orchestra** is the most sought after big band in the world today for both concert and dance engagements. Still considered the greatest band of all time, its unique sound is loved by almost anybody that cares for dance music.

The Miller Estate formed the present **Glenn Miller Orchestra** in 1956 following strong popular demand aroused as a result of the successful motion picture, an immense box office smash - *The Glenn Miller Story*, starring James Stewart and June Allyson. The band has been touring consistently since, playing an average of 300 live dates a year around the globe to millions of fans.

THE WORLD FAMOUS

**G**LENN MILLER ORCHESTRA ®

## Billing Information

This is the correct billing. NO CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE.

---

**The World Famous**

**35%**

**G**LENN **M**ILLER **O**RCHESTRA 100%

---

Owner and Operator: Glenn Miller Productions, Inc.  
3208 W. Lake Mary Blvd., Suite 1720  
Lake Mary, Florida 32746  
Telephone: (321) 441-9135

To receive press kit materials by email, please contact us at the above phone number or by email:  
[charles@glennmillerorchestra.com](mailto:charles@glennmillerorchestra.com) or [greg@glennmillerorchestra.com](mailto:greg@glennmillerorchestra.com)

[www.glennmillerorchestra.com](http://www.glennmillerorchestra.com)

