

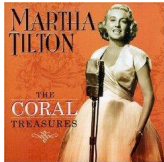
## Martha Tilton - The Coral Treasures (1952)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 20 August 2013 15:45 -

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## Martha Tilton - The Coral Treasures (1952)



1. *Let's Get Away from It All* 2:38 2. *I Said My Pajamas* 2:56 3. *I'll Always Love You* 3:03 4. *There Isn't Very Much to Do Now* 2:36 5. *I See a Million People* 3:18 6. *Thinking of You* 2:48 7. *It May Be on Sunday* 3:17 8. *You're Just In Love* 2:56 9. *It's a Lovely Day Today (From Call Me Madam)* 2:46 10. *Nobody's Chasing Me (From Out of This World)* 3:06 11. *A Little Rag Doll* 2:35 12. *Say It with Your Kisses* 3:04 13. *Let's Waltz Just Once More* 2:30 14. *Where the Red Roses Grow* 3:08 15. *Long Ago Last Night* 2:36 16. *I've Got a Right to Know* 3:08 17. *Music in My Heart* 2:25 18. *Powder Blue* 2:55 19. *Lilli Marlene* 2:50 20. *I Wish I Wuz* 3:05 21. *Painting the Clouds with Sunshine* 2:05 22. *Little Boy* 2:05 23. *Misirlou* 3:08 24. *The Happy Bird* 2:09 25. *The Nightingale Remembers* 3:04 26. *What Can I Do?* 2:19 27. *Few and Far Between* 2:55 Martha Tilton - vocals Lyn Murray & His Orchestra & Chorus

Big-band songbird "Liltin'" Martha Tilton enjoyed her greatest renown during her two-year stint with the Benny Goodman Orchestra. Featured on Goodman's smash rendition of the swing-era classic "And the Angels Sing," she was also the first non-classical vocalist to perform at Carnegie Hall. Born November 14, 1915, in Corpus Christi, TX, Tilton spent the majority of her adolescence in Los Angeles, where as a high school student she began moonlighting with bandleader Sid Lippman on the radio show Coconut Grove. A three-year stint with the Hal Grayson Band followed before Tilton joined the vocal quartet Three Hits and a Miss in 1936. A year later, she joined the Jimmy Dorsey Band, and appeared as a lounge singer in the classic Hollywood comedy Topper. Soon after Goodman arrived in Tinseltown to film Hollywood Hotel and conduct auditions to replace his previous vocalist Helen Ward, and within days of landing the gig, Tilton joined the band on tour, not returning to L.A. for two years. Acclaimed for her clear, lovely vocals and straightforward interpretive style, Tilton's performance was a highlight of the Goodman Orchestra's landmark January 16, 1938, appearance at New York's Carnegie Hall, the first showcase of its kind awarded to a swing group. Her rendition of "Lock Lomond" earned the longest ovation of the evening, and her growing fame was further solidified via the 1939 Johnny Mercer composition "And the Angels Sing," the biggest hit of her 80-odd Goodman recordings.

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When Goodman dissolved the group in April 1939, Tilton signed on with bandleader Paul Whiteman's Philco-sponsored series on NBC radio. For a brief spell during the early '40s, she hosted her own NBC show, Liltin' Martha Tilton Time, as well. During a now-infamous ASCAP strike, she made her first solo recordings for Standard Transcriptions before signing to the fledgling Capitol Records in 1942. A series of releases including "I'll Walk Alone," "A Fine Romance," and "I'll Remember April" followed, and during World War II Tilton was also a fixture of the USO tour circuit, traveling with headliner Jack Benny to military outposts in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. After her Capitol tenure ended in 1949, she recorded for independent labels including Coral and Crown, and with singer Curt Massey spent seven years co-hosting a 15-minute daily syndicated radio show sponsored by Alka-Seltzer. In 1955 Tilton played herself in the Hollywood biopic *The Benny Goodman Story*, appearing in a re-creation of the Carnegie Hall performance. That same year she gave birth to her third child, and in the years to follow gradually receded from the spotlight to focus on raising her family. Tilton resurfaced decades later in a series of swing-era revival tour packages, including a mid-'80s trek through Australia as part of a Goodman tribute showcase spearheaded by pianist/arranger Al Lerner. Tilton died of natural causes at her Brentwood, CA, home on December 8, 2006; she was 91 years old. --- Jason Ankeny, Rovi

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