

## Benny Goodman & His Orchestra, Sextet, Quartet - Recordings of 1937-1939 [1980]

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 01 March 2016 16:56 -

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01. *Let's Dance* (Baldrige - Stone - Bonime) 02. *Stompin' at the Savoy* (Goodman - Webb - Sampson) 03. *Memories of You* (Razaf - Blake) 04. *King Porter Stomp* (Morton) 05. *Down South Camp' Meeten'* (Henderson - Mills) 06. *One O'clock Jump* (Basie) 07. *Avalon* (Jolson - Rose) 08. *Bugle Call Rag* (Pettis - Meyers - Schoebel) 09. *Don't Be That Way* (Goodman - Sampson - Parish) 10. *Moonglow* (Hudson - Da Langs - Mills) 11. *Sing, Sing, Sing* (Prima)

Benny Goodman & His Orchestra (1, 4 - 6, 8, 9, 11) Benny Goodman - clarinet Garry James, Chris Griffin, Ziggy Elman - trumpet (4 - 6, 8, 9, 11) Jimmy Maxwell, Ziggy Elman, Johnny Martell - trumpet (1) Red Ballard, Murray McEachern - trombone (4, 5, 8) Red Ballard, Vernon Brown - trombone (6, 9, 11) Red Ballard, Vernon Brown, Ted Vesley - trombone (1) Hymie Shertzer, George Koenig, Art Rollini, Vido Musso - saxophon (4, 5, 8) Hymie Shertzer, George Koenig, Art Rollini, Babe Russin - saxophon (6, 9, 11) Toots Mondello, Buff Estes, Bus Basse, Jerry Jerome - saxophon (1) Jess Stacey - piano (4 - 6, 8, 9, 11) Fletcher Henderson - piano (1) Allan Reuss - guitar (4 - 6, 8, 9, 11), Charlie Christian - guitar (1) Garry Goodman - double bass (4 - 6, 8, 9, 11), Artie Bernstein - double bass (1) Gene Krupa - drums (4 - 6, 8, 9, 11), Nick Fetul - drums (1) Benny Goodman Sextet (3) Benny Goodman - clarinet, Lionel Hampton - vibraphone Fletcher Henderson - piano, Charlie Christian - guitar Artie Bernstein - double bass, Nick Fetul - drums Benny Goodman Quartet (2, 7, 10) Benny Goodman - clarinet, Lionel Hampton - vibraphone Teddy Wilson - piano, Gene Krupa - drums \*\*\*

Recordings: 1937 tracks (4, 5, 8, 10) 16 January 1938 Carnegie Hall (2, 6, 9, 11) 24 October 1939 track (1), 22 November 1939 track (3) Edited by Russian Melodia Recordings

Benny Goodman learned clarinet at his synagogue, bolstered by two years of classical training. He made his professional debut at 12 and became part of the rich Chicago jazz scene, steeped in the music of New Orleans. Goodman first recorded in 1926 and spent several years as a first-call musician in New York. His 1934 band was broadcast on the popular "Let's Dance" radio show which aired coast to coast. An otherwise unsuccessful tour in 1935 ended in a smash hit in Los Angeles where the audience went wild. Thus, it is said, swing was born and Goodman became its King.

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The band included trumpeter Bunny Berigan, vocalist Helen Ward, and Gene Krupa, the explosive drummer who was seminal to the band's swinging sound. In 1937 Harry James, Ziggy Elman, and Vido Musso joined the band. Success was due to Goodman's hiring the best arrangers, Fletcher Henderson (whom he credited with creating the swing sound), and the best players whom he rehearsed hard. He was one of the first to feature band members in small settings and the first to integrate a band with such greats as Teddy Wilson, Lionel Hampton, Ella Fitzgerald, and Jimmy Rushing.

Goodman's 1938 Carnegie Hall concert was a first for a jazz group in such a venerable setting and remains one of jazz's high points. The band enjoyed many top ten hits a year and was featured in several films, the first being The Big Broadcast of 1937. --- Sandra Burlingame, naxos.com

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