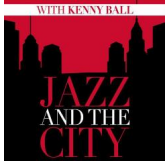


Kenny Ball - Jazz and the City with Kenny Ball (2015)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 09 September 2015 15:48 -

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01. *I Wanna Be Like You* (2:12) 02. *Rondo* (2:22) 03. *Midnight in Moscow* (2:57) 04. *Hello Dolly* (2:38) 05. *I Still Love You* (2:07) 06. *So Do I* (2:37) 07. *The Pay Off* (2:56) 08. *March of the Siamese Children* (2:44) 09. *Casablanca* (2:15) 10. *The Green Leaves of Summer* (2:48) 11. *Someday (You'll Be Sorry)* (2:17) 12. *Samantha* (2:20) 13. *Acapulco 1922* (2:13) 14. *You Made Me Love You* (2:56) 15. *Sukiyaki* (2:56) 16. *I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter* (2:28) 17. *When I'm Sixty Four* (2:41) 18. *Who's Gonna Play This Old Piano* (3:06)

Kenny Ball will always be associated with his huge 1961 hit "Midnight in Moscow," cut in the days when it was possible for a Dixieland song to make it onto the charts. He started playing trumpet at age 15 and gained experience playing in the bands of Charlie Galbraith, Eric Delaney, and Sid Phillips. In 1958, he formed his own group and quickly became a leader in Britain's trad jazz movement. "I Love You Samantha" was his first hit, and after "Midnight in Moscow" and "So Do I," Ball was set. He has remained active into the mid-'90s (touring the Soviet Union in 1985) and remained a household name in England. –Scott Yanow, Rovi

Ball was one of the best known and most loved names in British jazz music, and with his band The Jazzmen was at the forefront of the early 1960s UK trad jazz revival and achieved chart success on both sides of the Atlantic. It is currently not known how Ball died.

Born in Ilford, Essex, Ball was the youngest of seven children and began his musical life playing the bugle as a sea cadet. His career began in earnest as a semi-professional sideman for bands led by Charlie Galbraith, Sid Phillips, and Terry Lightfoot. He formed his own group in

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1958 and they got their break two years later. While auditioning for a TV show they were spotted by skiffle legend Lonnie Donegan, who offered them a recording contract on the spot.

Their biggest, and most enduring, hit was 'Midnight In Moscow', which reached number two in both the UK and US charts and sold more than a million copies world wide. Their accessible sound meant they were pop stars as well as jazzmen. Though some jazz purists weren't fans of their music, more top ten hits followed in the form of 'March Of The Siamese Children' and 'The Green Leaves Of Summer'.

Towards the end of the 60s they became the resident band on the Morecomb And Wise show, bringing them still more fame. In 1981 Ball and his band were invited to perform at the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, and in 1984 they became the first western jazz group to perform at the Kremlin, performing 'Midnight In Moscow'. --- Adam Tait, gigwise.com

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