

Glenn Miller Archive

Glenn Miller and his Orchestra

Chesterfield “Moonlight Serenade” Medleys

1. Description

Glenn Miller and his Orchestra appeared on the “Moonlight Serenade” commercial radio series for sponsor Liggett and Myers’ Chesterfield Cigarette brand from December 27, 1939 to September 24, 1942. Glenn Miller succeeded Paul Whiteman with what was a half-hour weekly program broadcast on Wednesday evenings over the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS). Following the December 27, 1939 program, the series was changed to fifteen minute format that aired Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings thereafter. For the first thirteen weeks of the series, the sponsor and network paired the Andrews Sisters vocal group with the Miller band. This meant that at least one tune per program was given to the Andrews Sisters who were backed by the Miller band. Glenn Miller was therefore constrained to find a set-up where he could feature and promote his own stars, vocalists Ray Eberle, Marion Hutton and novelty singer/saxophonist Gordon “Tex” Beneke on each program. Miller’s primary goal was to continue and increase the popularity that his band had quickly achieved. The radio production staff, Glenn Miller and his arrangers set up a system of medleys including four tunes each that would air each Wednesday evening, to fit more music into the programs and to feature his own vocalists. The medleys were labeled and performed as “something old, new, borrowed and blue” and became a well-known public signature for Glenn Miller’s broadcasts. Many of the medleys during this period were presented in an “up tempo” manner and led off the broadcasts, which announcers Paul Douglas and Ed Herlihy introduced as “medley night”.

Following the departure of the Andrews Sisters after the first thirteen weeks of the radio series, Glenn Miller continued to feature the medley format although the features would all include a Ray Eberle vocal as the “new” tune and the tempos were slowed down. The medleys continued on a regular basis until the end of 1940 although during the fall of 1940 medleys would appear on different evenings. Although one medley was broadcast in February 1941, the medleys were suspended with the implementation of the ASCAP music licensing dispute with the broadcasting industry and the radio ban of ASCAP music commencing January 1, 1941. Glenn Miller suspended the medley format until the ASCAP ban was settled October 30, 1941. Medleys then reappeared and ran regularly through April 1942. One medley appeared in May 1942. The medley format remained smooth and sweet rather than jazz oriented. The Modernaires vocal group joined Ray Eberle for “new” tunes and some medleys had different formats, with vocals appearing with some “old” and “borrowed” tunes.

Glenn Miller would continue the medley format with his Army Air Force Orchestra. Although the format would retain the “old, new, borrowed and blue” labels, the arrangements presented were longer and more full form (not necessarily abbreviated) and ran in time segments over the NBC “I Sustain the Wings” programs ranging from seven and one half minutes to occasionally nine minutes each. A separate inventory of Army Air Force medleys follows. This report is formatted in two sections, an alphabetical index and a chronological index.

2. Alphabetical Sequence of Medleys

Coquette
I'll Never Smile Again (RE)
Does Your Heart Beat For Me? (Borrowed from Russ Morgan)
Blue Hawaii

10Oct40

Coquette
Say It (RE)
Does Your Heart Beat For Me? (Borrowed from Russ Morgan)
Blue Hawaii

10Apr40, 12Jun40

Good Night, Sweetheart
I'm Stepping Out with a Memory Tonight (RE)
When My Baby Smiles At Me (Borrowed from Ted Lewis)
A Blues Serenade

17Apr40, 10Jul40

Good Night, Sweetheart
There'll Be Bluebird over the White Cliffs of Dover (RE)
When My Baby Smiles At Me (Borrowed from Ted Lewis)
A Blues Serenade

10Dec41

Hands Across the Table
Sweet Eloise (RE)
I Kiss Your Hand, Madame (Borrowed)
The Saint Louis Blues

(Not Used, 1942)

How Deep is the Ocean
Always in My Heart (RE)
It's A Wonderful World (Borrowed from Jan Savitt)
My Blue Heaven

19Feb42, 10Apr42

How Deep is the Ocean
Hereafter (RE)
It's A Wonderful World (Borrowed from Jan Savitt)
My Blue Heaven

13Nov41

How Deep is the Ocean
I'd Know You Anywhere (RE)
It's A Wonderful World (Borrowed from Jan Savitt)
My Blue Heaven

13Nov40

I Cried For You
And the Angels Sing (RE)
Marie (Borrowed from Tommy Dorsey)
Blue Skies

(Not Used, 1940)

I Cried For You
This Changing World (RE)
Marie (Borrowed from Tommy Dorsey)
Blue Skies

3Jan40

I Never Knew
Let's All Sing Together (MH)
(I've Grown So Lonesome) Thinking of You (Borrowed from Kay Kyser)
Alice Blue Gown

7Feb40

If I Had My Way
All the Things You Are (RE)
Oh! Johnny! (MH) (Borrowed from Orrin Tucker)
Blue

21Feb40

If You Were the Only Girl in the World
Sweet Potato Piper (MH)
Song of the Islands (Na Lei O Hawaii) (Borrowed from Ben Pollack)
Blue

28Feb40

I'll Never Be the Same
Helpless (RE)
Street of Dreams (Borrowed from Johnny Long)
Washboard Blues

30Oct40

Isn't It Romantic
Along the Santa Fe Trail (RE)
Blue Prelude (Borrowed from Woody Herman)

10Dec40

Isn't It Romantic
Shadows on the Sand (RE)
Blue Prelude (Borrowed from Woody Herman)

25Sep40

The Japanese Sandman
What's the Matter with Me? (MH)
Let's Dance (Borrowed from Benny Goodman)
The Blue Room

24Jan40, 6Mar40

Let's Fall in Love
Along the Santa Fe Trail (RE)
Indian Love Call (Borrowed from Tony Pastor)
Haunting Blues

22Oct40

Linger Awhile
Ooh! What You Said (MH)
The Perfect Song (Borrowed from Amos n' Andy)
Blues (My Naughty Sweetie Gives To Me)

20Mar40

Moon Over Miami
A Million Dreams Ago (RE)
Aloha Oe (Farewell My Love) (Borrowed from Hawaii)
Honolulu Blues

15Aug40, 1Oct40, 28Nov40

My Darling
Blueberry Hill
I Can't Get Started
Blue

26Jun40, 31Jul40

My Gal Sal
You're A Lucky Guy (MH)
When Summer Is Gone
Wabash Blues

14Feb40

My Melancholy Baby
Moon Love (RE)
Stompin' at the Savoy (Borrowed from Benny Goodman)
Blue Moon

10Jan40

My Reverie
Soldier, Let Me Read Your Letter (RE/TM)
Snowfall (Borrowed from Claude Thornhill)
Blue Champagne

24Apr42

My Reverie
'Tis Autumn (RE/TM)
Snowfall (Borrowed from Claude Thornhill)
Blue Champagne

14Jan42

Peg O'My Heart
Fooled (RE)
Mood Indigo (Borrowed from Duke Ellington)
Blue Orchids

7Jan42, 26Mar42

Peg O'My Heart
Polka Dots and Moonbeams (RE)
Mood Indigo (Borrowed from Duke Ellington)
Blue Orchids

24Apr40, 24Jul40

Peg O'My Heart
Starlit Hour (RE)
I'm Getting Sentimental over You (Borrowed from Tommy Dorsey)
Blue Hawaii

(Not Used, 1940)

Please
Humpty Dumpty Heart (RE)
Thanks (Borrowed from Bing Crosby)
Am I Blue?

18Nov41

Please
Yesterthoughts (RE)
Thanks (Borrowed from Bing Crosby)
Am I Blue?

19Sep40, 7Nov40

Poor Butterfly
The Sky Fell Down (RE)
I'm Getting Sentimental Over You (Borrowed from Tommy Dorsey)
(What Did I Do To Be So) Black and Blue

22May40, 17Jul40

Pretty Baby
The Sleep Song (RE)
Bye-Lo-Bye Lullaby (Borrowed from Freddie Martin)
Blue Again

(Not Used, 1942)

A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody
Shake Down the Stars (RE)
Some of these Days (Borrowed from Sophie Tucker)
Memphis Blues

29May40

Say it Isn't So
Call of the Canyon (RE)
Bye-Lo-Bye Lullaby (Borrowed from Freddie Martin)
Blue and Sentimental

20Aug40

Say it with Music
The Breeze and I
Begin the Beguine
Home Again Blues

(Not Used, 1940)

Shine On, Harvest Moon
Helpless (RE)
Rose Room (Borrowed from Phil Harris)
The Blue Room

4Dec40

Shine On, Harvest Moon
Imagination (RE)
Rose Room (Borrowed from Phil Harris)
The Blue Room

8May40

Shine On, Harvest Moon
The Story of a Starry Night (RE)
Rose Room (Borrowed from Phil Harris)
The Blue Room

17Dec41, 6Mar42

The Siren's Song
A Handful of Stars (RE)
Love in Bloom (Borrowed from Jack Benny)
The Birth of the Blues

7Aug40, 16Oct40, 19Nov40

The Siren's Song
When the Roses Bloom Again (RE)
Love in Bloom (Borrowed from Jack Benny)
The Birth of the Blues

21Jan42, 19Mar42

S'posin
When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano (RE)
Thanks for the Memory (Borrowed from Bob Hope)
(I'm Left with the) Blues in My Heart

3Jul40, 10Sep40

Stairway to the Stars
She'll Always Remember (RE/TM)
Star Dreams (Borrowed from Charlie Spivak)
Blue Evening

25Feb42

Star Dust
Blue Orchids (RE)
Sunrise Serenade (Borrowed from the Casa Loma Band)
Mood Indigo

27Dec39

Sweet and Lovely
Sierra Sue (A Song of the Hills) (RE)
The Very Thought of You (Borrowed from Ray Noble)
Blue Evening

3Apr40, 5Jun40

Sweet and Lovely
Sierra Sue (A Song of the Hills) (RE)
The Very Thought of You (Borrowed from Ray Noble)
Blue Hawaii

29Aug40

Sweet and Lovely
This Time the Dream's On Me (RE)
The Very Thought of You (Borrowed from Ray Noble)
Blue Hawaii

5Nov41, 28Jan42

Sweet Leilani
Faithful to You (RE)
Smoke Rings (Borrowed from the Casa Loma Band)
Under a Blanket of Blue

27Mar40, 15May40

Sweet Leilani
I'm Thrilled (RE)
Smoke Rings (Borrowed from the Casa Loma Band)
Under a Blanket of Blue

26Nov41

Sweet Leilani
Yesterthoughts (RE)
Smoke Rings (Borrowed from the Casa Loma Band)
Under a Blanket of Blue

19Dec40

To You
Moonlight Cocktail (RE/TM)
The Story of a Starry Night (Borrowed from Tchaikovsky)
Rhapsody in Blue

12Feb42, 2Apr42

The Touch of Your Hand
Basket Weaver (RE)
The Waltz You Saved for Me (Borrowed from Wayne King)
Beautiful Blue Danube

19Jun40

The Touch of Your Hand
Papa Niccolini (Happy Little Cobbler) (RE)
The Waltz You Saved for Me (Borrowed from Wayne King)
Beautiful Blue Danube

4Feb42, 16Apr42, 20May42

Vilia
You Walk By (RE)
Adios (Borrowed from Enric Madriguera)
Blue Afterglow

4Feb41

The Waltz You Saved for Me
Papa Niccolini (The Happy Cobbler) (RE)
Jingle Bells (TB/EC/TM) (Borrowed from Santa Claus)
Beautiful Blue Danube

3Dec41

When Irish Eyes Are Smiling
Confucius Say (MH)
Rose Room (Borrowed from Phil Harris)
Wang-Wang Blues

13Mar40

Whispering
Ooh! What You Said (MH)
The Dispy Doodle (Borrowed from Larry Clinton)
The Birth of the Blues

31Jan40

Whispering
Wishing (Will Make It So) (RE)
The Dispy Doodle (Borrowed from Larry Clinton)
Alice Blue Gown

(Not Used, 1940)

You Leave Me Breathless (RE)
The Lamplighter's Serenade
Racing with the Moon (RE/TM) (Borrowed from Vaughn Monroe)
Blues in the Night (My Mama Done Tol' Me)

12Mar42

You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine
Devil May Care (RE)
Sleep (Borrowed from Fred Waring)
Alice Blue Gown

1May40

You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine
A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square (RE)
Sleep (Borrowed from Fred Waring)
Alice Blue Gown

26Dec40

You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine

Our Love Affair (RE)

Sleep (Borrowed from Fred Waring)

Alice Blue Gown

4Sep40

3. Chronological Sequence of Medleys

3.1 27Dec39-4Feb41

27Dec39	Star Dust, Blue Orchids (RE), Sunrise Serenade, Mood Indigo
3Jan40	I Cried For You, This Changing World (RE), Marie, Blue Skies
10Jan40	My Melancholy Baby, Moon Love (RE), Stompin' at the Savoy, Blue Moon
24Jan40	The Japanese Sandman, What's the Matter with Me? (MH), Let's Dance, The Blue Room
31Jan40	Whispering, Ooh! What You Said (MH), The Dispy Doodle, The Birth of the Blues
7Feb40	I Never Knew, Let's All Sing Together (MH), Thinking of You, Alice Blue Gown
14Feb40	My Gal Sal, You're A Lucky Guy (MH), When Summer Is Gone, Wabash Blues
21Feb40	If I Had My Way, All the Things You Are, Oh! Johnny! (MH), Blue
28Feb40	If You Were the Only Girl in the World, Sweet Potato Piper (MH), Song of the Islands, Blue
6Mar40	The Japanese Sandman, What's the Matter with Me? (MH), Let's Dance, The Blue Room
13Mar40	When Irish Eyes Are Smiling, Confucius Say (MH), Rose Room, Wang-Wang Blues
20Mar40	Linger Awhile, Ooh! What You Said (MH), The Perfect Song, Blues (My Naughty Sweetie Gives To Me)
27Mar40	Sweet Leilani, Faithful to You (RE), Smoke Rings, Under a Blanket of Blue
3Apr40	Sweet and Lovely, Sierra Sue (RE), The Very Thought of You, Blue Evening
10Apr40	Coquette, Say It (RE), Does Your Heart Beat For Me, Blue Hawaii
17Apr40	Good Night, Sweetheart, I'm Stepping Out with a Memory Tonight (RE), When My Baby Smiles At Me, A Blues Serenade
24Apr40	Peg O'My Heart, Polka Dots and Moonbeams (RE), Mood Indigo, Blue Orchids
1May40	You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine, Devil May Care (RE), Sleep, Alice Blue Gown
8May40	Shine On, Harvest Moon, Imagination (RE), Rose Room, The Blue Room
15May40	Sweet Leilani, Faithful to You (RE), Smoke Rings, Under a Blanket of Blue
22May40	Poor Butterfly, The Sky Fell Down (RE), I'm Getting Sentimental Over You, Black and Blue
29May40	A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody, Shake Down the Stars (RE), Some of these Days, Memphis Blues
5Jun40	Sweet and Lovely, Sierra Sue (RE), The Very Thought of You, Blue Evening
12Jun40	Coquette, Say It (RE), Does Your Heart Beat For Me, Blue Hawaii
19Jun40	The Touch of Your Hand, Basket Weaver (RE), The Waltz You Saved for Me, Beautiful Blue Danube
26Jun40	My Darling, Blueberry Hill (RE), I Can't Get Started, Blue
3Jul40	S'posin, When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano (RE), Thanks for the Memory, Blues in My Heart
10Jul40	Good Night, Sweetheart, I'm Stepping Out with a Memory Tonight (RE), When My Baby Smiles At Me, A Blues Serenade
17Jul40	Poor Butterfly, The Sky Fell Down (RE), I'm Getting Sentimental Over You, Black and Blue

24Jul40 Peg O' My Heart, Polka Dots and Moonbeams (RE), Mood Indigo, Blue Orchids
 31Jul40 My Darling, Blueberry Hill (RE), I Can't Get Started, Blue
 7Aug40 The Siren's Song, A Handful of Stars (RE), Love in Bloom, The Birth of the Blues
 15Aug40 Moon Over Miami, A Million Dreams Ago (RE), Aloha Oe, Honolulu Blues
 20Aug40 Say it Isn't So, Call of the Canyon (RE), Bye-Lo-Bye Lullaby, Blue and Sentimental
 29Aug40 Sweet and Lovely, Sierra Sue (RE), The Very Thought of You, Blue Hawaii
 4Sep40 You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine, Our Love Affair (RE), Sleep,
 Alice Blue Gown
 10Sep40 S'posin, When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano (RE), Thanks for the Memory,
 Blues in My Heart
 19Sep40 Please, Yesterthoughts (RE), Thanks, Am I Blue?
 25Sep40 Isn't It Romantic, Along the Santa Fe Trail (RE), Blue Prelude
 1Oct40 Moon Over Miami, A Million Dreams Ago (RE), Aloha Oe, Honolulu Blues
 10Oct40 Coquette, I'll Never Smile Again (RE), Does Your Heart Beat For Me, Blue Hawaii
 16Oct40 The Siren's Song, A Handful of Stars (RE), Love in Bloom, The Birth of the Blues
 22Oct40 Let's Fall in Love, Along the Santa Fe Trail (RE), Indian Love Call, Haunting Blues
 30Oct40 I'll Never Be the Same, Helpless (RE), Street of Dreams, Washboard Blues
 7Nov40 Please, Yesterthoughts (RE), Thanks, Am I Blue?
 13Nov40 How Deep is the Ocean, I'd Know You Anywhere (RE), It's A Wonderful World,
 My Blue Heaven
 19Nov40 The Siren's Song, A Handful of Stars (RE), Love in Bloom, The Birth of the Blues
 28Nov40 Moon Over Miami, A Million Dreams Ago (RE), Aloha Oe, Honolulu Blues
 4Dec40 Shine On, Harvest Moon, Helpless (RE), Rose Room, The Blue Room
 10Dec40 Isn't It Romantic, Along the Santa Fe Trail (RE), Blue Prelude
 19Dec40 Sweet Leilani, Yesterthoughts (RE), Smoke Rings, Under a Blanket of Blue
 26Dec40 You Tell Me Your Dream, I'll Tell You Mine, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square
 (RE), Sleep, Alice Blue Gown
 4Feb41 Vilia, You Walk By (RE), Adios, Blue Afterglow

3.2**5Nov41-20May42**

5Nov41	Sweet and Lovely, This Time the Dream's On Me (RE), The Very Thought of You, Blue Hawaii
13Nov41	How Deep is the Ocean, Hereafter (RE), It's A Wonderful World, My Blue Heaven
18Nov41	Please, Humpty Dumpty Heart (RE), Thanks, Am I Blue?
26Nov41	Sweet Leilani, I'm Thrilled (RE), Smoke Rings, Under a Blanket of Blue
3Dec41	The Waltz You Saved for Me, Papa Niccolini (RE), Jingle Bells (TB/EC/TM), Beautiful Blue Danube
10Dec41	Good Night, Sweetheart, There'll Be Bluebird over the White Cliffs of Dover (RE), When My Baby Smiles At Me, A Blues Serenade
17Dec41	Shine On, Harvest Moon, The Story of a Starry Night (RE), Rose Room, The Blue Room
7Jan42	Peg O'My Heart, Fooled (RE), Mood Indigo, Blue Orchids
14Jan42	My Reverie, 'Tis Autumn (RE/TM), Snowfall, Blue Champagne
21Jan42	The Siren's Song, When the Roses Bloom Again (RE), Love in Bloom, The Birth of the Blues
28Jan42	Sweet and Lovely, This Time the Dream's On Me (RE), The Very Thought of You, Blue Hawaii
4Feb42	The Touch of Your Hand, Papa Niccolini (RE), The Waltz You Saved for Me, Beautiful Blue Danube
12Feb42	To You, Moonlight Cocktail (RE/TM), The Story of A Starry Night, Rhapsody in Blue
19Feb42	How Deep is the Ocean, Always in My Heart (RE), It's A Wonderful World, My Blue Heaven
25Feb42	Stairway to the Stars, She'll Always Remember (RE/TM), Star Dreams, Blue Evening
6Mar42	Shine On, Harvest Moon, The Story of a Starry Night (RE), Rose Room, The Blue Room
12Mar42	You Leave Me Breathless (RE), The Lamplighter's Serenade, Racing with the Moon (RE/TM), Blues in the Night (My Mama Done Tol' Me)
19Mar42	The Siren's Song, When the Roses Bloom Again (RE), Love in Bloom, The Birth of the Blues
26Mar42	Peg O'My Heart, Fooled (RE), Mood Indigo, Blue Orchids
2Apr42	To You, Moonlight Cocktail (RE/TM), The Story of A Starry Night, Rhapsody in Blue
10Apr42	How Deep is the Ocean, Always in My Heart (RE), It's A Wonderful World, My Blue Heaven
16Apr42	The Touch of Your Hand, Papa Niccolini (RE), The Waltz You Saved for Me, Beautiful Blue Danube
24Apr42	My Reverie, Soldier, Let Me Read Your Letter (RE/TM), Snowfall, Blue Champagne
20May42	The Touch of Your Hand, Papa Niccolini (RE), The Waltz You Saved for Me, Beautiful Blue Danube
Not Used (1940)	I Cried For You, And the Angels Sing (RE), Marie, Blue Skies
Not Used (1940)	Peg O'My Heart, Starlit Hour (RE), I'm Getting Sentimental over You, Blue Hawaii

Not Used Say it with Music, The Breeze and I, Begin the Beguine, Home Again Blues
(1940)
Not Used Whispering, Wishing (Will Make It So) (RE), The Dispy Doodle, Alice Blue Gown
(1940)
Not Used Hands Across the Table, Sweet Eloise (RE), I Kiss Your Hand, Madame,
(1942) The Saint Louis Blues
Not Used Pretty Baby, The Sleep Song (RE), Bye-Lo-Bye Lullaby, Blue Again
(1942)

October 11, 2011

Thank you to Edward F. Polic
Prepared by Dennis M. Spragg

Copyright 2011, University of Colorado Glenn Miller Archive
All Rights Reserved

GLENN MILLER ARCHIVE
American Music Research Center
University of Colorado
Boulder