

The Renaissance

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The Glenn Miller Orchestra **May 16, 2010 5:00 PM**

The Glenn Miller Orchestra was originally formed in 1937 by Glenn Miller. It was arranged around a clarinet and tenor saxophone playing melody, while three other saxophones played the harmony. Miller had already formed one band before this in 1936, but dissolved it as he considered it too similar to other bands of the era.

The new band became very popular and recorded a number of chart successes - among these were the ever-popular "Moonlight Serenade", "In the Mood", "Tuxedo Junction", "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo."

After the disappearance of Miller in 1944, the band was reconstituted under the direction of Tex Beneke, its lead tenor saxophonist, singer, and one of Miller's longtime close friends. A few years later, the Miller estate, having parted ways with Beneke, hired Ray McKinley, principal drummer in Miller's Army Air Force band, to organize a new "ghost band" in 1956.



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The World Famous, **Glenn Miller Orchestra**, is the most popular and sought after big band in the world today for both concert and swing dance engagements. With its unique jazz sound, the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** is considered to be one of the greatest bands of all time.

The present **Glenn Miller Orchestra** was formed in 1956 and has been touring consistently since, playing an average of 300 live dates a year all around the world.

Trombonist Larry O'Brien is the orchestra's present musical director.

THE WORLD FAMOUS
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA (USA)

Alton Glenn Miller was an American jazz musician, arranger, composer and band leader in the swing era. He was one of the best-selling recording artists from 1939 to 1942, leading one of the best known "Big Bands." While traveling to entertain U.S. troops in France during World War II, Miller's plane disappeared in bad weather. His body has never been found.

Swing music, also known as **swing jazz** or simply **swing**, is a form of jazz music that developed in the early 1930s and had solidified as a distinctive style by 1935 in the United States. Swing uses a strong anchoring rhythm section, which supports a lead section that can include brass instruments, including

trumpets and trombones, woodwinds including saxophones and clarinets or stringed instruments including violin and guitar; medium to fast tempos; and a "lilting" swing time rhythm. Swing bands usually featured soloists who would improvise a new melody over the arrangement. The danceable swing style of bandleaders such as Benny Goodman and Count Basie was the dominant form of American popular music from 1935 to 1945.



Glenn Miller

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