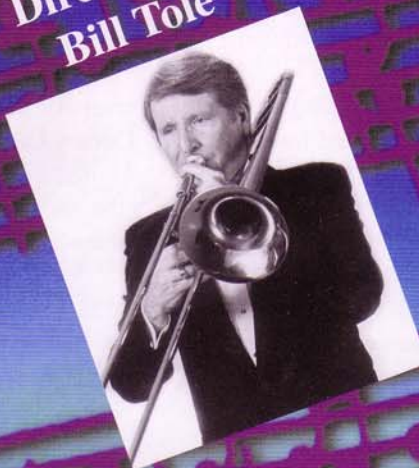


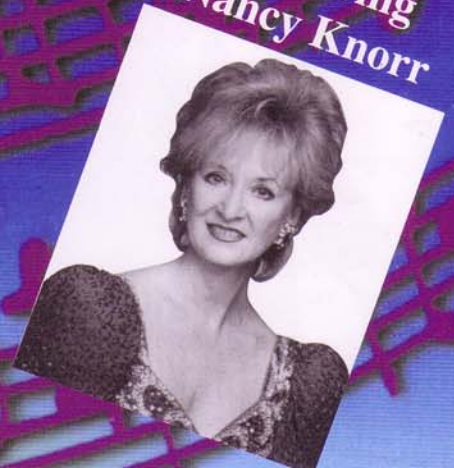
The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra™



Directed by
Bill Tole



Featuring
Nancy Knorr



The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra™



Jimmy's musical training began when he was a young boy in Pennsylvania. Along with his brother Tommy, the talented young musicians joined Paul Whiteman's Orchestra and at the same time they were recording many records under the billing "The Dorsey Brothers Orchestra". Their band continued through the early thirties until a dispute over a tempo of a song separated the brothers for decades.

Jimmy found himself an instant leader of the band that became the birth of the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. His records sold well in the late thirties, but as the forties got under way it was apparent that his momentum was increasing. With hits like "Amapola" and "Green Eyes" featuring Helen O'Connell, the band jumped to the top of the charts making Jimmy the biggest success story of the year. Other hit selling records and a series of motion pictures followed, establishing him firmly on top.



Helen played an important part of the band's success, both on records and in personal appearances. Her hits "I Remember You", "Tangerine" and many others took her to the top of the charts as well.

During the early fifties Jimmy was still a successful name in the business. Even with all of his success, he joined forces with his brother Tommy in 1953 to become the greatest band of all time!

With the untimely death of Tommy in 1956, Jimmy once again was left to carry on, but only for a short time as his own health was failing rapidly. In 1957 he left us with his last and greatest hit "So Rare" which topped the nation's popularity charts.

The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra has continued successfully for decades and is still in great demand all over the world. The past success of the Orchestra was due to the leadership of Lee Castle and more recently from 1990 through the new millennium, Jim Miller. The leadership has now passed to Bill Tole who will continue to bring joy to young and the "young at heart" as they enjoy the sounds of American Music - our history.

Bill Tole



Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Bill Tole comes from a musical family. His parent's influence helped him develop an appreciation and love for the art. His father was a high school band director, a professional trombonist and pianist. His mother was a pianist, singer, accompanist as well as a music teacher for children with special needs.

Bill attended Duquesne University School of Music. After four years of college he auditioned for the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and went on tour with the band for a few years. He later joined the United States Air Force dance band, the "Airmen of Note" which is the continuation of the Army/Air Force, "Glenn Miller Orchestra". Bill was the solo trombonist and assistant leader during his tenure with the band.

Bill's experience, expertise and qualifications quickly made him a much sought after musician. He moved to New York City in the 1960's and played in many of the top Broadway shows. He played numerous club dates with top headliner artists in addition to being very busy playing on recordings during the prime of New York City studio days. Bill relocated to Los Angeles in 1967 where he continued his musical career with recordings, commercials and movies.



Bill's career took a dramatic turn when a producer put out a casting call for a trombonist to portray Tommy Dorsey in a film. The film starred Liza Minelli and Robert De Niro. In Bill, they not only found a professional trombone player who understood the musical era, but who also had his own big band for the movie. As a bonus, the producer realized that Bill also played as sweet as Dorsey. Bill had the musical credentials to land the part and looked just like that "Sentimental Gentleman" in the movie, "New York, New York", released in 1977.

Upon completion of the film, Bill recorded his own version of the movie sound track entitled, "Music from New York, New York". In the 1990's Bill also recorded two new CD's, "Big Band On The Move" and "Big Band Memories".

Bill has performed with many of the great stars over the years. He has recorded with legendary artists such as Ella Fitzgerald, Bing Crosby, Barry Manilow, Tom Jones, Pearl Bailey, as well as many recordings and television specials with Frank Sinatra. Bill has also performed with many of the big bands including Ray Anthony, Tex Beneke, Louis Bellson, Les Brown, Bob Crosby, Harry James and Nelson Riddle.

Bill is very much in demand as a soloist and lecturer throughout the United States. He has taught master classes in Great Britain and Europe and as a featured soloist, he has performed on tours in Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

Bill has continued his musical credentials as the leader of the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. The combined energy of the band with Bill's sweet, smooth, sentimental style will take the listening audience from the 1940's right through the decades to the present day.

Nancy Knorr



Nancy, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was fortunate in that as a child she was exposed to some of the finest music in the country. She's from a family of musicians who have performed with all of the "Big Bands" and musical greats.

Her background has been of classical training as a violist; and at the young age of 12, was with the world renowned Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra. She attended West Virginia University School of Music and continued her education and performance at St. Louis University.

Nancy was a member of the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra and many other chamber groups. She has done considerable studio work, commercials, voice-overs and worked as a high fashion model.

In addition to her varied musical achievements, Nancy has had a noted singing career performing throughout the country with some of the best known Orchestras in the world of Big Band Music. Her talents have complimented the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, Tex Beneke and His Orchestra, The Warren Covington Orchestra, Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and many, many others.

Nancy has performed and shared the stage with Toni Tennile, Jack Jones, Hal Linden, Doc Severinsen and Les Brown, just to name a few. Nancy was also a featured performer on a PBS Television Special entitled "Those Fabulous Forties".

Nancy's incredible talent and her love of close harmony singing are evident in the acquisition and the current success of the famed Pied Pipers where she has been the lead singer since 1983. The Pied Pipers have continued to be the premier Vocal Group in the country today.

Nancy has continued her successful musical career as a soloist and featured singer with the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, with a tribute to the legendary Helen O'Connell, as well as recreating the elegance and sounds of the 1940's with her own style and vocal ease.

Special Shows

The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra with a tribute to Helen O'Connell and Tommy Dorsey
The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra and The Pied Pipers
The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra Christmas Show

All Major Theatres and Performing Arts Centers

Major Corporate Conventions

Dances

Cruise Ships

The SS Norway, Q E II, Vista Fjord, The Delta Steamboat Line,
The Independence

Hotels and Casinos

Foxwoods, Stardust, The Grand Hotel, The Peaks Resort, Waldorf Astoria,
Orchid Resort Hawaii, Trump Taj Mahal, Las Vegas Hilton, Palace Station Las
Vegas, Bally's Casino, Oriental Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand

Symphony Orchestras and Benefits

Minnesota Pops, Detroit Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, Pittsburgh Ballet,
Richmond Symphony, Scranton Symphony, Wilkes Barre Symphony, Minneapolis
Symphony

Summer Music Festivals

Garden State Arts Center, Hershey Park, Epcot Center, Jacksonville Jazz
Festival, Melody Fair, Bear Valley Music Festival, Calgary Stampede

Special Events

Dedication of the Women's Armed Forces Memorial, White House Invitation,
Four Events for President and Mrs. Ford, Historic Celebration in Guam, 50th
Anniversary Celebration of Independence in Saipan

Recordings

On Tour - Down Memory Lane
On Tour - Swingin' Today

SOME HIT RECORDS INCLUDE

So Rare Tangerine Green Eyes September Song
J. D.'s Boggie Woogie Johnson Rag
Amapola I Remember You June Night
...and many more