

RADIO DAYS

FIVE BY DESIGN

Lorie Carpenter-Niska • Sheridan Zuther • Kurt Niska • Michael Swedberg • Terrence Niska
and Alton Accola as your Host

ACT I

Sentimental Journey Bud Green, Les Brown & Ben Homer
I've Got A Gal In Kalamazoo Mack Gordon & Harry Warren
Big Noise From Winnetka Bob Haggart, Ray Bauduc, Gil Rodin & Bob Crosby
Moonlight Serenade Glenn Miller & Mitchell Parish
Ac-cent-tchu-ate The Positive Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer
The Three Little Fishies Saxie Dowell

Commercials & Theme Songs

The Lone Ranger • The Shadow • Superman • Shredded Ralston
Wave The Flag For Hudson High • Have You Tried Wheaties • Pepsi-Cola Hits The Spot
Mairzy Doats Milton Drake, Al Hoffman & Jerry Livingston
Personality Jimmy Van Heusen & Johnny Burke
Managua, Nicaragua Irving Fields & Albert Gamse
Moonlight In Vermont John Blackburn & Karl Suessdorf
Juke Box Saturday Night Al Stillman & Paul McGrane
Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy Don Raye & Hughie Prince
On The Trail Ferde Grofe

ACT II

Holiday For Strings David Rose
Thinking Of You Walter Donaldson & Paul Ash
My Mammy Walter Donaldson, Joe Young & Sam M. Lewis
Roodle Dee Doo Jimmy McHugh & Harold Adamson
Halo Shampoo Commercial
The Trolley Song Ralph Blane & Hugh Martin
Remember Pearl Harbor Don Reid & Sammy Kaye
Mail Call Opening Theme Song
It's Been A Long, Long Time Jules Styne & Sammy Cahn
St. Louis Blues March W.C. Handy/Glenn Miller
Tico, Tico Aloysio Oliveira & Zequinha Abreu
Any Bonds Today Irving Berlin
Rosie The Riveter Redd Evans & John Jacob Loeb
Praise The Lord & Pass The Ammunition Frank Loesser
Free For All Tom Adair & Matt Dennis
Mail Call Closing (A Handful Of Stars) Jack Lawrence & Ted Shapiro
I'll Be Seeing You Irving Kahal & Sammy Fain
Chattanooga Choo Choo Harry Warren & Mack Gordon

Technical Staff: | Daniel Ellis, Technical Director | Phil Henrickson, Sound |

Tour Coordination: | Alton Accola, (800) 449 7345 | Catherine Scott, 612 991 3528

Orchestrations: Lovell Ives | Maury Laws | Visit the *Five by Design* website at: www.fivebydesign.com

PROGRAM NOTES

Imagine a voice emanating from a crafted piece of furniture, an electronic marvel. During the 1940s, the radio console evoked amber visions of streamlined imagery, art deco facades, make-believe ballrooms, and big band remotes from Chicago, New York City, and Hollywood.

Paying tribute to the vocal groups which fronted the big bands in the 1940s "Radio Days" interweaves music from the likes of Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey with segments from vintage serials, comedies, and quiz shows.

SECRET DECODER RINGS AND PEDOMETERS

It was the era when Jack Armstrong the All-American Boy, The Shadow, and Little Orphan Annie ruled the airwaves; hawking everything from shake-up mugs to pedometers and secret decoder rings . . . all for "one thin dime and a boxtop".

The years of 1941-45 were indelibly etched on the minds of every American and radio and music played a critical role in focusing our attention on winning the victory. "Radio Days" rebroadcasts the theme songs, commercial jingles, and patriotic ditties that provided moral support for the men and women who defended the American homefront.

Support for the war effort was woven through the fabric of every show and broadcast over the nation's airwaves throughout every community, rural or urban, large or small. Tom Mix, America's favorite cowboy, extolled young listeners to be "good homefront soldiers and help America win" while Jack Armstrong the All-American Boy encouraged boys and girls to "train to be an American and eat the type of breakfast America needs in times like these...Wheaties, Breakfast of Champions".

Tin Pan Alley pumped out hundreds of songs for our troops which promoted the sale of war bonds (*Any Bonds Today?*), flagwaving patriotism (*Praise the Lord & Pass the Ammunition*), and musical diversions for their listening and dancing pleasure (*Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B*).

LEST WE FORGET

The purpose of this evening's production is to reflect and remember the men and women who served during World War II. *Radio Days*, provides us with a time capsule of those experiences as America wept, fought, and survived a war.

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MINNEAPOLIS MN—While these friends were singing and studying together in college, they had no idea their love for harmony and the music of the big band/swing era would develop into a full-time career. Brothers Kurt and Terrence Niska, childhood friend Michael Swedberg and Lorie Carpenter-Niska (Kurt's wife) first joined forces while at the University of Wisconsin/Eau Claire as members of the vocal ensemble "Hot Jazz." After completing their studies, these friends, along with Hot Jazz founder and manager Alton Accola, set about to follow their musical dream and Five By Design was born.

Radio Days, Five By Design's flagship production, first debuted in the late 1980's as a patriotic tribute to the golden age of radio and was well received as the country observed the 50th anniversaries of the events of World War II. Nearly two decades later, this "romp down memory lane" is still receiving great acclaim as noted by Five By Design's appearance at the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony Orchestra in February of 2005.

Commissioned by the Baltimore Symphony, Five By Design added Club Swing to its roster in the spring of 2000. Club Swing follows the rise and fall of the big band era, 1937 - 1955, at the fictional Club Swing in the Hotel Crosby, "where the music's hot, the drinks are cool and the dance floor is always open." Five By Design recorded selections from Club Swing with a big band headed by Willis Delony, director of Jazz Studies at Louisiana State University, and released the recording in the fall of 2001.

Due to the popularity of Radio Days and Club Swing, Five By Design will unveil their third production, Stay Tuned, in the spring of 2006. This musical journey will take concert-goers back to the early days of television by tuning in to the programs that were the mainstay of American culture from 1950 - 1966.

Five By Design has the great fortune of working with several outstanding orchestrators: Lovell Ives, Professor Emeritus of Jazz Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; Willis Delony, who frequently serves as pianist/conductor; and Maury Laws the noted film orchestrator whom many will remember for the

Rankin-Bass animated television specials which included "Frosty, the Snowman" and "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Five By Design writes their own vocal arrangements, and the orchestrators bring those arrangements to life with unparalleled expertise.

A full-time venture since 1997, Minneapolis-based Five By Design has toured extensively throughout the continental U.S. and Canada averaging over 200 days on the road and 60 performances per season. Their talents have even taken them on a whirlwind visit to Istanbul, Turkey for an appearance at the "Bosphorus International Music Festival." The ensemble is gaining national exposure with their appearance on syndicated media broadcasts including National Public Radio's "Weekend Edition—Sunday" and "Swingin' Down the Lane" and have been featured in Symphony magazine.

The Five By Design family currently includes founding members Lorie (soprano), Kurt (Tenor), Michael (Baritone), Terrence (Bass), Alton (host/narrator); Sheridan Zuther (Alto); Phil Henrickson, who has been the Sound Engineer since 1987; Daniel Ellis, Technical Director and Catherine Scott, Tour Coordinator. For further information on Five By Design's itinerary and activities, visit the ensemble's website at <http://www.fivebydesign.com>