

# THE GOODMAN-MILLER TRIBUTE ORCHESTRA

## Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller at Carnegie Hall 1939

### Biographies

**The Goodman Miller Tribute Orchestra:** This 14 piece ensemble comprising three trumpets, three trombones, four saxophones, piano, guitar, bass and drums was put together by producer Richard Pite and Musical Director Pete Long. It features a wide mix of ages with young players fast making a reputation in the UK jazz world alongside seasoned veterans who have been playing this music for decades. Trombonist Callum Au at just 24 has become a mainstay of the UK's Big Band scene and at the other extreme Peter Ripper, now in his 70s, is still one of the most in demand reed players in the business. Trombonist Chris Dean, besides being a superb trombonist and leader of the Syd Lawrence Orchestra is also a great singer and is featured in the role of Glenn Miller's boy crooner Ray Eberle. This carefully chosen orchestra features a group of premier UK jazzmen who understand and love the music of the 30s and 40s and play it with bravura, dash and plenty of pep.

### **Pete Long (clarinet, musical director, presenter)**

Pete is a major figure on London's jazz scene. For several years he played tenor sax with Jools Holland and during this time he worked with many of the major names in the jazz and pop worlds. For the last ten years he has been the musical director of the Ronnie Scott's Big Band as well as the leader of the Pete Long Orchestra, Gillespiana and The Echoes of Ellington Orchestra. He has numerous small bands under his direction and also is a busy freelancer and highly regarded teacher and arranger. Besides being a superb multi-instrumentalist Pete is also one of the finest (and funniest) presenters of jazz music and his instant rapport with audiences has done much to popularise jazz with young people and those new to the music.

### **Richard Pite (drums, producer)**

Richard is a drummer who has made a speciality of vintage drumming techniques from the early days of the 20's and 30's through to the great names of the swing era of the 30's and 40's such as Gene Krupa and Jo Jones. For the last sixteen years he has been musical director of the Boisdale Jazz and Cigar Clubs in Belgravia, Bishopsgate and Canary Wharf and in 1997 he founded the Jazz Repertory Company to promote concerts and projects featuring recreations of jazz from the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Recent concerts have included *A Tribute to Artie Shaw with Strings, Benny Goodman at Carnegie Hall 1938, A Centenary Tribute to Gene Krupa* and *Chamber Jazz 1927 to 1940*.