



MUNDELL LOWE

BORN IN LAUREL, Mississippi, Mundell left home at the age of thirteen. After working in Nashville, he found his way to Bourbon Street in New Orleans and the beginning of his jazz career. While serving in World War II, he met the influential John Hammond, who introduced him to Ray McKinley. Mundell worked with McKinley's band for a year and a half, developing his distinctive instrumental style, and then moved on to work in New York at Café Society and stints at the Village Vanguard and The Embers, among others. Mundell worked with Billie Holiday, Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Helen Humes and Charles Mingus, to name but a few. These gigs overlapped with an early morning TV show at NBC with Cy Coleman, "A Date in Manhattan," and later "The Kate Smith Hour" with Stan Getz, Doc Severinsen, and Kai Winding.

FROM THE EARLY FIFTIES to the mid-Sixties, he was an active performer, working with George Duvivier on bass and Ed Shaughnessy on drums in Dave Garroway's "Today Show" studio band. He also played with the extraordinary pianist Hank Jones when they both worked in the NBC and CBS orchestras of the early Fifties. After seventeen years at NBC as a guitarist and arranger, Lowe was transferred to the News and Special Events Department to work as a composer.

MUNDELL MOVED TO LOS ANGELES, California, Christmas 1965—actually, he left to visit some friends, and never went back to New York! He met Jackie Cooper, then-head of Screen Gems, and began the West Coast phase of his career composing music for some of their television and film properties. Lowe augmented his TV and film work with making his own LPs as well as two successful projects with noted singers Sarah Vaughan ("After Hours") and Carmen McRae ("Bittersweet").

EVEN THOUGH HE HAD made special appearances with Peggy Lee and the White House, toured Japan with Benny Carter several times, and was a regular performer at the Monterey Jazz Festival, Mundell found he was spending more time writing than playing, which he found frustrating. He made up his mind to turn that around and, during the 1980s, he stepped out of the studio world of film and television and returned to performing, the first love of his long and rich musical career.

MUNDELL'S CURRENT SCHEDULE is no less active. In the last few years he has traveled the globe as a concert performer, worked the States with his own quintet, and has made several trips to New York to work with Ron Carter, Al Foster, Bill Mays, and Ray Drummond. He tours with the André Previn Trio (composed of Previn, Ray Brown, and Lowe), as well as the Great Guitars with Charlie Byrd, Herb Ellis, and Tal Farlow. Mundell also has been busy in recording studios lately, having recorded two albums for Telarc with the André Previn Trio, one for Phillips with Kiri Te Kanawa, and two albums for Fresh Sounds with Teté Montoliu.

DISCOGRAPHY

RIVERSIDE RECORDS

Guitar Moods, 1950
Mundell Lowe Conducts New Music of Alec Wilder, 1952
A Grand Night for Swinging, 1952
Mundell Lowe Quintet, 1959

RCA RECORDS

Mundell Lowe Quintet, 1953
Porgy and Bess, 1954
TV Action Jazz, 1957
Midnight Food, 1960

CHARLIE PARKER RECORDS

Patter of Evil, 1961
The Original, 1961

WARNER BROS. RECORDS

Billy Jack (movie soundtrack), 1972

FAMOUS DOOR RECORDS

California Guitar, 1974

JAZZ RECORDS

Mundell Lowe, Guitar Player, 1976

DOBRE RECORDS

The Incomparable, 1978

PAUSA RECORDS

Mundell Lowe Presents Transit West, 1984

ARISTA RECORDS

Paradise Café (Barry Manilow), 1984

FRESH SOUNDS

Teté Montoliu With Mundell Lowe, 1990
Mundell Lowe Teté Montoliu, 1990

TELARC RECORDS (with the André Previn Trio)

Uptown, 1990
Old Friends, 1991

PHILLIPS RECORDS (André Previn Trio)

Kiri Sidetracks (with Kiri Te Kanawa), 1991

DUTCH GRAMOPHONE

Showboat (with André Previn), 1995

CONCORD RECORDS

The Return of the Great Guitars, 1996
Souvenirs, 1996

VERVE RECORDS

Jazz at the Musikverein (André Previn Trio), 1997

WESTSIDE RECORDS

Second Time Around (with Sal Salvador), 1998

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

With Charlie Parker, Rockland Palace, New York
With Peggy Lee, at the White House, 1970
Monterey Jazz Festival, 1970-1986
Mobile Jazz Festival, 1965-1990
Playboy Jazz Festival, 1987

CONCERT TOURS

"Holiday on Broadway," with Billie Holiday,
United States
With Lester Young, U.S.
With Benny Carter, Japan

"Men of Jazz," with Lee Konitz, Europe

Guest Artist, Europe

With André Previn Trio, Japan, 1992

North America, 1993
Europe, 1995

MUSICAL DIRECTOR/ CONDUCTOR

Jazz in the Round, NET

Nominated for Grammy Award
Monterey Jazz Festival, 1970-1986

SELECTED TELEVISION CREDITS

Andersonville Trial, KCET

Emmy award winner, Best Show 1970

Love on a Rooftop

The Courtship of Eddie's Father

Hawaii 5-0

Starsky and Hutch

Andy Griffith Special

Lucy Comes to Nashville, Lucille Ball, CBS

Strike Force

FILM CREDITS

In The Name Only (Screen Gems)

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About

Sex (Woody Allen, United Artists)

Sidewinder One (20th Century Fox)

Billy Jack (Warner Bros.)