

Musel Music presents

# RAY CONNIFF

40<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

*his singers & orchestra in Concert*

**JANUARY 20th - 21st**

THE JACKIE  
**GLEASON**  
THEATER

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Miami Beach



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ANNIVERSARY

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# RAY CONNIFF

## *Highlights*

- ★ Ray Conniff is one of the few genuine commercially successful musical pop artists of our time. Born in Attleboro, Massachusetts, Ray was exposed to music quite early in his life, as his father was the leader of the city's Jewelry Band, and his mother used to play the piano.
- ★ Out of high school, Ray got his first professional musical position, with Dan Murphy's "Musical Skippers" in Boston.
- ★ Ray's first job in New York was as trombonist-arranger, with Bunny Berigan. As a result of working for this band, Ray was hired by Bob Crosby in 1939, arranging and playing the trombone with the "Bobcats". After only one year with Crosby, Ray was hired, in 1940, by Artie Shaw.
- ★ In the early 50's, the big break in Ray's career happened when he met Mitch Miller of Columbia Records. This started a series of Conniff-arranged Columbia recording sessions, which resulted in hit records. Among them, were Johnny Ray's "Walkin' in the Rain", Frankie Laine's "Moonlight Gambler", and Guy Mitchell's "Singing The Blues". Later, there was Marty Robbins' "White Sport Coat", and the huge Johnny Mathis hits, "Chances Are", "Wonderful, Wonderful", and "It's not for me to say".
- ★ Ray's success, arranging for other conductors, prompted Columbia to give him the podium himself for an album, and his first, "S Wonderful", was in the top twenty albums in popularity for nine months. Cash Box voted Ray "the most promising up and coming leader of 1957". He won the same award again in 1958, and in 1959, Disk Jockeys voted him the number one award for being "the most programmed studio orchestra".
- ★ Ray brought to the public the first live stereo concerts ever to take place in the world. He played to enthusiastic capacity audiences everywhere, and critics hailed the event as the "musical event of the sixties".
- ★ Ray's success during the decade of the sixties, is relected by the multitude of awards he has received from all over the world. Probably the most gratifying to Ray was the coveted "Grammy Award" in 1967 for his album "Somewhere My Love", which was voted "Best Record of the Year" by a singing group.
- ★ During the 1970's, one of Ray's claims to fame was a command performance at the White House, in Washington.
- ★ In December, 1973, he was invited to Russia where he had the distinction of being the first "pop" artist from the Western World to be asked to record an album in Moscow for the Russian Government recording company, Melodiya.
- ★ He has already received nine "Gold Record Awards", which are given by the recording industry for an album achieving over 1,000,000 in sales. The albums receiving this high distinction are: "S Marvelous", "Concert In Rhythm, Vol. 1", "Memories Are Made of This", "So Much in Love", "Christmas with Conniff", "We Wish You a Merry Christmas", "Somewhere My Love", "Honey", and "It Must be Him".
- ★ Ray has recorded about 90 albums and to date he has sold 60,000,000 albums. His most recent albums presently available are: "Ray Conniff Plays Broadway" (1990); "S Always Conniff" (1992); "Latinisimo" (1994), and "Ray Conniff 40th Anniversary" (1995).

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\*\* Artists with the most chart albums in the U.S.: 1. Elvis Presley (93); 2. Frank Sinatra (67); 3. Johnny Mathis (63); 4. Ray Conniff (49).

\*\*The Miami Herald, December 10, 1995.

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*his singers & orchestra*

<i>Singers:</i>	Laura Savitz	(1st soprano)
	Fran Logan	(2nd soprano)
	Erin Theriault	(1st alto)
	Lisa Semko	(2nd alto)
	Troy Kennedy	(1st tenor)
	David Theriault	(1st baritone)
	Enoch Asmuth	(2nd tenor)
	Jeff Dolan	(2nd baritone)
<i>Musicians:</i>	Perry La Marca	(piano)
	Ted Hughart	(bass)
	Greg Turner	(guitar)
	Steve Cardenas	(guitar)
	Jerry White	(drums)
	Richard Fleisher	(harp)
	Gary Mayong	(percussion)
	Peter Quara	(alto sax)
	John Mautino	(alto sax)
	Doug Malcolm	(tenor sax)
	Bill Mackrell	(tenor sax)
	Robert Persi	(baritone sax)
	Brian MacDonald	(trumpet)
	Alan Hood	(trumpet)
	Dave Walker	(trumpet)
	Dante Luciani	(trombone)
	Dana Teboe	(trombone)
	George Geisler	(trombone)
	Ray Conniff	(conductor & arranger)
	<i>Sound:</i>	Dick Bogert
<i>Lighting:</i>	Fernando Gordillo	

Produced by

*Musel Music*

*in memory of*

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