



Authentic Swing in Living Color

Photos

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Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band onstage at Heckscher Park, Huntington, for Jazz Week at Huntington Summer Arts Festival

Photo credit: Rich Balter



Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band turns up the heat at The Madison Theatre, Molloy College

Photo credit: Anthony Vela



Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band features vocalist Zack Alexander, the winner of Hoboken's 'Sinatra Idol' contest

Photo credit: Anthony Vela

Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band pays tribute to legendary Swing Era clarinetist and bandleader, Artie Shaw

Photo credit: Peter Frutkoff



For booking information, contact:

Steve Shaiman, Artistic Director: 516.876.8324
steve@swingtimeny.com



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Photo caption: Featured Swingtime Big Band vocalist Bobbie Ruth entertains the crowd at The Madison Theatre, Molloy College

Photo credit: Anthony Vela



Photo caption: Swingtime's Bandleader And Artistic Director, Steve Shaiman

Photo credit: Peter Frutkoff



Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band salutes Swing Era drummer/bandleader Gene Krupa to open their show at The Madison Theatre, Molloy College

Photo credit: Peter Frutkoff

Photo caption: Swingtime Big Band performs under the watchful eye of iconic bandleader Count Basie at The Madison Theatre, Molloy College

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Full band bio

Dedicated to the performance of America's greatest popular standards, SWINGTIME BIG BAND is a 20-piece authentic swing band comprised of master interpreters of music from the Swing Era (mid-1930's through early 1950's). Hailed by *The New York Times* as "Musicians who make the sounds of the pre-rock era rock," and by *Newsday* as "Long Island's leading professional big band...dedicated to the Great American Songbook," the ensemble specializes in performing Big Band classics as originally recorded, bringing to life the style and the spirit of this uniquely American music for today's audiences to experience in living color. In recognition of the band's efforts in "perpetuating, promoting & performing with integrity the sounds of the Big Band Era," SWINGTIME was officially recognized by the Big Band Hall of Fame in 2007 as "Ambassadors of Big Band Music."

Now celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the band's debut in 1972 (as the Stardusters Big Band, founded by Bob Rotunda), SWINGTIME thrills concert audiences and Ballroom dancers alike with authentic recreations of the timeless swing music of such iconic bandleaders as Count Basie, Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Les Brown, Harry James, Gene Krupa, Woody Herman, Charlie Barnet and Stan Kenton, among many others. This variety is clearly showcased on Swingtime's best-selling CD's—*IN LIVING COLOR*, and *LIVE...FROM NEW YORK*.

SWINGTIME is a regularly featured band at Lincoln Center for its renowned Midsummer Night Swing festival, with five performances on that grand stage since 1999. For its 2007 Lincoln Center show, SWINGTIME had the distinction of being singled out as the only swing band featured in *Time Out New York's* select highlights of that season's Midsummer Night Swing. Just some of the many other prestigious venues at which band members have performed include: Carnegie Hall, David Geffen (Avery Fisher) Hall, Radio City Music Hall, New York State Theatre, the Plaza Hotel, the Waldorf Astoria, Town Hall, The Friar's Club, Tavern on the Green and the Rainbow Room.

With the recent renaissance in popularity of both swing music and ballroom dancing, this versatile ensemble has been enjoying remarkable success playing both the classic swing that is SWINGTIME's calling card and

a wide variety of music to accommodate the many varied styles requested by ballroom dancers, including the Lindy, Fox Trot, Peabody, Cha-Cha, Tango, Merengue, Rhumba and Mambo.

Among the 20 consummate Big Band jazz musicians who make up SWINGTIME's traditional instrumentation of reeds, brass and rhythm are many accomplished soloists, including performers with Lionel Hampton, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Jerry Vale, and the Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Count Basie, Glenn Miller and Buddy Rich Big Bands, as well as veterans of such popular regional groups as Ira Alexander's Swingtimers, Hal Hoffman Orchestra, Ben Grisafi Big Band, Al Miller Big Band, Danny Vincent Orchestra and Bob Rotunda's Stardusters Big Band.

SWINGTIME features a female vocalist--Bobbie Ruth--who recreates the "gal vocal" stylings of such legendary singers as Peggy Lee, Ella Fitzgerald, Eydie Gormé, Helen O'Connell, Billie Holiday, Rosemary Clooney, Bette Midler and Judy Garland, and the band's male singer--Zack Alexander (winner of Hoboken's 2016 Sinatra Idol contest!)--emulates such Big Band crooners and swingers as Nat "King" Cole, Bobby Darin, Joe Williams, Dean Martin and, of course, the immortal Frank Sinatra.

Leading the band is saxophonist and artistic director Steve Shaiman, a passionate advocate of Big Band swing for his entire musical life. Audiences are enthralled by Steve's animated leadership and the informative historical background he imparts about both the music and the bandleaders during the performance. Together with his SWINGTIME colleagues, Steve is committed to keep this essential American music alive by performing as often as possible for audiences of all ages.

In addition to bringing the joy of swing to summer concert-goers in the beautiful public parks and beaches across its native Long Island and at Music Festivals throughout the greater New York Tri-State area and Pennsylvania, the SWINGTIME BIG BAND stays busy spreading the gospel of swing music year-round, with public and private concerts and ballroom dance engagements

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Press quotes

"Musicians who make the sounds of the pre-rock era rock"

— *The New York Times*

"Long Island's leading professional big band... dedicated to the Great American Songbook"

— *Newsday*

"Seeing Steve perform annually with Swingtime in Manhattan, I thought, 'This guy would make a great radio host and the perfect cat for my 'Birth of Swing' special.' Well, he really blew my hat off...not only was I right, but the program was MIND BLOWING good!"

— *Human Numan, Programmer
Sirius XM 40s Junction Channel*

Testimonials

What a fabulous concert tonight. Fantastic band, beautiful weather...and a HUGE crowd to enjoy it all.

And...WOW, WOW, WOW...The sensational Steve Shaiman and his Swingtime Big Band. Back for their ninth year by popular demand. Put it on your calendar for next year, Steve, and into perpetuity!!!! Every year a great performance and every year a new and very creative program. From us to you ... something old are all the programs enjoyed in the past years; something new is the program we enjoyed tonight; and something blue is what we would be if you did not come back next year.

I have been hearing kudos from all around our neighborhood. You and your band are a much anticipated part of the summer.

— *Ann Meschery, Director of Events
Carl Schurz Park Conservancy*

Thank you for putting on a great show. The crowd loved you and the band. The pieces all worked out brilliantly. Your showmanship, as always, is a winning combo with a great band and two great singers.

— *Lynda Moran, Executive Director
Islip Arts Council*

It was such a spectacular event, thanks to you and the band for your generosity, professionalism and spirit. The music was fantastic, and a great time was had by all.

— *Meredith Walters, Director, Arts & Culture
Brooklyn Public Library*

It's wonderful to see three generations enjoy the beautifully performed classic music by Swingtime Big Band. Young children were enjoying the concert as much as our senior attendees. Music connects family and community, and that's what the summer concert series are about.

— *Sarah Anker, Suffolk County Legislator
(Rocky Point Summer Concert Series)*

The feedback was wonderful the night of your concert. Everyone was sooo enthusiastic about you and your whole group of talented musicians ---they wanted me to make sure you would come back next year. You all were TERRIFIC!

— *Marge Suozzi, Chair
Morgan Park Summer Concerts*

I have to tell you that the Swingtime Big Band is freaking amazing!!!!!!!!!!!!

— *Steve Dassa, President
Steve Dassa Entertainment
(Agent, Eisenhower Park Concerts)*

There is no question that your band made the night, seconded only by the great job our students did, both as ambassadors for the school...and, especially, as dancers. They are still energized.

Steve, I won't pretend to be any kind of expert on music, but I've been listening to this music my whole life and, to my ear, you guys are dead solid perfect. I admire your respect for the masters and your desire to capture their original performances, be it arrangements, melody and lyrics, or even nuances in phrasing and character ... Others can stylize for the modern era, but there's a great service in recreating the original performances and making new generations appreciate them all over again. This stuff is timeless. We have never heard a better swing band.

— *Dave Petrillo, Headmaster
Montfort Academy*

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Videos

Please visit swingtimeny.com/video to view the following videos.

- **Corner Pocket**
as recorded by Count Basie
- **'S Wonderful**
as recorded by Artie Shaw
- **These Foolish Things**
as recorded by Nat King Cole with Billy May
- **American Patrol**
as recorded by Glenn Miller
- **Opus One**
as recorded by Tommy Dorsey
- **At Last**
as recorded by Glenn Miller
- **Gonna Sit Right Down ...**
as recorded by Frank Sinatra w/ Count Basie
- **Sing, Sing, Sing**
as recorded by Benny Goodman
- **The Man that Got Away**
as recorded by Judy Garland
- **I Get a Kick Out of You**
as recorded by Frank Sinatra with Neal Hefti
- **Old Devil Moon**
arranged by Swingtime's Dr. Bruce Shulman
for Bobbie Ruth
- **Let's Dance**
as recorded by Benny Goodman
- **I Love Bein' Here With You**
as recorded by Peggy Lee

Logos

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