MADE IN FRANCE © CLASSICS RECORDS



THE CHRONOLOGICAL



BENNY CARTER
1954

with Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Louis Bellson,
Bill Harris, Don Abney, Ray Brown,
Buddy Rich, George Duvivier...

CLASSICS

BENNY CARTER
1954

1	**MOONGLOW** (Hudson-DeLange-Mills) *(1780-2)*	*06-23-54*	**2:47**
2	**MY ONE AND ONLY LOVE** (Wood-Mellin) *(1781-2)*	*06-23-54*	**3:54**
3	**OUR LOVE IS HERE TO STAY** (Gershwin-Gershwin) *(1782-3)*	*06-23-54*	**3:38**
4	**THIS CAN'T BE LOVE** (Rodgers-Hart) *(1783-5)*	*06-23-54*	**3:25**
5	**TENDERLY** (Lawrence-Gross) *(1784-3)*	*06-23-54*	**3:40**
6	**UNFORGETTABLE** (Gordon) *(1785-2)*	*06-23-54*	**3:23**
7	**RUBY** (Parish-Roemheld) *(1786-5)*	*06-23-54*	**4:35**
8	**MOON SONG** (Coslow-Johnson) *(1787-3)*	*06-23-54*	**4:00**
9	**LAURA** (Raskin-Mercer) *(1955-1)*	*09-14-54*	**7:41**
10	**THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC** (Arlen-Mercer) *(1956-2)*	*09-14-54*	**6:47**
11	**ANGEL EYES** (Dennis-Brent) *(1957-3)*	*09-14-54*	**3:27**
12	**THE SONG IS YOU** (Kern-Hammerstein II) *(1958-8)*	*09-14-54*	**4:49**
13	**MARRIAGE BLUES** (Carter) *(1959-1)*	*09-14-54*	**7:45**
14	**JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS** (Porter) *(1960-1)*	*09-14-54*	**6:09**

Photo Gottlieb.
Special thanks to Léon Dierckx.

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BENNY CARTER
1954

For commercial reasons, Norman Granz originally issued some of the material heard on this CD on an album entitled: "Moonglow: Love Songs by Benny Carter and his Orchestra". Not only did, this "orchestra" comprise just Carter plus a 3-man rhythm-section, but in addition, this was no syrupy music for romantic lovers as the title might erroneously suggest but pure jazz of the very highest order!

Young Benny Carter first tried the piano and the trumpet, but soon switched to saxophone. He initially played 'C'-melody sax, which he soon after replaced by an alto sax. His professional jobs during these formative years included short spells with the bands of Earl Hines, Fletcher and Horace Henderson, two weeks with Duke Ellington, and about a year with Charlie Johnson. With Johnson's band Benny Carter was able to make his first recordings, and the orchestra also cut one of his earliest arrangements, "You Ain't The One". He led the first band of his own for a short time in 1929, but later became musical director of McKinney's Cotton Pickers. Since the autumn of 1932, Carter has regularly fronted his own units, working mainly in New York. His first trip to Europe lasted almost three years, from the summer of 1935 to May 1938. While playing periodically with Willie Lewis' fabulous orchestra of expatriates, Carter also worked as a single and arranged prolifically for many bands all over Europe. Back in the States, he organized another big band, based in his home town. Benny Carter permanently moved to California in 1945, but has continued to lead groups of various dimensions. Since the late forties he has mostly worked as a composer-arranger for Hollywood films and TV productions. However, Benny Carter continued to appear regularly with different formations all over the world well into the last decade of the 20th century. More than 70 years had passed since he first led a band of his own ! Benny Carter died a few weeks short of his 96th birthday on July 12, 2003 in Los Angeles.

Volume 11 of the complete recordings of Benny Carter presented in chronological order, opens with the album mentioned in the introductory remarks. Carter's fabulous alto sax is backed by Don Abney, George Duvivier and Louis Bellson. By this time the drummer had already made two sessions for Granz and was well known for his previous engagement with Duke Ellington. Pianist Don Abney was no household name then (or now) but had worked occasionally with Benny Carter before and did so again in the mid-sixties. In the early fifties bassist George Duvivier played with Lena Horne where Carter first heard him. This initial collaboration was followed by many studio and concert dates as Carter appreciated Duvivier's discreet and elegant playing. The next session is altogether different since it is in a looser, more improvised manner. Allegedly Dizzy Gillespie, who had last recorded with Carter in 1939, was not supposed to appear at all on this session. By chance he turned up in the studios, saw who was about to record and returned home to get his instrument. His playing on two tracks was certainly worth the trip! To be continued...

Anatol Schenker, April 2007

BENNY CARTER: Benny Carter-as/Don Abney-p/George Duvivier-b/Louis Bellson-d.

Los Angeles, June 23, 1954

1780-2	Moonglow	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1781-2	My One And Only Love	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1782-3	Our Love Is Here To Stay	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1783-5	This Can't Be Love	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)
1784-3	Tenderly	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1785-2	Unforgettable	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1786-5	Ruby	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1787-3	Moon Song	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)

BENNY CARTER: Dizzy Gillespie*-t/Bill Harris-tb/Benny Carter-as/Oscar Peterson-p/Herb Ellis-g/Ray Brown-b/Buddy Rich-d.

New York, September 14, 1954

1955-1	Laura	Norgran MGN1015 (LP)
1956-2	That Old Black Magic	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)
1957-3	Angel Eyes -BH out	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)
1958-8	The Song Is You	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)
1959-1	*Marriage Blues	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)
1960-1	*Just One Of Those Things -BH out	Norgran MGN1044 (LP)