

Number 56 - April 2013

## The Four Seasons UK Appreciation Society Newsletter

This newsletter is dedicated to the recent deaths of Stu Miller (in May 2011) who started/ran the original UK Fan Club from 1970-1974 and also of Stefan Wriedt, a dedicated German fan who died in September 2012 and contributed musically to the group's music and Appreciation Society. Both are sadly missed!

This Issue...  
*1974 and 1975*

*Magazine Articles*

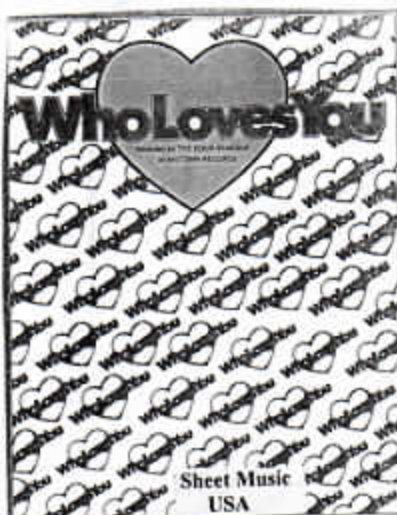
*Record Reviews*

*Discography with  
chart listings*

*Miscellaneous*

*Current 4 Seasons  
Biography*

*Frankie Valli's  
band information*



**BACK BY MASSIVE DEMAND**



**BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY  
WALK LIKE A MAN  
RAG DOLL  
WHO LOVES YOU  
YOU'VE GOT MY LOVE  
LET'S HANG ON  
MY EYES ADORED YOU  
BIG MAN (PART 1 & 2)**

**A TRUE AMERICAN  
POP ICON**

**FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS**

**ON SALE  
9am  
TODAY**

**JUNE 2013**

17	MANCHESTER ARENA	0141 947 3300	www.mca-arena.com
18	EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE	0144 871 3014	www.edinburghplayhouse.org.uk
20	Bournemouth BIC	0144 576 3000	www.bic.co.uk
23	BIRMINGHAM LG ARENA	0144 232 0100	www.theicfactory.com
25/26	LONDON ROYAL ALBERT HALL	020 7380 8212	www.royalalberthall.com

www.ticketline.co.uk - 0844 888 9991 www.bookingdirect.com - 0844 330 0000

frankievallifanclub.com

KENNEDY STREET, AAA, LIVE, NATION & OF CONCERTS PREMIER



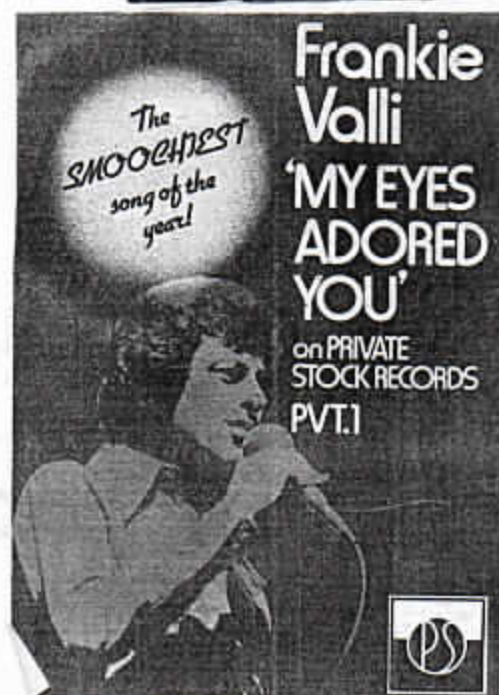
thank  
you  
for an incredible year

FRANKIE VALLI • BOB GAUDIO

and

FOUR SEASONS

USA Billboard  
Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 1975



## Meet The Very Talented Four Seasons



*Photo Richard Beland*

With the 2013 UK Tour now fast approaching we thought it might be a good idea to introduce you to the Four Seasons. Although we know lots about Frankie Valli there does not seem to be very much information about these very talented guys who we saw on tour with Frankie last year so we hope you find this information interesting.

There are still some front arena Fan Club tickets for the UK Birmingham, Manchester and Bournemouth shows - click on the link below for tickets: <http://www.ticketline.co.uk/frankie-valli-and-the-four-seasons/presale?presale=fs8dgpq>

### Landon Beard

Landon began his performing career as a soloist for a Kodak commercial when he was just three years old. He comes from a family of professional musicians and from the age of three has spent many hours in the studio recording numerous television and radio commercials. He grew up in San Diego, California, where he continued his work in the recording studio and on stage. He has since earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in musical theatre from Cal State University, Fullerton. Shortly after his graduation in 2001 he appeared in the Hollywood Bowl's 'Show Boat' and 'The Great American Concert'. He has performed across the USA with various theatrical productions and vocal groups and his voice can be heard around the country, advertising for such companies as Toyota, NBC, Warner Bros, Pepsi and Disney. He is enjoying life touring with Frankie Valli.

### Brian Brigham

Brian from Los Angeles, California, has performed for and alongside such artists as Faith Hill, Pat Benatar, The Beach Boys, Phil Collins, Eric Benet, Jay Leno, Bill Cosby, Manhattan Transfer and Melissa Manchester to name but a few. Film and TV appearances include *General Hospital*; *Pirates of The Caribbean*; *At World's End*; *Boston Legal*; *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*; *The Bold and The Beautiful*, singing back-up vocals on the seasons finale of *America's Got Talent* and *The Donny & Marie Show*. Voice over/session singing credits include CBS; ABC; NBC; Disney and *Night At The Museum 2: Bottle of The Smithsonian*. Brian has starred in several musical theatre productions including *The Broadway National Touring Company of Saturday Night Fever*; *Grease*; *Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* with Jack Black; Ben Vereen and original motion picture stars Ted Neeley; Barry Dennen and Yvonne Elliman.

### Brandon Brigham

Brandon has been entertaining since the age of 12. His career began as a young boy when his Mother and would him and his brother, Brian, on family trips to talent competitions. He began singing in the school choir and right out of high school was cast in several productions with the Walt Disney Company and Universal Studios. He formed the boy band Synergy with friends and the group began travelling around the world performing for audiences in Hong Kong; China, Tokyo and Osaka, Japan to a very large fan base. He has also been in several musical theatre productions including *Brigadoon*; *The Pirates of Penzance*; *Footloose* and *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. He has shared stages with The Beach Boys; Pat Benatar; Melissa Manchester and Donny and Marie Osmond. Brandon says "Travelling the states and performing for thousands of sold out crowds has been a real blessing and a great tool for my growth as an artist. As my career continues I can only hope to obtain such great success as the amazing talents that came before me". Brandon has recently begun producing his own song compositions and is to record an album.

### Todd Fournier

Todd was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio with six sisters and three brothers and obtained a Degree in Interpersonal Communications at Ohio State University. After Uni he began working as an entertainer for Norwegian Cruise Lines and then moved to LA where he did some modelling and acting but singing was his true love.

He has been singing with Frankie Valli as one of the Four Seasons on and off for the past eight years. He has been in shows such as Jesus Christ Superstar; Grease; Miss Saigon; Godspell and Singin' In the Rain. His TV appearances include Wicked Wicked Games and General Hospital.

## **Meet the Band**

### **John Schroeder - Lead Guitar**

John has been playing guitar and singing since he was 9 years old. Born in the UK John grew up outside of Minneapolis, Minnesota and moved to LA when he was 18. He plays many styles of music and has performed alongside artists such as Al Jarreau; Russ Freeman and The Rippingtons; Eric Marienthal. And the Steve Miller Band. In addition to travelling and performing with Frankie Valli he is finishing A Bachelor of Music Degree in Studio/jazz guitar from the University of Southern California, as well as performing and recording with various projects around LA. In 2009 John released a CD with his own band, Pinot ([www.pinotfund.com](http://www.pinotfund.com)) and toured the US to support the album.

### **Robbie Angelucci - First Guitarist**

Robbie was born and raised in Lanciano, a small town in the Abruzzo region of Italy. He started playing guitar at the age of 11. At 19 he moved to the USA to attend the Musicians Institute in Hollywood. Since then he has worked in the Los Angeles music scene as a session musician and toured extensively. He worked on projects for national TV shows, major movie trailers and soundtracks including Barber Shop, The Honeyymooners and Roll Bounce. Robbie has worked with some of the finest artists in the world including Taylor Dayne and Wayne Brady. In 2003 he recorded and released his first solo album as a writer and producer, A Guy With An Accent which gained great reviewed in both Europe and USA. He has started his own studio facility and recording company, Moodys Tone Productions and he also write for Axe Guitar Magazine as a US correspondent. Robbie joined Frankie Valli in 2009.

### **John Menzano - Bass Guitar**

John has toured with Sheena Easton; Three Dog Night and Joshua Kadison. In 1994 John got a call from an old friend telling him that legendary guitarist Peter White was looking for a bass player. Through Peter he met and toured with Rick Braun, Kirk Whalum, James Ingram, Marc Antoine, Dave Koz, Brian Culbertson and many more. John has also put together a CD of his own songs, a long time goal of his. John lives in Valencia, California with his wife Alecia, son Nick and daughter Mia.

### Craig Pilo - Drummer

Craig, originally from Connecticut and now living in Los Angeles, graduated from the University of North Texas College of Music with a Bachelor's Degree in music and has since played with Maynard Ferguson; Player; Deniece Williams; The Red Elvises; Heatwave; Greg Adams. Billy Vera and the Beaters. Craig continues touring with Frankie Valli and composing music for film and television.

### Rick Keller - Saxophone/Keyboards/Percussion

Rick lives in Los Angeles and has become one of the most sought after studio musicians on the West Coast. He is an instrumentalist, recording artist and composer and a master on several woodwind instruments. Before joining Frankie Valli Rick toured Christopher Cross.

### **And not forgetting the incredibly talented Robby Robinson - Arranger/Conductor/Producer**

Robby has worked with Frankie Valli for the last 35 years - Frankie describes him as "one of my closest friends in life and one of the most talented musical people I have ever worked with".

Robby has played a big role in the music industry and with Frankie. He has co-produced multiple pop/rock and children's recordings with former Four Season Bob Gaudio. His contributions to the world of production, arranging and conducting are extensive. Robby has arranged for not only Frankie Valli but also Liza Minnelli, The Beach Boys, Connie Francis, Martha Reeves; Darlene Love and Dallas Symphony and Illinois Symphony orchestras. He has been Musical Conductor for Del Shannon; The Drifters; Buddy Greco; The Coasters; Tommy Leonetti; Darlene Love; The Ventures and New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. He has played keyboards for Tom Jones; The Commodores; Cheryl Ladd; Steven Stills; Frankie Avalon; The Platters; The Four Tops; Lou Christy; Del Shannon; The Ink Spots and many many more.

Robby did a really good interview for an online music magazine when he was in the UK last year in which he said his favourite Frankie Valli song was 'Swearin' to God' "because it's got a jazzy element that is fun, musically speaking but I like them all in their own way. I'm one of those purveyors that believe that there are two kinds of music: good and bad. And I can see the good in so many of Frankie's songs'.

He said of Frankie Valli "He comes to every sound check. At his age, he does not need to come, but he comes because he wants to get it right. So many of his peers wouldn't show up at a sound check, they'll show up for the show. You know there are guys, like me, who make sure that everything is right, if there's a problem. But he's there at every sound check. It is incredible really."

Robby is also a dedicated Dodgers fan - he said "I'm a huge baseball fan and at eight-years-old I became a Dodgers fan, so it was inevitable that I'd be in L.A".

The full article can be accessed here - a great article and well worth a read:

<http://www.pennyblackmusic.co.uk/MagSitePages/Article.aspx?id=6559>

For further information about Frankie, Robby and the band please visit:

<http://www.deanegnater.com/FV45-SingersBand.html>



Photos: Richard Beland