

Number 61 – September 2014

The Four Seasons UK Appreciation Society
Newsletter

USA Magazine People Cindy Worth
October 23rd, 1978

People
PICKS & PANS



If you have these 45s,
they're worth about \$35
(Valli).

folky
dancer



USA Sheet Music

Frankie Valli &
The Four Seasons
the night walk on
don't look back



Established in 1971 and run by
the same dedicated people
for the over 30 years since, we
are committed to help collectors
everywhere who are interested in
their music.

This Issue...
Recent Jersey Boys
movie reviews and
CD releases/updates.

Oldies articles and
reviews 1975-80!

Vinyl Discography-
1981-86 (+ CDs)

Next Newsletter -

1977-9 articles plus
Bob Crewe Story Pt 1

1987 - 92 releases (end
of the vinyl)

USA Record World August 1978

FRANKIE VALLI, "FRANKIE VALLI IS THE WORD." Valli returns to the Warner/Curb label with his current number one hit ("Grease") in addition to some excellent material produced by Bob Gaudio. A Barry Gibb/Albhy Galuten song, "Save Me, Save Me," sounds like a natural follow-up to keep Valli's name on top of the charts. Warner-Curb BSK 3233 (7.98).



From Billboard American Rock
'n Roll in Review by Jay Warner
Schirmer Books, 1997

In 1977, Valli left the group and scored solo a
year later with the title tune from the soundtrack of
the film Grease.

Frankie Valli:
Grease.

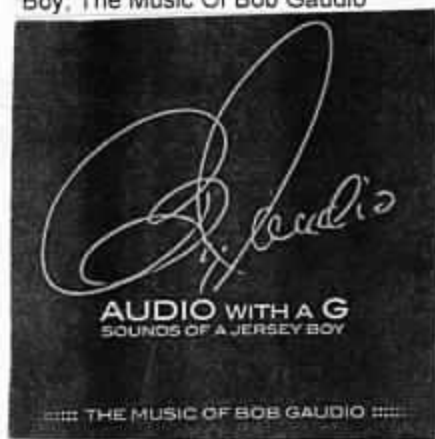
Finds Valli's vocals in top form supported tastefully by backing harmonies. The infectious hook and catchy melody [keep] the song flowing at an upbeat pace. (5/27/78) (#1 Pop)

In 1984, Bob and Frankie regrouped for The Four Seasons meet The Beach Boys' single, "East Meets West." Frankie and a Four Seasons contingent are still active in the 1990s, and their reworked, rerecording of "December, 1963," amazingly, excited still another generation of buyers when it reached #15 in late 1994.

With 85 million in record sales and 46 chart hits, it's little wonder the group for all seasons was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.



Audio With A G: Sounds Of A Jersey Boy. The Music Of Bob Gaudio



USA Billboard Magazine 12/08/78

FRANKIE VALLI... is The Word, Warner/Curb BSK 3233. Produced by Bob Gaudio. Valli's first for Warner/Curb after a string of LPs on Private Stock includes his smash RSO title crack single from "Grease." The hit was written and coproduced by Barry Gibb, who also cowrote another tune here, "Save Me, Save Me." Both songs have the infectious disco-soaked rhythm sound which RSO has mined so successfully this year. Horn and string arrangements by Lee Shapiro give the tracks a shimmering orchestral backdrop. The songs include two which were cowritten by Valli and one cowritten by producer Gaudio. The most immediately recognizable hook is Valli's adaptable, versatile voice, which shifts here from falsetto applications to lower vocal registers with ease.
Best cuts: "Grease," "Save Me, Save Me," "No Love At All," "Over Me," "Needing You."
Dealers: The title song is a strong candidate for No. 1.

JOE LONG WAY By Lynn Bolevn



Congratulations to Joe Long who on Sunday 27 July 2014 at 4 p.m. saw the corner of 3rd Avenue and High Street in Elizabeth, New Jersey dedicated to him.

Joe, as we all know, played bass and sang with Frankie Valli as one of the legendary Four Seasons for 11 years from 1965 following Nick Massi abruptly leaving the group in late 1964.

Born Joe LaBracio he grew up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, a neighbourhood of Italian-American families. Joe, whose family lived on High Street just off Third Avenue, said in an interview "Peterstown — we called it the Burg — was the greatest place for a kid to grow up. I am deeply honoured, I can't imagine a higher compliment than to have your home town honour and recognize you in this way, I am flabbergasted, I am speechless" Joe said of the honour.

"To meet him is to love him," Walt Gollender said, "He's got a tremendous personality. He makes you feel very comfortable." How very true – the UK fans have very special memories of Joey Long. Joe toured the UK with the group, often MC-ing the show and doing improvised comedy routines with Tommy DeVito (who he still sees frequently). He made a lot of British friends, and has fond memories of performing at the London Palladium, a gifted musician who clearly retains the sharpness of wit and generosity of spirit that continues to endear him to fans the world over. Congratulations Joe – very well deserved and you should be very proud.

During the morning Audrey Rockman arranged a tour of historic 4 Seasons sites which started and ended on the site of the Joe Long ceremony which included former homes of the Seasons and other good stuff.

To see a copy of the scan of the tribute pamphlet associated with Sunday's Joe Long street naming event and other stories and videos of the day go to:
<http://www.gilgweb.com/home.html>



For some, I have read, the movie was a disappointment but I have to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the movie when I went to see it on the 20th June. According to The Telegraph it is “a film so grey and musty, it should probably be inspected on public health grounds for mildew”! However, The Independent said “One of its pleasures is its recreation of post-war America. The early scenes are in desaturated colours which give the sense that we really are back in the 1950s. There are quiffs, cars with fins, and scenes set in bowling alleys but the film never lapses into Grease-like caricature. The device of having characters talk direct to camera, commentating on events in which they themselves are participating, isn’t as jarring as might have been imagined.”

Frankie on the Set of Jersey Boys

As we know it is very similar to the Jersey Boys show with some changes to the timeline, the most important one being the tragic death of Francine – not really sure why this was done and I am sure this would have caused some upset to Frankie and the family. Having said that I guess that a lot of people going to see the movie perhaps would not have known that Francine died in 1980 – very sad when Celia, Frankie’s step-daughter, had died just a few months earlier following a car crash. It was a shame also that “Fallen Angel” was omitted from the movie along with “Big Man In Town”; “Let’s Hang On”; “C’mon Marianne”; and “Beggin”.

With John Lloyd Young playing Frankie Valli; Erich Bergen playing Bob Gaudio, Michael Lomenda as Nick Massi and Vincent Piazza as Tommy Devito it was good that Clint Eastwood, the Director, wanted to use actors from the show and great too that Jon Boydon did the narrative on the recent Jersey Boys Special about the movie.

If you haven’t seen the film I would recommend it – John Lloyd Young is brilliant and the music too – I really loved the singing and dancing at the end of the film – it reminded me of the ending of the movie “Grease”.

Jersey Boys UK Tour

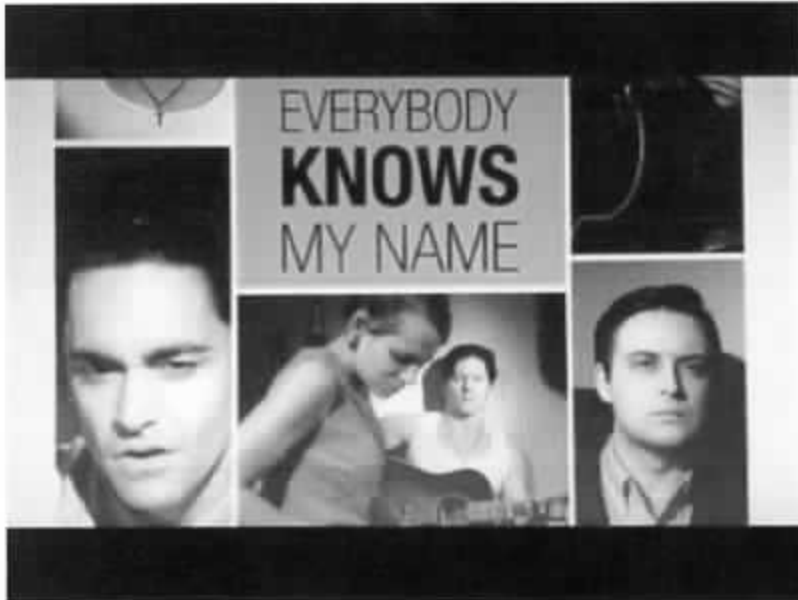
The very first UK Tour of Jersey Boys will start at the Palace Theatre in Manchester on 4th September and then playing Edinburgh Playhouse; Stoke; Hull; Sunderland; Birmingham; Canterbury; Milton Keynes; Southend, Aberdeen.; Woking and Dublin with other dates to be announced. Check out all dates and venues here: <http://www.jerseyboysuktour.com/>

The West End production, which has moved from the Prince Edward Theatre to the Piccadilly, will continue alongside the tour.

Total Lifetime Grosses for Jersey Boys worldwide so far stands at a staggering \$56,636,210!

Everybody Knows My Name (The song Not in Jersey Boys)

Back in April 2013 Philip Bulcock who played Nick Massi in Jersey Boys, London production, told us he had produced and directed a short film with the rest of the guys who played along side him when the show opened back in 2008, (Ryan Molloy, Stephen Ashfield and Glenn Carter). He told us then that whereas Bob Gaudio was inspired by a film to write a song, Philip was inspired by a song to make a short film.



That song is 'Everybody Knows My Name' (from the 'Working My Way Back To You' album December 1965) and the film bears the same title. It is only a very short film and I would highly recommend watching – it is a shame the song was not included in the movie – this is just as good as their fantastic version of “The Night” – to watch the film and listen to their wonderful very moving version of the song go to: <https://vimeo.com/98780013>

Just like their London JB performances did their creativity and personality shines through.

50TH ANNIVERSARY MUGS AND TOUR PROGRAMMES

I still have a few mugs and Anniversary programmes which Dean Egnator very kindly let me have following the last UK tour. If anyone would like a mug and/or a programme let me know – these are free of charge but I would appreciate it if you would cover the cost of the postage. Email me at lynn.boleyn@sky.com or give me a call on 01384 830862.



Note perfect songs

JERSEY BOYS (15)

STARRING: John Lloyd Young, Vincent Piazza, Erich Bergen, Michael Lomenda, Mike Doyle, Christopher Walken, Joseph Rizzo, Renee Marzino, Lacey Haines, Danielle Kehr, Kathrine Narducci, Lou Volpe

DIRECTOR Clint Eastwood

RUNNING TIME: 134 mins

SWEARING, SEX, VIOLENCE

6/10

Before Beatlemania reduced grown women to whimpering wrecks, The Four Seasons were the sharp-suited musical heartthrobs of 1960s America.

The distinctive falsetto of lead singer Frankie Valli commanded attention on the radio and TV, producing three number one hits – Sherry, Big Girls Don't Cry and Walk Like A Man – in the space of five months.

The band's meteoric rise inspired Marshall Brickman and Rick Ellice to write the 2005 stage show Jersey Boys, which subsequently won four Tony Awards including Best Musical and continues to play to packed houses in London and New York.

Like so many musicals before it, Jersey Boys struts and swaggers from the stage onto the big screen.

Fitted halfway between a traditional musical and a gritty portrait of the bonds of brotherhood in New York City of the era, Clint Eastwood's impeccably crafted period piece entertains but never truly delights.

Like the stage show, the film is festooned with the group's toe-tapping hits including 'Beggin', 'Bye Bye Baby and Oh What A Night'.

However, these languidly shot renditions lack the electrical charge of live performance and it's only in the film's closing act, and during the end credits, that there is any danger of audiences leaping out of their seats and shimmying down aisles.

Sixteen-year-old Frankie Castelliuccio (John Lloyd Young) lives with his parents (Kathrine Narducci, Lou Volpe), who urge him to stay out of trouble.

Best friend Tommy DeVito (Vincent Piazza) leads him astray and Frankie almost ends up in prison. With encouragement from local mob boss Gyp DeCarlo (Christopher Walken), who becomes Frankie's father godfather (with the emphasis on godfather), the teenager pursues his musical ambitions by changing his surname to Valli and joining



John Lloyd Young as Frankie Valli, Vincent Piazza as Tommy DeVito, Erich Bergen as Bob Gaudio and Michael Lomenda as Nick Massi



Engaging – the film evokes the era perfectly the camera as their rags to riches story unfolds. Vocal performances are not perfect and there are some delightful comical interludes involving Doyle and Walken, the latter easing into his gangster groove with a twinkle in the eye.

The running time may be virtually the same as its theatrical counterpart, but Eastwood's film feels pedestrian and emotional subplots, including Frankie's



Tensions – Clint Eastwood's latest film is, on the whole, entertaining and there are some delightful comical interludes involving Doyle and Walken, the latter easing into his gangster groove with a twinkle in the eye.

The period is, however, beautifully evoked through costumes and faultless art direction. Just as Frankie and the boys predict, we can't take our eye off of the screen.

by [damonsmith](mailto:damonsmith.starfeatures@expressandstar.co.uk)

Lack any real passion

Cinema