

June 16, 1989

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Sirs:

The recent issue of *Percy Faith's 16 Most Requested Songs* on CD brings me joy that Faith's music is remembered - and yet it also brings anger at the careless work within.

Percy Faith has been not been given proper recognition, in consideration of his accomplishments with CBS. Witness, for example, the enclosures - that show over 20 Faith vintage reissues in Japan on CD's. In the USA we have a paltry few, and one of them, *Music of Christmas*, is flawed in its remastering to digital tape. It is always good, however, to see at least something in the USA by Faith become available, even if the repertoire included is somewhat less than enlightening (gee, wonder how many times *Theme from A Summer Place* has been issued, reissued, and included on many "omnibus" Columbia collections over the year and even on another CD...and now here it is again...)

The first CD reissues of Faith and Conniff's work contained no liner notes (score another one for the Japanese, theirs did, in fact in a lot more detail than any of ours ever did). Now they do include notes; I complained to Mike Berniker in a letter, however....

In the *16 Most Requested Songs* CD, there are some serious flaws that Messrs Friedwald and Maher should have avoided - and I would call for their subsequent correction -

Percy Faith was born April 7, 1908 (1907 in the CD notes)

Percy Faith died Monday, February 9, 1976 (1974 in the CD notes)

Was this really so terribly difficult to ascertain? Is there noone at CBS that could have been consulted? Do you doubt my word? I have some of the radio press releases, newspaper obituaries, and other documents on this - not to mention Irving Townsend's fine notes on the Faith "memorial" album *Great Moments of Percy Faith*. Perhaps I should throw in that I first met Percy

Faith in the spring of 1974 as well...sat next to him in a radio interview - and met him the spring of 1985 as well (and have photos and a few letters).

The next gross inaccuracy is in the number of albums Faith did in his career; I guess no one who had anything to do with this CD knew anything about Faith's music at all. It shows. Read the enclosures. Faith issued, depending on how you count, close to 100 Lp's in his career. The 45 album figure was a lie first propagated at the time of his death in some hurried press releases, and then evidently it became "the legend." How shallow of CBS not to have investigated.

I could take issue with some of the points made in the "tribute" by Will Friedwald, but it would be pointless. I am not an old, old geezer - I'm 36, but I followed Faith's career closely and dug for the older Lp's until my collection was complete. The discussions I had with Faith and some of the articles and documents I have paint a different picture than represented in this article; but that's a matter of judgement. The birth/death dates and the number of albums recorded aren't. Should anyone (!) be interested, I could forward a complete discography of Faith's recorded works. Unfortunately, after his son Peter died I was unable to complete it with recording dates and such information. More difficult to trace is the Voice of America and Armed Forces Radio Service transcription discs Faith recorded; there were many, but they have vanished. I have only two of the radio shows on tape.

Looking forward to more accurately written notes on further reissues of Percy Faith's albums...and perhaps a series of reissues to match those of Japan...

Percy Faith - Lp Album Listing - - -

- DLP 5025 Fiesta Time (Decca)
- DL 5349 Program (Decca)
- VLP 6000 Percy Faith and His Orchestra (Varsity)
- CL 6131 (10" Lp) YOUR DANCE DATE WITH PERCY FAITH (see FASCINATING RHYTHMS)
- ML 2129 (10" Lp) DOROTHY KIRSTEN SINGS SONGS OF GEORGE GERSHWIN (with Percy Faith Orchestra and Chorus)
- CL 6148 (10" Lp) FOOTBALL SONGS (reissued as TOUCHDOWN!)
- CL 6178 AMERICAN WALTZES
- CL 6203 FASCINATING RHYTHMS
- CL 6214 CARNIVAL RHYTHMS
- CL 6242 CAREFREE RHYTHMS
- LPM 1010 SOFT LIGHTS AND SWEET MUSIC (RCA Victor)
- CL 6255 MUSIC FROM HOLLYWOOD
- 18127 DANCING IN THE DARK (Royale)
- CL 6275 MUSIC FROM KISMET
- CL 526 ROMANTIC MUSIC
- CL 525 CONTINENTAL MUSIC
- CL 551 MUSIC UNTIL MIDNIGHT (Percy Faith and His Orchestra, with Mitch Miller, English Horn and Oboe)
- CL 550/CS 8642 MUSIC FROM KISMET
- CL 577 MUSIC FROM HOLLYWOOD
- CL 588 MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS (recorded May, 1954)
- CL 640 MUSIC FROM HOUSE OF FLOWERS
- CL 643 AMOUR, AMOR, AMORE
- CL 681 DELICADO
- CL 705 MUSIC FOR HER
- CL 2536 FESTIVAL OF STRINGS
- CL 710 Soundtrack: LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME (arrangements for Doris Day vocals)

CL 779 IT'S SO PEACEFUL IN THE COUNTRY (Percy Faith and his
 orchestra with Mitch Miller, English Horn and Oboe)
 CL 796 SWING LOW IN HI-FI
 CL 880 PASSPORT TO ROMANCE
 CL 895/CS 9004 MUSIC FROM MY FAIR LADY
 CL 905 MUSIC FROM THE MOST HAPPY FELLA
 CL 955 MUSIC FROM LI'L ABNER
 A-23 (Percy Faith) AND HIS ORCHESTRA PLAY (Rondo-lette)
 CL 1010 ADVENTURE IN THE SUN
 CL 1028/CS 9046 Johnny Mathis: WONDERFUL! WONDERFUL!
 CL 1081 (C2L 1) THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF GEORGE GERSHWIN VOL. I
 CL 1082 (C2L 1) THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF GEORGE GERSHWIN VOL. II
 CL 1075/CS 8038 VIVA!
 CL 1105/CS 8005 MUSIC FROM SOUTH PACIFIC
 VL 3600 NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE BORDER (Vocalion)
 CL 1182 TOUCHDOWN!
 CL 1187/CS 8033 HALLELUJAH!
 CL 1188 JUBILATION (formerly "Swing Low In Hi-Fi")
 C2L 10/C2S 801 THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF VICTOR HERBERT (2 Lp set)
 (CL 1201/CL 1202 and CS 8006/CS 8007)
 C2L 15 THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC (2 Lp set, CL 588
 and CL 1187)
 CL 1267/CS 8081 MALAGUENA: THE MUSIC OF CUBA
 CL 1298/CS 8105 MUSIC FROM PORGY AND BESS
 CL 1302/CS 8108 A NIGHT WITH SIGMUND ROMBERG (Percy Faith and
 his Orchestra, vocals by Earl Wrightson and
 Lois Hunt)
 CL 1322/CS 8124 BOUQUET
 CL 1381/CS 8176 MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS (released 9-21-59; re-recording
 of CL 588 re-recorded for stereo)
 CL 1386/CS 8181 A NIGHT WITH JEROME KERN (Percy Faith and His
 Orchestra, vocals by Earl Wrightson and Lois Hunt)

CL 1417/CS 8214 BON VOYAGE (subtitled "continental souvenirs")
 CL 1418/CS 8215 THE SOUND OF MUSIC
 CL 1493/CS 8637 PERCY FAITH'S GREATEST HITS
 CL 1501/CS 8292 JEALOUSY
 CL 1560/CS 8360 CAREFREE
 CL 1570/CS 8370 CAMELOT
 CL 1627/CS 8427 TARA'S THEME
 CL 1639/CS 8439 MUCHO GUSTO!
 CL 1681/CS 8481 BOUQUET OF LOVE
 CL 1733/CS 8533 SUBWAYS ARE FOR SLEEPING
 CL 1783/CS 8583 HOLLYWOOD'S GREAT THEMES
 CL 1822/CS 8622 THE MUSIC OF BRAZIL
 CL 1902/CS 8702 EXOTIC STRINGS
 CL 1957/CS 8757 AMERICAN SERENADE
 CL 2019/CS 8819 A LOOK AT MONACO (actual soundtrack excerpts from
 the CBS television special)
 CL 2023/CS 8823 THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS
 CL 2024/CS 8824 SHANGRI-LA!
 CL 2108/CS 8908 GREAT FOLK THEMES
 CL 2167/CS 8967 MORE THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS
 CL 2209/CS 9009 THE LOVE GODDESSES (all P. Faith originals)
 CL 2279/CS 9079 LATIN THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS
 CL 2317/CS 9117 DO I HEAR A WALTZ?
 CL 2356/CS 9156 BROADWAY BOUQUET
 CL 2405/CS 9205 MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS, Vol. II (reissue of HALLELUJAH!)
 CL 2441/CS 9241 THEMES FOR THE "IN" CROWD
 CL 6550/OS 2950 "Soundtrack" album: THE OSCAR (all original
 score by P. Faith)
 CL 2529/CS 9329 Bim! BAM!! BOOM!!!
 CL 2577/CS 9377 CHRISTMAS IS...

CL 2650/CS 9450 BORN FREE
 CL 2704/CS 9504 TODAY'S THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS
 CL 2810/CS 9610 FOR THOSE IN LOVE
 CS 9706 ANGEL OF THE MORNING
 HS 11292 I'll Take Romance (Harmony)
 CS 9762 THOSE WERE THE DAYS
 CS 9835 THE WINDMILLS OF YOUR MIND
 GP-1 FOREVER YOUNG (2-Lp's)
 CS 9906/CQ 31004 ROMEO AND JULIET
 HS 11348 The Sounds Of Music (Harmony)
 CS 9983 LEAVING ON A JET PLANE
 CS 1019 HELD OVER: TODAY'S GREAT MOVIE THEMES (Not Released:
 Theme From "Two")
 C 30097 THE BEATLES ALBUM
 SOLX 66901 (CBS-SONY) S-64325 (CBS Holland) KOGA MELODIES
 G 30330 A TIME FOR LOVE (2 Lp's)
 C 30502 I THINK I LOVE YOU (also issued as LOVE STORY)
 KH 30607 A SUMMER PLACE (Harmony)
 C 30800/CQ 30800 BLACK MAGIC WOMAN (May 3, 1971)
 KH 30977 RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MY HEAD (Harmony)
 C 31042 JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR (August 25, 1971)
 C 31301/CQ 31301 JOY (January 11, 1972)
 KH 31537 GEORGE GERSHWIN (Harmony)
 KH 31538 GEORGE GERSHWIN (Harmony) (Note: Since Columbia wisely
 reissued THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF GEORGE GERSHWIN with the
 contents and cover untouched, these two albums are
 worthless except for some fine liner notes by Irv Townsend)
 KG 31588 PERCY FAITH'S ALL TIME GREATEST HITS (2 Lp set, 2 tracks
 newly recorded)
 KC 31627/CQ 31627 DAY BY DAY (June 15, 1972; Unreleased Titles:
 Show Me, Swedish Rhapsody; these selections
 issued on "All Time Greatest Hits"
 UNRELEASED LP, TITLE UNKNOWN, Producer Irving Townsend (August 8,

1972, August 17, 1972 - I'll Be Waiting/China Baby/
Dancing Amaryllis/Lakeside Cottage/Blue of Blues/
Love's Gone/Let's Love/Dancing China Doll/Farewell
Blues/In A Tea Room/Ginza Girls/The Southern Cross
(although recorded in L.A., tapes shipped to N.Y.)

- KH 31777 EVERYNIGHT AT THE MOVIES (Harmony)
- KC 32164/CQ 32164 CLAIR (January, 1973; Unreleased Titles: River Song, Lost Horizon, No Time At All, Been In Canaan) (Job #3818-2)
- KC 32380 MY LOVE
- C 32585 REMEMBERING THE HITS OF THE 60'S
- KC 32714 CORAZON
- SOll-23 (CBS/Sony) RHOICHI HATTORI MELODIES
- KC 32803/CQ 32803 NEW THING
- KC 33006/CQ 33006 THE ENTERTAINER (issued and immediately withdrawn; cover changed, 1 selection deleted, "CHINATOWN" theme added; reissued as album CHINATOWN below)
- KC 33244/CQ 33244 CHINATOWN (this theme recorded during *Country Bouquet Sessions*)
- SOPN-70 (5-19-74) (CBS/Sony) PERCY FAITH IN CONCERT (*Recorded without most of the "regular" orchestra; Peter Faith suggested that since it fell short of Percy's standards that I not import or publicize this album*)
- 40AP309/9 (CBS/Sony) THE GREAT CONCERT (2 Lp set)
- KC 33142 COUNTRY BOUQUET
- KC 33549 DISCO PARTY (Not Released: Sabre Dance)
- CG 33606 VIVA!/MUCHO GUSTO! (2-Lp reissue)
- KC 33915 SUMMER PLACE '76 (*Percy Faith's final album, finished six weeks before his death on February 9, 1976*)
- EN 13091 BROADWAY BOUQUET (intact reissue)
- CG 33895 GREAT MOMENTS OF PERCY FAITH (2 Lp memorial set by CBS including photos that track Faith's career with other composers, writers and performers)
- EN2 13719 THE COLUMBIA ALBUM OF GEORGE GERSHWIN (2-Lp intact reissue)
- EN 13827 AMERICAN SERENADE (reissue of CS 8757 with three tracks missing with three inappropriate substitutions; proceeds

from sales of this album were donated by the estate of Percy Faith and CBS to Faith's favorite charities)

ACL 7037 SOFT LIGHTS AND SWEET MUSIC (Pickwick) (reissue of LPM 1010 electronic stereo, intact except for cover)

PC 38302 MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS (intact reissue)

PC 39471 CHRISTMAS MELODIES (tracks from MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS and CHRISTMAS IS)

CATALOG NUMBER LEGEND

4-3000, 40000, 3-10000 series = 45 RPM 7" discs; many earlier releases from the 50's were available on 78 RPM discs as well, same catalog numbers

CL 6000 series = 10" 33 RPM mono discs

CL 500-2810 series = 12" 33 RPM mono discs

CS 1000, 8000, 9000 series (including prefixes C, KC and OS) = 12" 33 RPM two-channel stereophonic discs; CD prefix denotes albums recorded in "matrix" four channel sound using the CBS "SQ" parameters

COMPACT DISCS

The following CD's are issued in Japan by CBS/Sony; the first grouping has titles and contents intact. There appears to be extensive liner notes in Japanese:

AMERICAN SERENADE - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 32DP-755

BON VOYAGE - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 35DP-752

BOUQUET - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 35DP-429

BOUQUET OF LOVE - PERCY FAITH STRINGS CBS/SONY 35DP-759

BEATLES ALBUM - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 32DP-430

BROADWAY BOUQUET - PERCY FAITH STRINGS CBS/SONY 35DP-759

LATIN THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 35DP-431

CHRISTMAS CAROL - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 32DP-536

CHRISTMAS MELODIES (see CK-40168) PERCY FAITH, HIS ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS - CBS/SONY 35DP-60

EXOTIC STRINGS - THE PERCY FAITH STRINGS CBS/SONY 32DP-754

GREAT FOLK THEMES - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 32DP-758

JEALOUSY - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 35DP-432
MALAGUENA - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 32DP-751
SHANGRI-LA! - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 32DP-757
SOUTH PACIFIC - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA CBS/SONY 32DP-750
THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 32DP-756

Following are "compilation" discs with contents listed:

LATIN HIT SOUNDS - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 35DP 50

Brazil/Tico-Tico/Besame Mucho/Malaguena/El Manisero (The Peanut Vendor)/Andalucia (The Breeze and I)/Cielito Lindo/Siboney/Tabu/Granada/Quiereme Mucho (Yours)/Solamente Una Vez/La Paloma/Delicado/The Girl From Ipanema/La Golondrina

SCREEN MUSIC SPECIAL - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA
CBS/SONY 35DP 50

Exodus/The Entertainer/The Way We Were/Love Theme From "The Godfather"/Fifth Movement (Tubular Bells)/Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head/Midnight Cowboy/Enter The Dragon/Tara's Theme/Love Theme from "Romeo and Juliet"/Theme From "Love Story"/Fascination/Love Theme from "Ben Hur"/Born Free/The Theme from "A Summer Place"

ALL ABOUT PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA: CBS/Sony 35DP 84

The Theme from "A Summer Place"/Fascination/The Song From Moulin Rouge/Andalucia (The Breeze And I)/Some Enchanted Evening/El Bimbo/Lara's Theme/Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head/The Way We Were/Love Theme From "Romeo and Juliet"/Yesterday/Theme From "Love Story"/2001 (Also Sprach Zarathustra)/Love Theme From "The Godfather"/A Man And A Woman/Tara's Theme/Ebb Tide

PERCY FAITH: BEST COLLECTION 4-CD's: CBS/Sony 00DP 425/8

Theme From "A Summer Place"/Yesterday/Ebb Tide/Love Theme From "Romeo and Juliet"/Feelings/Siboney/Quiereme Mucho/Here, There and Everywhere/Something/Wave/One Note Samba/The Girl From Ipanema/Tenderly/Laura/The Sound Of Music/The Windmills Of Your Mind/Moon River/A Waltz For Cynthia/Love Story/Soleado/The Way We Were/Under Paris Skies/La Vie En Rose/The Breeze And I/Temptation/Beyond The Reef/Manha De Carnaval/My Love/Bouquet/Michelle/Stranger On the Shore/Crunchy Granola Suite/The Song From Moulin Rouge/2001 (Also Sprach Zarathustra)/Granada/A Lover's Concerto/Arrividerci, Roma/The April Fools/Greensleeves/Let It Be/The Fool On The Hill/Theme From "Summer of '42"/Some Enchanted Evening/Bali Ha'i/Beyond The Sea/Autumn Leaves/Killing Me Softly With Her Song/Summer Place '76/El Bimbo/Fascination/Tara's Theme/Love Theme From "The Godfather"/My Sweet Lord/Because/Cielito Lindo/Besame

Mucho/Live For Life/A Man And A Woman/Begin The Beguine/Blue Moon/
I Say A Little Prayer/Born Free/Somewhere My Love

Following is a "various artists" CD with several Faith tracks:

EASY LISTENING COLLECTION - Various Artists CBS/SONY 35DP 60

La Reine De Sava (Caravelli)/My Cha Chornia (Ray Conniff)/2001
(Percy Faith)/Love's Theme (Master Sound Orchestra)/Begin The
Beguine (Percy Faith)/Theme From E.T. (Ensemble Petit & Screenland
Orchestra)/El Bimbo (Percy Faith)/Toccatà (Caravelli)/Ebb Tide
(Percy Faith)/Star Wars (Ensemble Petit & Screenland Orchestra)/
Penelope (Caravelli)/Concerto Four Une Voix (Master Sound Orchestra)/
Theme From "Superman" (Andre Kostelanetz)/Love Is Blue (Caravelli)/
Lara's Theme (Percy Faith)/Mr. Lonely (Caravelli)

The following compact discs are available from CBS USA-Holland during
the Christmas season.

MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Columbia CK 38302; intact reissue of CS 8176; has no liner notes;
fidelity is good but there are several remastering errors!

CHRISTMAS MELODIES - PERCY FAITH AND HIS ORCHESTRA Columbia CK 40168

White Christmas/The Christmas Song/Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer/
Do You Hear What I Hear?/Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas/
Silver Bells/We Need A Little Christmas/I'll Be Home For Christmas/
The Little Drummer Boy/Happy Holiday/O Come, All Ye Faithful/Deck
The Halls With Boughs Of Holly/Joy To The World/Silent Night, Holy
Night/The First Noel/Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/O Holy Night

Above selections from MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS, CS 8176 (1959) and
CHRISTMAS IS..., CS 9377 (1966)

The following are intact reissues; as with the Christmas
compilation listed above, there has been no effort on Columbia's
part to include any liner notes whatsoever.

PERCY FAITH'S GREATEST HITS is currently available on CD in
genuine mono; even THEME FROM "A SUMMER PLACE" is in mono, which
is an error on Columbia's part; CK 8637.

THEMES FOR YOUNG LOVERS is now available (9/1/87) CK 8823

Johnny Mathis: MERRY CHRISTMAS CK 8021

Following Lp's are available in Japan only, from CBS-Sony. Listing
is incomplete and will be updated if information about Japanese
Lp's can be obtained:

25AP 2621 THE BEST FOR LOVERS

25AP 2622 LOVE AROUND THE WORLD

25AP 2623 SCREEN FOR LOVERS (American films)

25AP 2624 SCREEN FOR LOVERS (European films)

25AP 2626 TROPICAL DREAMER

25AP 2630 ROMANCE IN EUROPE

25AP 2625 BEAUTIFUL STANDARD FOR LOVERS (song titles are as follows:
Begin The Beguine/Invitation/Deep Purple/Tennessee Waltz/I Concen-
trate On You/Blue Moon/Tenderly/I Only Have Eyes For You/Stella By
Starlight/Speak Low/Sophisticated Lady/Laura

25AP 2627 LATIN FANTASY

25AP 2631 EASY LISTENING BEATLES

25AP 2628 LOVE ON THE SHORE

25AP 2629 AUTUMN MEMORIES

25AP 2632 CHRISTMAS CAROL

(the above listed Japanese releases are typed as listed by CBS-Sony
complete with awkward translations)

As of this revision, December 6, 1987, there are twenty (20)
Compact Discs available on CBS/SONY, many of them intact reissues
of Percy Faith's finest albums. In the USA there are four (4)
Faith Compact Discs available as of this writing; and two of them
are Christmas albums.