



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**VINCE GUARALDI'S PEANUTS GREATEST HITS
RECAPS STORIED COLLABORATION
WITH CHARLES M. SCHULZ**

**Twelve-song compilation, due July 31,
contains hits from the *Peanuts* soundtracks, plus a rare vocal by Guaraldi,
with new liner notes by Guaraldi historian Derrick Bang**

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — While the *Peanuts* comic strip appeared daily in newspapers across the world, Vince Guaraldi's music helped bring the gang to wider audiences through his jazzy *Peanuts* television and film soundtrack recordings. Charles M. Schulz created the world of Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and Snoopy from his outpost in the Midwestern city of St. Paul, Minnesota. Meanwhile, westward in California, pianist Vince Guaraldi was helping put San Francisco on the jazz map through a series of early recordings with the likes of Cal Tjader, Woody Herman and Conte Candoli.

In early 1964, when Lee Mendelson began work on a television documentary about the world of *Peanuts*, he heard Guaraldi's GRAMMY® Award-winning instrumental hit "Cast Your Fate to the Wind" on the radio, while crossing the Golden Gate Bridge. Mendelson knew he'd found precisely the right musical foil for *Peanuts*. Over the next decade, Guaraldi composed and performed scores for numerous *Peanuts* TV specials — including the evergreen *A Charlie Brown Christmas* — along with a feature film, *A Boy Named Charlie Brown*.

On July 31, 2015, Fantasy Records will release *Peanuts Greatest Hits*, a 12-song survey of some of the most popular music from the Guaraldi *Peanuts* soundtracks. It is also planned for a vinyl LP release in September 2015.

The compilation features "Linus and Lucy," the song that most frequently comes to mind when one thinks of *Peanuts* soundtracks, as well as "Oh, Good Grief" and several seasonal pieces ("Great Pumpkin Waltz," "Thanksgiving Theme," "Christmas Is Coming" and more).

Most selections feature Guaraldi backed by one of his longtime trios: Monty Budwig, bass; and Colin Bailey, drums; or, in later years, Fred Marshall, bass; and Jerry Granelli, drums. You'll also hear some notable additions to the core trio format: "Little Birdie" features Guaraldi's own vocals, with the addition of horns as well. Two versions of "Christmas Time Is Here" appear: one by the trio, the other adding the young members of the St. Paul's Church Choir from nearby San Rafael, California.

Television producer Mendelson, who orchestrated the conversion of *Peanuts* from comic strip to successful TV and movie franchise, thereby spawning a 37-year

collaboration with Schulz, said of Guaraldi: "Vince's music was so right, and so *perfect*, for Charlie Brown and the other characters. Something deep inside of me said, 'This is gonna make the whole thing work.' Vince's music was the missing ingredient that would make *everything* happen."

Guaraldi died unexpectedly at the young age of 47 in 1976, ending his 26-year musical career. He had just finished recording the soundtrack for *It's Arbor Day, Charlie Brown*. His life is chronicled in *Vince Guaraldi at the Piano*, authored by Derrick Bang, who wrote the liner notes for this and other Fantasy reissues.

Track Listing:

1. Linus and Lucy
2. Charlie Brown Theme
3. Baseball Theme
4. Oh, Good Grief
5. Happiness Theme
6. Little Birdie
7. Great Pumpkin Waltz
8. Thanksgiving Theme
9. Christmas Is Coming
10. Christmas Time Is Here (Instrumental)
11. Skating
12. Christmas Time Is Here (Vocal)

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For cover art and additional information, please visit the online media kit:
<http://mediakits-showcase.concordmusicgroup.com/p/peanutsgreatesthits/>

For more information regarding *Peanuts Greatest Hits* and the Concord Music Group catalog, please contact Conqueroo:
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