

BILLY STRITCH

Marvin Hamlisch: I'm Playing His Songs

The legendary Marvin Hamlisch was one of only fifteen people to win the Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony awards and was one of only two people to have won those four awards plus the Pulitzer Prize.

From being the youngest person ever admitted to the prestigious Juilliard School to a teenage writer of hit songs for Liza Minnelli and Lesley Gore ("Sunshine, Lollipops and Rainbows"), Marvin Hamlisch proceeded to create an extensive songbook of memorable music in his amazing career. He received eight Oscar nominations, and accomplished the amazing feat of winning three statuettes in one night - one each for the theme song and score of the film "The Way We Were" and one for adapting the music of Scott Joplin for the film "The Sting". His Broadway shows include the long running "A Chorus Line" (for which he won the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize), "They're Playing Our Song" and "Sweet Smell Of Success". In addition to his composing work, Marvin conducted for Barbra Streisand, Linda Ronstadt, and numerous Pops Orchestras around the country. In this exciting new concert, Billy Stritch brings to life the man and his music for an evening you'll be talking about long after you leave the theatre.

Billy Stritch is one of the premier singer-pianists on the New York and national jazz and cabaret scene and recent solo shows "The Mel Tormé Songbook" and "The Jazz Of Cy Coleman" garnered rave reviews from critics in New York City and abroad. Billy had the pleasure of knowing Marvin Hamlisch personally and he and Marvin co-created the arrangements for Liza Minnelli's Broadway Show "Minnelli on Minnelli" (a tribute to Liza's father director Vincente Minnelli) in 1999. Billy's most recent Broadway credit was as musical supervisor and pianist for Liza's Tony Award winning show "Liza's At The Palace". His latest solo CD release is "Billy Stritch Sings Mel Tormé", a salute to one of his musical heroes. He's also the composer of the Grammy Award winning song "Does He Love You" which was a number one hit for Reba McEntire. Billy holds court at Bemelman's Bar at the Carlyle Hotel on selected Sunday nights and is also the resident pianist for "Jim Caruso's Cast Party", the long-running open mic night that happens every Monday night at New York's legendary Birdland Jazz Club.

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