

THE HARRY JAMES ORCHESTRA

www.harryjamesband.com



Conducted by Fred Radke

"The band has found a remarkable leader in conductor and trumpeter Fred Radke. Under his precise control, the band played all those beloved numbers that have made the Harry James Orchestra a legend from soft, dreamy ballads like 'Sleepy Lagoon' to big, brassy pieces like 'Two O'Clock Jump.'" – The Des Moines Register



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still swinging!

The Orchestra

Great music is still around – you just have to know where to look for it. If you are longing for the greatest popular music of the 20th century, you've come to the right place. Fred Radke and the Harry James Orchestra have entertained folks of all ages, at all types of venues, including intimate private parties, weddings, conventions, cruise ships, formal concerts and international tours. The group, along with a talented and beautiful vocalist, features show-tunes, standards, love songs, and music from the golden age of swing.

Harry James

Harry Haag James was born in 1916 in Albany, Georgia. He learned the trumpet from his father, a circus bandleader. James decided to pursue a professional career in music after winning a state high school trumpet competition. Harry began to perform with several dance bands, later including several years with the Benny Goodman Band, before forming his own band, Harry James and his Music Makers, in 1939 with a gifted but little known vocalist, Frank Sinatra. His band helped launch the careers of many pop music stars of the World War II era, including Frank Sinatra and Helen Forrest. Some also know Harry as the husband of American film star Betty Grable.

Fred Radke

Fred Radke is a masterful trumpeter, big-band conductor, musical clinician and educator, recording artist, composer and arranger and producer. Born in Oakland, California, Fred started playing trumpet professionally at the age of fifteen. Perhaps the most important musical influence in Fred's early career was the legendary jazz trumpet player, Harry James. In what can only be described as a dream come true for Fred, he joined the Harry James Orchestra as lead trumpet player and toured with his mentor. In early 1989 Fred was asked by the Harry James Estate to lead the Harry James Orchestra for the 50th anniversary of Harry James, where they performed 71 concerts throughout the United States. Fred now leads the orchestra on coast to coast and international tours annually.

Sample Program

I Had The Craziest Dream
Sleepy Lagoon
You Made Me Love You
I've Heard That Song Before
You'll Never Know
Ciribiribin
I Don't Want to Walk Without You
I Cried For You
Two O'Clock Jump