



# Shirley Bassey

with Guest Star

# MATT MONRO



NATION-WIDE TOUR  
commencing Friday, 8th March 1963

WILLIAM VICTOR PRODUCTIONS

present

*THE FABULOUS*  
**SHIRLEY BASSEY**

WITH GUEST STAR

**MATT MONRO**

AND

WOOLF PHILLIPS AND HIS  
CONCERT ORCHESTRA

## Shirley Bassey

Shirley Bassey was born in the Tiger Bay area of Cardiff, the youngest of five girls and one boy, and the daughter of a West Indian father and an English mother. The only member of her family to enter show business, she gained her first stage experience when she was only sixteen years old. She joined a show called "Memories of Jolson"—as the soubrette—and toured all over the provinces with it.

"I was always singing as a kid," says Shirley, "but never thought of going on the stage until I was sixteen. Actually my mind was made up for me when the producer of 'Memories of Jolson' heard me singing in a club in Cardiff. I was really keen on dancing as a youngster and went for lessons at a tap-dancing school when I was eight years old. They suddenly discovered there that I could sing, and from then on, at concerts and suchlike, I never danced, but always sang."

Shirley stayed with "Memories of Jolson" for four months, and from there went into a show called "Hot from Harlem", which lasted five months—and again she was the show's soubrette. After "Hot from Harlem" Shirley went back home to Cardiff—and got a job as a waitress.

"The job as a waitress lasted two months, and then I had a telegram asking me to phone a certain number in London! I did so, and found myself talking to an old friend of mine, a choreographer from the first show I was in. He asked me if I would help him out for two weeks as he was going to Jersey with a show and they wanted me to sing while the scenery was being changed."

So Shirley went to Jersey, and after working there for some time was asked if she would like to go into variety as a solo act. She was not too keen on the idea, having been used to having people around her, and was a little shy at the prospect of working on her own. But she agreed to try it, and after working for about six months in variety she went into the West End of London—in 1955—to appear at the Astor Club. It was there that Jack Hylton saw her, and he immediately engaged her to appear with Al Read in "Such is Life" at the Adelphi Theatre.

"It seems that from here on I was really on my way. I stayed at the Adelphi for eleven months, then went into the Café de Paris for eight weeks, and from there made a wonderful trip to America. This took in three weeks at the El Rancho in Las Vegas, five weeks at Ciro's in Hollywood, and two weeks



# Shirley Bassey

## RECORDS EXCLUSIVELY FOR COLUMBIA



ASK YOUR USUAL RECORD DEALER FOR FULL DETAILS  
OF THE MANY OTHER RECORDINGS BY SHIRLEY BASSEY

## SHIRLEY BASSEY

at the Marino Riverside Hotel. When I came back to England, in April 1957, I appeared on ATV's 'Sunday Night at the London Palladium' and then followed up with another tour of this country."

After her variety tour Shirley began her travels again, spending weeks in Sweden, returning once more to this country to top a variety bill for two weeks at London's Hippodrome Theatre. After that she was off again, this time to Monte Carlo's Sporting Club for a six-day engagement, followed by a tour of Belgium with appearances at Knocke, Ostend, and Antwerp. Returning to this country she completed another variety tour, and then—at the end of 1957—began some of her longest travels to date: she went to work in Australia.

Shirley Bassey began a triumphant association with the Prince of Wales Theatre where she starred with Tommy Cooper in the popular "Blue Magic" show. A prolific and highly successful recording artiste, Shirley has enjoyed such disc successes as "The Wayward Wind", "Needle and Thread", "Banana Boat Song", "Please Mr Brown", "You, you Romeo", "Kiss me Honey, Honey, kiss Me", "As I love You", "What now my Love?" She has had many LP successes, including the album she recorded with Nelson Riddle last year "Let's face the Music". Shirley's current chart contender is "What kind of fool am I?"

It was in May 1959 that Shirley Bassey signed exclusively for Columbia who later scored a great disc double by issuing the popular "If you love Me" and "Count on Me" to mark her single debut.

After "Blue Magic", a trip to Milan for Italian television, a season in Coventry and at the Pigalle Restaurant, and a flight to America for the Ed Sullivan Show. One nighters, "Sunday Night at the London Palladium", Blackpool season at the Opera House, and a six-week engagement at the Persian Room of New York's Plaza Hotel. Back to America the following month to appear in the Bing Crosby and Garry Moore television shows, then off for cabaret in Australia. A nationwide tour with Nelson Riddle last June, a record-breaking season at London's "Talk of the Town" in October, a return engagement at the Plaza Hotel in New York. Then came one of the greatest thrills of Shirley's life. A special performance in Washington before President John Kennedy and the first lady. Shirley's last engagement before the current tour was in Sydney, Australia, at André's Club.

The greatest compliment Shirley has received came in 1958. She was appearing in "The Night of a Hundred Stars" and preceded Noel Coward. She was second to last to appear and virtually stopped the show. Noel Coward said he had never heard anything like that applause and added: "I always love to follow a great star."

WILLIAM VICTOR PRODUCTIONS

*proudly present*

WOOLF PHILLIPS

and his Orchestra

HALLELUJAH

BLUE WATERS

PICK YOURSELF UP

TRAD BAND FEATURE

PARISIAN MODE

LULLABY OF BIRDLAND

TENDERLY

MEDLEY



*International Singing Star*

MATT MONRO

Musical Director: Russ Shepherd

ALL OF YOU

ONE DAY

WITHOUT A SONG

OVER THE RAINBOW

PORTRAIT OF MY LOVE

LET'S FACE THE MUSIC

MY KIND OF GIRL

MY LOVE AND DEVOTION

SOFTLY AS I LEAVE YOU

I GET A KICK OUT OF YOU

FOOLS RUSH IN

*The Fabulous*

SHIRLEY BASSEY

Musical Director: Raymond Long

WHAT KIND OF FOOL AM I

WHAT NOW MY LOVE

EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES

THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

IN OTHER WORDS

GOODBYE LOVER

BIRTH OF THE BLUES

CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

THE PARTY'S OVER

PLEASE MR. BROWN

AS LONG AS HE NEEDS ME

God Save the Queen



The programme will be chosen from the above titles subject to alteration



TOURING MANAGER: DON MURFETT

— REGULATIONS —

1. All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstruction, and no person shall be allowed to sit or stand during any performance or entertainment in such gangways, passages or staircases. 2. The public shall be permitted to leave by all exit and entrance doors after each performance or entertainment. 3. No smoking shall be permitted to take place on the stage except as part of a performance or entertainment. 4. The fireproof safety curtain to the proscenium opening must be lowered and raised at least once during every performance or entertainment, where applicable, to ensure its being kept in proper working order.





## Matt Monro

Today Matt Monro sits on top of the world . . . he lives in a lovely home, owns a brace of cars, is internationally acclaimed, booked into the world's top entertainment centre, the London Palladium, his records are continually in the best sellers, he has a lovely wife and daughter.

He wasn't the ideal child—he will be the first to admit. Managed to attend school for one week in a year—so that he could carry off a diving award in the swimming championships.

He became an "offal boy" with the Imperial Tobacco Company when he left school—and then apprentice to a master builder, fireman on a railway engine, soldier—tank driver and instructor.

In the army he saw service in Hong Kong. Entered talent contests—won seven on the trot and was eventually barred from future appearances as a "racing certainty" . . . he started to sing over the local radio—until one day he was arrested for "being adrift". Slapped into cells he was allowed to carry out his regular radio show—with a guard on each side of the mike.

Then Matt met his first fan. The C.O. He said he enjoyed his voice and let him off the charge.

Back in Civvy Street Matt Monro became a long-distance lorry driver . . . London to Glasgow. One day in that Scots city he cut a disc. Eventually his sister sent it to piano star Winifred Atwell . . . Winnie passed it on to her recording company, Decca, with a strong recommendation . . . and Matt landed a recording contract.

That was 1956, and by now he was driving a London bus on the No. 27, Highgate to Teddington route. He made his first disc arrayed in his bus driver's kit . . . and then came the top spot on the BBC "Show Band Show" with Cyril Stapleton . . . a new disc . . . television commercials. (Today he is one of the most prolific off-camera voices on the ITV advertisements. Just one that will be universally known is the haunting voice declaring "You'll be a little lovelier each day!")

Then Peter Sellers contacted Matt. He was due to make a comedy long-playing record, wanted to imitate the voice of Frank Sinatra, and the best way he knew was to imitate Matt imitating Frank.

But Matt's version was so good that Sellers used it as the opening track of his best selling LP "Songs for Swingin' Sellers". The pundits were fooled. The secret eventually came out, and Peter's recording manager George Martin, became Matt's mentor too.

Matt's third record company was his lucky one. "Portrait of my Love", written by Norman Newell and Cyril Ornadel, shot Matt to the top of the Hit Parade and established him as the country's most popular balladeer. It also established the partnership between Matt and orchestra leader Johnny Spence. Then along came "My kind of Girl" which became a hit on both sides of the Atlantic and established Matt as an international star. Top venues, top-money offers, and poll-topping became routine for Matt Monro. (He has just been voted top British jazz singer in the *Melody Maker's* annual poll.)

Matt's current single is "One Day" (Parlophone), a ballad, and the latest LP is "Matt Monro sings Hoagy Carmichael".

For the past six months Matt has been busier than ever. He has recorded two television shows for Ed Sullivan in New York, both enthusiastically received. Last winter he made a unique variety tour sharing the bill with Tony Hancock in which they both filled half of the show.

December saw Matt in Hong Kong for a charity performance, and last month was taken up with recordings for future long-player and single releases. Towards the end of this year it is hoped that Matt will travel to New York to appear at the fabulous "Copacabana".

## Woolf Phillips

A Londoner born and bred, Woolf Phillips was one of this country's outstanding trombonists before he formed his first band.

In 1947 he took over the baton at the London Palladium and in the six years or so he was there, he compéred and conducted shows with such artistes as Frank Sinatra, Danny Kaye, Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Dean Martin, etc. He has also conducted the orchestra at no less than five theatre Royal Command Performances, and also one film Royal Command Performance.

He has appeared on television (both channels) many times, and last year was an integral part of the Michael Miles Saturday Radio Show.



AT LAST!

*The Star you have been waiting for*

## NAT KING COLE



British tour  
commence.

JULY 1963

*Send S.A.E. for full  
information regarding this  
tour to*

William Victor Productions  
Suite 5  
190 Piccadilly  
London W.1

M+M July 20/73

# Matt Monro

## RECORDS FOR PARLOPHONE



- Without A Song
- My horse & Dorothea
- Portrait of My horse
- My Kind of Girl
- The Bells are Ringing
- Clang Clang walk the Trolley
- Oven the Rainbow
- A Matter of Association
- The Girl I love
- ShWonderful
- Kiss Out for You
- Black Magic
- One Day



**PARLOPHONE**

MATT MONRO

SINGS HOAGY CARMICHAEL

**stereo**

*Matt Monro*

SINGS  
HOAGY  
CARMICHAEL



**ASK YOUR USUAL RECORD DEALER FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE MANY OTHER RECORDINGS BY MATT MONRO**