

Rhythm & News

Spring 2005

Volume 11, Issue 1

A Newsletter from Hank Lane Music & Productions

www.hanklane.com

Event Highlights

- 4-16 ▶ **Children's Aid Society**
Gotham Hall
Hank Lane Revue
- 4-21 ▶ **Juvenile Diabetes
Research Foundation**
The Pierre
Michael Herman Band
Larry Chance & The Earls
- 4-22 ▶ **Iona College**
Waldorf-Astoria
Michael Hart Band
- 4-23 ▶ **Columbus Citizens
Foundation**
Rainbow Room
Steve Delisi Band
- 4-28 ▶ **Marymount Manhattan College**
Jazz @ Lincoln Center
West End Revue
- 5-3 ▶ **National Fire Sprinkler Assn.**
Grand Hyatt New York
Hank Lane Revue
- 4-30 ▶ **Allstate Insurance**
Marriott Marquis
Park Avenue Band
- 5-3 ▶ **Inner City Scholarship Fund**
Cipriani 42nd Street
Paul Richards Band
- ▶ **Weill Medical College of
Cornell University Hospital**
The Pierre
Michael Herman Band
- 5-6 ▶ **Convent of the Sacred Heart**
Cipriani 42nd Street
Hank Lane Revue

Hank Lane Music performs at the White House.

In our November 2004 special edition of *Rhythm & News*, we announced that Hank Lane Music and the Michael Herman Band had been asked to perform at the White House over the Christmas holiday. As that issue went to print, few details were known, but at this time we are pleased to let our readers know more about this exciting experience.

Each year many of the more than a dozen different Hank Lane dance bands perform at hundreds of corporate and charitable functions in the New York metropolitan area and throughout the world. No one, however, could have anticipated what would occur following the performance of the Michael Herman Band at the Studio Museum in Harlem gala at the end of October of 2004.

Mike Herman has performed at this event for the past five years. On this particular night, unknown to Mike, a very close friend of President George W. Bush was in attendance. Nothing was said at the time, but by the end of the following week, the White House called the offices of Hank Lane Music to ask if Michael's band would play for the Bush family's personal Christmas party. Michael readily agreed, and he and his ten piece band performed in the East Room of the White House for the President and Mrs. Bush, close family friends, and friends of the President's twin daughters, Jenna and Barbara. "It was a great honor," said Michael. "In my more

than twenty years as a professional musician, it had always been a dream of mine to perform at the White House. It was the thrill of a lifetime."



▲ *The Michael Herman Band performs in the East Room of the White House.*

More... Event Highlights

- 5-7 ▶ **Gabelli Asset Management**
Waldorf-Astoria
Rainbow Room Orchestra
- 5-7 ▶ **Cravath Swain & Moore LLP**
Museum of Natural History
Fifth Avenue Band
- 5-11 ▶ **New York University**
"Grad Alley" Graduation Event
DJ Marcus
More Than Music Dancers
- 5-3 ▶ **Meeting Planners Int'l of NJ**
The Palace at Somerset Park
Arthur Stuart Band
- 5-3 ▶ **Navigant International**
Waldorf-Astoria
Hank Lane Revue
- 5-19 ▶ **Cancer Cares**
The Cartun
Mike Herman Band
- 5-23 ▶ **American Ballet Theatre**
Damrosch Park/Lincoln Center
Marc Stevens Band
- 5-3 ▶ **UBS Financial Services**
Ritz-Carlton Kapalua Bay, HI
Kevin Osborne Band
- 6-7 ▶ **Guardian Angels**
Cipriani 42nd Street
Hank Lane Revue
- 5-3 ▶ **Sloan Hospital Alumni**
The St. Regis
Michael Hart Band
- 6-14 ▶ **NYU Real Estate Institute**
Gotham Hall
Michael Herman Band
- 6-18 ▶ **Joel Finkelstein Foundation**
Rainbow Room
Arthur Stuart Band
- 6-22 ▶ **Calvary Hospital**
Pierre Hotel
Harris Lane Band



▲ *Darin Brown*

One of the hallmarks of Hank Lane Music has always been the strength of its band leaders. With a combination of youth, talent and experience, Darin Brown continues this great tradition.

A graduate of the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, Darin studied and mastered musical disciplines such as classical and Jazz. In spite of this very serious training as a pianist, keyboardist, and vocalist, it was inevitable that Darin became influenced by more modern artists as Billy Joel, Stevie Wonder and Elton John. It was, therefore, only natural for him to expand his repertoire to include contemporary music. It was this combination of musical talents that made Darin an attractive addition to the Hank Lane Music family.

Like any recent college graduate, what Darin lacked was practical experience. Paul Richards, a Hank Lane Music partner and bandleader, quickly saw his potential following an audition and soon added him to his band as a keyboard player. Word of Darin's talent spread within the industry and the company. After several years with Paul's band, Hank Lane personally asked Darin to join his high profile band as musical director where he remained for several years. To hone his skills further, Darin would lead small Jazz ensembles or perform solo on piano at home parties, corporate and charitable events whenever Hank's band was not working. This would pay off for Darin later.

In 2003, Darin took a few months off, as he had the opportunity to go on a world tour with the recording star Enrique Iglesias. Stops included, performances on the *Today Show*, *The Late Show with David Letterman* and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. Upon his return to Hank Lane, Darin formed his own Darin Brown Band. Now a seasoned veteran, Darin joins the vanguard of the new wave of Hank Lane Music bands and band leaders that will enable the company to continue to prosper for many years to come.

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Around the Town with Hank Lane Music



Band leader Mike Herman & First Daughter Barbara Bush



Dir. of Operations Michael Taylor & President George W. Bush



Hank Lane vocalist Chase Greye with pop recording artist JoJo.



More Than Music president Rebecca Wolff & Cyndi Lauper



Event Producer Harlan Ellis & R&B star Deborah Cox.



Bandleader Harris Lane & Grammy winner Kanye West.



Sweet Charity

by Jan Mazid

The Children's Aid Society helped to kick off the Spring 2005 calendar of charitable benefits on April 16th with its *Blue Jean Ball & Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament* at Gotham Hall. The **Hank Lane Revue** was on hand to play dance music. **Mike Herman** led his dance band and 1950's oldies favorite **Larry Chance & The Earls** entertained guests at the **Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Publisher's Ball**



▲ **Steve Delisi** led his band for the **Columbus Citizens Foundation**.

at The Pierre, April 21. **Steve Delisi** led his exciting dance band as the organization held its annual *Ballo Romantico* at the Rainbow Room, April 26 for the **Columbus Citizens Foundation**.

Hank Lane Music is pleased to participate and play a small yet significant role in the **Cipriani Concert Series**, to benefit *Downtown Rising*, taking place at the Cipriani Wall Street this spring and in the fall. Before each concert our musicians greet arriving guests with different theme music for each event.



▲ **Mike Hart** led his **Jazz Trio** at **Cipriani Wall Street's Sheryl Crow** concert.

A Hank Lane jazz trio then plays for the cocktail hour and dinner. At the recent **Sheryl Crow** concert the **Hi Tek** calypso steel band played outside while **Michael Hart** led his trio.

Spring marks the beginning of the 2005 season of the **American Ballet Theatre** at the Metropolitan Opera House. The ABT holds its Opening Night Gala at Lincoln Center on May 23rd, with the **Marc Stevens Band** once again providing the dance music.

On June 16, The College of Saint Elizabeth has booked **Michael Cavanaugh**, star of Broadway's *Movin' Out*, for a benefit at the Madison Hotel in Morristown, New Jersey.



▲ **Marc Stevens' band** performs at the **ABT Opening Night Gala**.

White House Diary

by Mike Herman

11:00am - Arrive on Delta Shuttle.
11:55am - Travel by official motorcade to the White House. Sirens, lights flashing. The full treatment. Very cool!
12:30pm - Go thru three security checkpoints at the White House. I knew I should have left my Cohibas at home! (Just kidding!!)
2:00pm - Complete sound check in the East Room. Motorcade to our hotel.
8:00pm Motorcade back to the White House. (I could get used to this!)
8:25 Return to East Room. Guests are being greeted by the President and Mrs. Bush at pre-dinner reception. Meet First Daughters Jenna & Barbara Bush. Introduced to renowned concert pianist Van Cliburn. We pose for official photo.
9:00pm We open the party in the East Room with traditional Standards, like Cole Porter's "Night & Day" and a great rendition of Sinatra's "Fly Me to the Moon." Guests gather around the President & Mrs. Bush as they begin dancing.
10:15pm Switch musical gears and begin playing some Motown and Classic Rock. When I play the President's favorite song, "Wake Up Little Suzy" by Buddy Holly, the crowd goes wild! The White House sound engineer comments, "I've never seen the Bush's dance so much!"
11:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Bush retire for the evening and invite us to have dinner while other entertainment goes on. The twins' friends fill the dance floor. They really respond to music by Outkast and Black Eyed Peas.
2:00am Last song is Gloria Gaynor's "Never Can Say Goodbye," but the crowd yells for more...

EVENT LIGHTING

by Marcus Mordachini

Fusion Lighting has been growing at perhaps the fastest pace of all of the Hank Lane organizations. Now in our tenth year, Fusion has expanded its event design capabilities to include the latest in computerized and LED lighting, plasma and projection screens that can transform any venue. Here are photos of some of our recent lighting designs:



Photo courtesy Marquee Photography



Photo courtesy Marquee Photography



▲ Official White House Photo - President George W. Bush, Laura Bush and The Michael Herman Band



American businesses have been relying on Hank Lane Music as a premier source of entertainment for their events for nearly thirty years. For example, when **British Telecom** wanted cutting edge comedy for a meeting in March, Hank Lane Music booked **Paul Mercurio**, a writer for Comedy Central's hit *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* to perform. **Mazda** celebrated the 15th anniversary of the its popular Miata this spring. The automaker's event marketing company hired the **West End Jazz Quartet**.



▲ "Salute to Broadway," a musical revue, was produced by Hank Lane for GE Asset Management.

In May, New York City will be host to International **Pow Wow 2005**, the

travel industry's premier U.S. marketplace event for international inbound travel. When the **The New York Palace** wanted exciting entertainment for visiting Pow Wow travel agents, they booked the **Hank Lane Gospel Singers** to perform at a welcoming reception. NBC news anchor Brian Williams emcee's at a dinner for **GE Asset Management** at the Waldorf-Astoria in June.

Hank Lane Music will produce, "Salute to Broadway," a fully staged and produced show with singing and dancing to songs from some of Broadway's great hit shows, past and present.

UBS Financial Services has been a big supporter of Hank Lane Music for many years. This season, Hank Lane bands will have appeared at a number of business incentive meetings for UBS. These include the hot **Darin Brown Band** at UBS meetings in Hong Kong. **Kevin Osborne** takes a brief leave from his role in the band in the Tony Award winning musical *Movin' Out* to lead his dance band at UBS meetings in Hawaii, Palm Beach and Colorado Springs.

At a post screening reception at Cipriani 42nd Street commemorating the 25th anniversary of the release of director **Martin Scorsese's** classic film *Raging Bull*, **MGM** asked Hank Lane Music to re-create the music of the 1940's and 1950's period setting of the movie.



▲ Paul Richards Band played for the 25th Anniversary of director Martin Scorsese's "Raging Bull."

Bandleader Paul Richards' research of the movie and time resulted in the perfect musical compliment to the evening and a big thank you from the stars in attendance including the film stars **Robert DiNiro** and **Joe Pesci**, as well as, **Leonardo DiCaprio**.



▲ Arthur Stuart's band plays for MPI of New Jersey.

The New Jersey chapter of **Meeting Planners International (MPI)** has booked the Arthur Stuart Band to play dance music at their event at the new Palace at Somerset Park, NJ.

More Than Music (MTM), the DJ and party entertainment service division of Hank Lane Music has been growing its business at an unprecedented pace over the past several years. Especially noticeable are the increase in bookings for the company's DJ's for business and charity functions. "We feel that corporate meeting planners and charitable organizations have come to realize that there is a difference in what we do," says Rebecca Wolff, president of MTM. "I also like to stay on top of the latest musical trends and party ideas. Whenever I travel through Europe or even to other parts of the country, I see new and different things that I try to adapt and incorporate into my parties to stay on the cutting edge."



Being able to have DJ's who are strong at all types of dance music is an important feature of our company. For example, the Fox Cable Network hired one of our DJ's that knows how to spin today's hot Latin music for their event in honor of *Fox Sports En Espanol*. Other recent events where MTM DJ's have been hired include parties for L'Oreal USA, Hermes of Paris, International Securities Exchange, Calyon, and Merrill Lynch.

One of our more popular DJ spinners undoubtedly is **Rob Hendy**. Rob has the great knack of being able to adapt to the diverse groups of guests often found at corporate and charity events. Recent parties where Rob has spun his magic include, Fidelity Investments, NYU, Chanel, Guardian Health Insurance and the North Shore Child Guidance Center of Long Island.



▲ DJ Rob Hendy

Celebrity Talent Booking

Booking celebrity talent is an effective way to spice up any business, charitable or social event. With nearly 30 years of experience, Hank Lane Music provides talent booking and event production services to fit any budget.

At a recent wedding at the Mandarin Oriental, we booked R&B and "club dance" recording star **Deborah Cox** for a pulsating "after-party." She sang live to pre-recorded music tracks.



▲ R&B recording star Deborah Cox.

Stars from Broadway shows are another great source of event entertainment. **Michael Cavanaugh**, star of the Tony Award winning *Movin' Out*, has proven to be a very popular choice with Hank Lane clients at several events this year.

Muttontown Country Club on Long Island has booked **JT Taylor**, original lead singer of the hit pop R&B group **Kool & The Gang**, for their Memorial Day weekend celebration. For Labor Day weekend they booked 1980's pop and Broadway star **Deborah Gibson**.

There are less expensive alternatives as well. At a recent event we booked the Gospel/Soul *acapella* recording group, **The Persuasions** for a cocktail hour. For a more classic Doo Wop *acapella* sound, there's **The Lords**.



▲ Gospel & Soul acapella with the legendary Persuasions.



▲ *Movin' Out* star Michael Cavanaugh.

we produced *Salute to Broadway*, with an eight member cast performing live to fully orchestrated music tracks.



▲ JT Taylor original lead singer of Kool & The Gang.



▲ 1980's pop and Broadway star Deborah Gibson.

Musical revues are still another option for a "big bang" without stars. This summer at the Beach Point Club in Westchester, we booked a small revue, *100 Years of Broadway*.

For GE Asset Management

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Here is your Spring 2005 Issue of

Rhythm & News

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