

ghost of a chance
The Yale Alley Cats

COUNT BASIE

1. **Down for Double** *arr. Alex Tang • (2:13)*
featuring David Wagner and James Ford

THELONIOUS MONK

2. **'Round Midnight** *arr. George Steel • (2:54)*
featuring James Warlick

BILLY STRAYHORN

3. **Take the 'A' Train** *arr. Jeffrey Klitz • (3:40)*
featuring Jon Terenzetti

4. **Lush Life** *arr. Allen Murabayashi • (3:24)*
featuring Joseph Alessi Jr.

MORGAN LEWIS and NANCY HAMILTON

5. **How High the Moon** *arr. Jeffrey Klitz • (2:02)*

HENRY CAREY/EDWARD "KID" ORY and RAY GILBERT

6. **Sally in Our Alley/The Muskrat Ramble** *arr. Alex Tang • (2:01)*

KENNY RANKIN

7. **Haven't We Met** *arr. Joshua Kosman/Jeffrey Klitz • (2:32)*
featuring David Wagner

JEROME KERN and OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

8. **All the Things You Are** *arr. David Tang • (1:56)*

JOHN LENNON and PAUL McCARTNEY

9. **Norwegian Wood (This Bird Has Flown)** *arr. Lex Paulson • (4:14)*
featuring Andrew Maillet

LEON RUSSELL

10. **This Masquerade** *arr. Robert Opatrny • (3:13)*
featuring Daniel Amerman and David Wagner

SMOKEY ROBINSON and RONALD WHITE

11. **My Girl** *arr. Stephen Mulligan • (2:44)*
featuring Jacob Levine

PAUL SIMON

12. **The Only Living Boy in New York** *arr. Stephen Mulligan • (3:13)*
featuring Stephen Mulligan

ANTONIO CARLOS JOBIM

13. **Meditation** *arr. Rex Isenberg • (2:39)*
featuring Tyler Dos Santos-Tam

FRANK LOESSER

14. **On a Slow Boat to China** arr. Jeffrey Klitz • (2:29)
featuring Tim Rivera

J. FRED COOTS and HAVEN GILLESPIE

15. **You Go to My Head** arr. Fitz Brown / MidWalsh • (2:29)

WALTER GROSS and JACK LAWRENCE

16. **Tenderly** arr. Jeffrey Klitz • (2:05)
featuring Raiden Hasegawa

COLE PORTER

17. **I Get a Kick Out of You** arr. Rex Isenberg • (3:26)
featuring Rex Isenberg

TRADITIONAL

18. **Kaval Sviri** arr. Manoel Felciano • (2:21)
19. **Early One Morning** arr. Brian Neff • (3:01)
featuring Brendan Dill

HARRY NILSSON

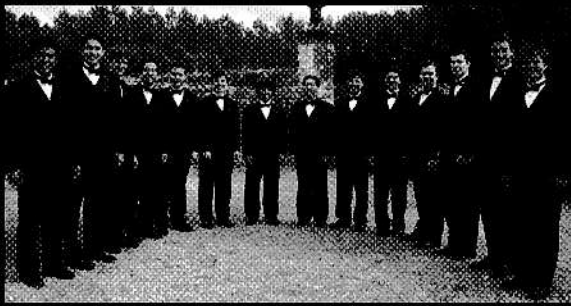
20. **Coconut** arr. MidWalsh • (1:47)

To commemorate 65 years of singing and tradition,
the Yale Alley Cats proudly present *Ghost of Chance*.

It was during a fall night in 1943 that four Yale undergraduates climbed to the top of Saybrook Tower and began to sing Henry Carey's 18th-century ballad "Sally in Our Alley." Their rendition awoke the College Master, who ran to the base of the tower and commanded them to descend and go back to bed. The young men relented, but not before laying the foundation of a group that would go on to encompass hundreds of Yale alumni all over the world. Today, the Yale Alley Cats continue to sing "Sally in Our Alley" at the beginning of their concerts, awakening a sense of tradition in every performance.

The Alley Cats consist of freshman, sophomores, and juniors at Yale College. Seniors who have sung with the group for three years often go on to spend their final year singing with the Whiffenpoofs, the oldest college *capella* group in the world, whose alumni include the great Cole Porter. Yet the three-year experience of the Alley Cats allows the group to develop a unique resonance. Amidst an ever-evolving roster of singers--as new freshman arrive and juniors advance--the warm "shoe sound" (named for the physical shape of the ensemble) has become a hallmark of Alley Cat performances.





Jazz remains the group's deepest and most cherished tradition, with every arrangement produced by members and past-members during their time at Yale. A few of these charts, such as "You Go to My Head" and "How High the Moon," have been in continuous performance over the past thirty years. All the arrangements are held in the "Pitch Files," a chest of scores passed down each year to the incoming music director at the start of his tenure. The files are a treasure trove in that they show not only a lineage of arranging talent in the group, but also immediacy in championing newly popular songs. Several of the arrangements featured on *Ghost of a Chance* date back to the 60's, and 70's, when many of these now standard songs were only a few years old. "This Masquerade" and "Haven't We Met," to name a few, were arranged within a year of their respective original compositions. Today, the group blends an array of styles, incorporating everything from English Spirituals and Bulgarian folk songs to Motown and Bossa Nova.

The Alley Cats debut their new material (as well as resurrect forgotten gems) at Champagne Jamboree, the group's classic February concert series attended by the Yale community and a myriad of alumni. For some of the singers, the Alley Cats is also their first chance to see the world, as the group embarks on a yearly series of world tours throughout Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

With each successive year, the tradition of the Alley Cats grows both musically and vocationally, as the group develops its repertoire and finds new audiences around the globe. What is perhaps most important, however, is the quality of friendship and camaraderie the experience entails. The voices and songs on this record are not individually the work of seasoned professionals, but rather the uniting of friends and scholars from many disciplines--music, theater, philosophy, science, politics, business, and history--in a common desire to explore the power of voice and harmony. It is this element of a common experience, bridging many different personalities and backgrounds in the bonds of comradeship, which instills a singular exuberance into the Alley Cats sound.

The Yale Alley Cats would like to thank Jeffrey Klitz, Simon Carrington, Elaine Royal, Joseph Alessi Sr., Katherine Rife, Jeanne Mulligan, Heather McPeters, Warren Odze, John Miller, The Hotel Sofitel of Lisboa, Le Méridien Penina, and our family and friends for their help in making this record possible.



THE YALE ALLEY CATS

Bass

Brendan Dill • Rex Isenberg • Tyler Dos Santos-Tam • Joseph Alessi Jr.

Baritone

Daniel Amerman • James Ford • Jon Terenzetti • James Warlick

Second Tenor

Raiden Hasegawa • Jacob Levine • Andrew Maillet • Stephen Mulligan

First Tenor

Tim Rivera • David Wagner

Musical Direction by Joseph Alessi Jr.

Produced and Engineered by Adam Abeshouse

Business Managers: Tyler Dos Santos-Tam and James Warlick

Cover Design by Jeanne Mulligan

Graphic Design: Douglas Holly

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Brad Napoliello, webmaster

ghost of a chance

down for double
round midnight
take the 'a' train
lush life
how high the moon
sally in our alley/the muskrat ramble
haven't we met
all the things you are
norwegian wood
this masquerade
my girl
the only living boy in new york
meditation
on a slow boat to china
you go to my head
tenderly
i get a kick out of you
kaval sviri
early one morning
coconut