

“A bit of Vienna sparks Christmas season at State Theater with packed house.”

— The Herald Standard

The New Sigmund Romberg Orchestra & Soloists



“America’s First Touring Pops Orchestra”

PROGRAM

Die Fledermaus: *Overture*

- A Carol Fest

Introducing “*The New Sigmund Romberg Soloists*”

Evergreens

Traditionals

Musical Sleigh Rides

- Yuletide Favorites

Little Drummer Boy - I Wonder as I Wander

Panis Angelicus

- Holiday Festival

INTERMISSION

Program and Soloists Subject to Change



Perpetuum Mobile

Vienna Bon Bons

Thunder & Lightning Polka

- Babes In Toyland
- The Student Prince
- The New Moon
- Up In Central Park

Radetsky March

Encores

Sigmund Romberg

Sigmund Romberg (1887-1951) was Hungary’s gift to melody-loving Americans. Befriended by the famous operetta composer Franz Lehár (Merry Widow), Romberg decided to become a professional musician.

After World War I Romberg’s career as a composer of operettas with Viennese flavor really bloomed. During the 1920’s he wrote ***Blossom Time***, ***The Student Prince***, ***The Desert Song***, ***Rosalie*** and ***The New Moon***. Among his friends and musical collaborators were Al Jolson, Oscar Hammerstein II, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Gus Kahn and Irving Berlin.

With the advent of sound films, Romberg moved to Hollywood in 1929. More than a half dozen film adaptations of his operettas were released between 1929 and 1954, including the original ***Viennese Nights***.

Throughout the ‘30s and ‘40s he hosted weekly radio programs that included his own songs and works by other popular composers. In early 1940 Romberg organized his first concert tour. The Sigmund Romberg Orchestra not only played the music of Broadway, but also the “popular classics”. Still he found time to compose works for the New York musical theatre including ***Up In Central Park*** and ***My Romance***.

Known to his friends as “Romy”, Romberg was a congenial, fun-loving man known for his appreciation of good food and drink. He was a tireless composer, working on a new musical at the time of his death in 1951.

John R. Giattino, Producer