

This is America, Charlie Brown – The Birth of the Constitution

1. This is America, Charlie Brown – The Birth of the Constitution:

This Is America, Charlie Brown was an eight-part miniseries aired in 1988 and 1989, and The Birth of the Constitution was aired second.

- 1) The Mayflower Voyagers (scored by Ed Bogas) - aired 10/21/88
- 2) The Birth of the Constitution (scored by George Winston) - 10/28/88
- 3) The Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk (scored by Wynton Marsalis) - 11/4/88
- 4) The NASA Space Station (scored by Dave Brubeck) - 11/11/88
- 5) The Building of the Transcontinental Railroad (scored by The Winans) - 2/10/89
- 6) The Great Inventors (scored by David Benoit) – aired 3/10/89
- 7) The Smithsonian and the Presidency (scored by Dave Grusin) – aired 4/19/89

8) The Music and Heroes of America (scored by Ed Bogas, Desiree Goyette and others) – aired 5/23/89 - and this from producer Lee Mendelson: **“A wonderful moment happens in the end scene of this eighth and last episode in the series, where Charlie Brown talks about Vince Guaraldi and hums his favorite song, *Linus and Lucy*. We did it as a tribute to Vince.**

- From George Winston:

I was amazed when Lee Mendelson contacted me in 1988 about recording this soundtrack. After Vince Guaraldi's (1928-1976) untimely early passing, when the everyone decided to continue the Peanuts animations, I had imagined sometime recording the soundtrack for an episode, and especially to use a Vince Guaraldi song that Vince himself had not used in any of his sixteen Peanuts scores, and I did that here did here with *Cast Your Fate to the Wind* - and also to use as many Vince Guaraldi songs as possible, also keeping in mind first and foremost what Lee wanted. And the film needed.

When I very occasionally do a soundtrack, I have to totally love the project, and I have to already have all the songs and musical fragments that might work. (I'm not a composer on demand, and I admire those that are). I always defer to the director, first finding a song that they agree works for the segment, and second playing the song to their satisfaction (as I also did with producer Mark Sottnick for Rabbit Ears' Productions' *The Velveteen Rabbit*, and three films with the late producer George Levinson for Informed Democracy's *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, *Pumpkin Circle*, and *Bread Comes to Life*).

Lee wanted some of the songs played on the harpsichord to give the feeling of that time period, as the harpsichord was still in common use in the mid 1700's, and he had one brought into the studio. I had never really played one, except for a couple of minutes two or three times when I would run across one backstage in an auditorium, or on a campus, campus, always playing Floyd Cramer's *Hot Pepper* (aka *Flip, Flop and Bop*), and it took some time to adapt some to it, since there is no variance in volume dynamics.

However, this worked out well in the cue that is the highlight of the soundtrack for me: during the basketball scene, where I played *Professor Longhair Variations*, which I learned from hearing New Orleans pianist/ composer Allen Toussaint play it in Stephenson Palfi's incredible film *Piano Players Rarely Ever Play Together*, which featured pianists Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, and Isidore "Tuts" Washington. In fact that I was always playing the harpsichord like it was a piano, striking the notes hard with dynamics, and here the sounds of the fingers hitting the keys produced a sound similar to the dribbling of a basketball, which can be heard in the beginning of that scene (at 11:29 in the episode).

Later, Charles Schulz (1922-2000) asked me in 1998 to do another Peanuts soundtrack, as he had recently negotiated to make twelve new episodes. With his unfortunate passing soon after that they never happened. That would have been another great experience.

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THE SONGS/CUES:

1. (0:16 –[after the intro logo] - **Yankee Doodle** (traditional, arranged by George Winston) - piano
2. (1:21) **Kingdom Coming** (Henry Clay Work, Public Domain, arranged by George Winston) - piano
3. (2:55) **Linus & Lucy** (by Vince Guaraldi) - harpsichord
4. (3:40) **Montana Song** [aka **Goodbye Montana, Pt. 1**] (by George Winston) - piano
5. (7:35) **Long Black Veil** (by Danny Dill & Marijohn Wilkin) -piano
6. (8:09) **Charlie Brown's All Stars** (by Vince Guaraldi) - harpsichord
7. (9:19) **Linus & Lucy** (by Vince Guaraldi) - piano
8. (10:01) **Yankee Doodle** (traditional, Public Domain, arranged by George Winston) - piano
9. (11:29) **Professor Longhair Variations** (by Allen Toussaint and Henry Roeland Byrd [aka Professor Longhair] - harpsichord -- **(from George: this is my favorite cue, for the "Basketball" scene)**
10. (11:54) **Cast Your Fate to the Wind** (by Vince Guaraldi)
11. (16:46) **Vira Mundo Penba** (Traditional Brazilian, arranged by Bola Sete) - piano
12. (17:10) **Jenny Lind Polka** (by Anton Wallerstein, public domain, arranged by George Winston) - piano
13. (18:13) **Put Out the Light** (by James Booker) - piano
14. (18:25) **Linus & Lucy** (by Vince Guaraldi) - harpsichord
15. (19:56) **Yankee Doodle Ballad** (traditional arranged by (by George Winston) - piano -

16. (20:40) ***The Last Rose of Summer*** (by George Alexander Osborne & Thomas Moore, or traditional Irish; Public Domain, arranged by George Winston) - piano

17. (21:22) ***Yankee Doodle Ballad*** (traditional, arranged by (by George Winston) - piano

18. (23::44 to the end) ***Linus & Lucy*** (by Vince Guaraldi) – harpsichord

Credits:

George Winston - piano and harpsichord solos

Engineered by Howard Johnston

Recorded at Different Fur Recording, San Francisco

Executive Producer and producer for the music recording session: Lee Mendelson

Produced by Bill Melendez

Created by Charles M. Schulz

Written by Charles M. Schulz and Lee Mendelson

Directed by Evert Brown

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REVISED
JUNE 14, 2007

MUSIC CUE SHEET

Producer: Lee Mendelson Productions

Air Date: 10/28/88 CBS-TV

Title: This Is America Charlie Brown: The Birth Of The Consitiution Length: One Half-Hour

Cue No.	Title	Composer	Publisher	Use	Length
101	YANKEE DOODLE	P.D. Arr. George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:42
102	YANKEE DOODLE	Same as Above	Same as Above	MAIN TITLE	:23
103	KINGDOM COMING	Henry Clay Work	P.D. Arr. George Winston Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	1:30
104	LINUS AND LUCY	Vince Guaraldi	Shifty/Felfar (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:45
105	MONTANA SONG	George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	2:47
106	LONG BLACK VEIL	M. Wilkin/D. Dill	Cedarwood Publishing c/o Polygram Music (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:34
107	CHARLIE BROWN'S ALL STARS	Vince Guaraldi	Shifty/Felfar (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	1:10
201	LINUS AND LUCY	Same as Above	Same as Above	Inst/B.G.	:32
202	YANKEE DOODLE	P.D. Arr. George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	2:00
203	PROFESSOR LONGHAIR VARIATIONS	Henry Roeland Byrd	Professor Longhair Music (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:23
204	CAST YOUR FATE TO THE WIND	Vince Guaraldi	Unichappell Music, Inc. a/c H&R o/b/o Atzal Music	Inst/B.G.	1:15
205	SENTIMENTAL SONG	George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	1:15
206	CAST YOUR FATE TO THE WIND	Same as Cue #204 above		Inst/B.G.	1:15
207	VIRA MUNDO PENBA	Bola Sete	Sete Music Co. (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	1:30
301	JENNY LIND POLKA	P.D. Arr. George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	1:00
302	PUT OUT THE LIGHT	James Booker III	Bookends Publishing Co. (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:10
303	LINUS AND LUCY	Same as Cue #104 Above		Inst/B.G.	1:30
304	YANKEE DOODLE	Same as Cue #202 Above		Inst/B.G.	:40
305	THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER	P.D. Arr. George Winston	Dancing Cat (BMI)	Inst/B.G.	:42
306	YANKEE DOOLDE	Same as Cue #202 Above		Inst/B.G.	2:14
307	LINUS AND LUCY	Same as Cue #104 Above		End Credits	:31

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TOTAL P.25

