FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 11, 2026

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Lee Mendelson Film Productions
Celebrates 75 Years of Vince Guaraldi Music

with the Premiere Release of the Soundtrack to the Classic PEANUTS® Special

IT'S A MYSTERY, CHARLIE BROWN

Available September 18th, 2026, on Vinyl, CD, and Digital

Includes Bonus Tracks not heard in the Peanuts® Animated Special

Celebrating 1974's "IT'S A MYSTERY, CHARLIE BROWN," this Extended Soundtrack is Perfect for Any Peanuts® or Guaraldi Fan.

Available For Pre-Order now, everywhere from Lee Mendelson Film Productions

Soundcloud Preview

2026 marks the 75th Anniversary of Vince Guaraldi starting his professional music recording career, and it has also been 50 years since Guaraldi passed away unexpectedly on February 6, 1976.

“It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (Original Soundtrack Recording) (Extended Edition)” is sure to be another classic album. It joins the beloved and expanding Guaraldi Peanuts® discography, which includes “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” the 5x platinum-certified album that *Billboard* called the “greatest holiday album of all time,” and:

- It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown (2022)
- A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving (2023)
- It Was a Short Summer, Charlie Brown (2024)
- You’re Not Elected, Charlie Brown (2024)
- Be My Valentine, Charlie Brown (2025)
- It’s the Easter Beagle Charlie Brown, Charlie Brown! (2025)
- You’re a Good Sport, Charlie Brown (2025)
- It’s Arbor Day, Charlie Brown / Charlie Brown All Stars! (2026)

Available on 12” 33 RPM Black BioVinyl LP, CD and digitally Pre-order here

Also available on Magnifying Glass Clear 12” 33 RPM BioVinyl LP a Think Indie Exclusive pre-order here:

And also Available on Mystifying Teal 12” 33 RPM BioVinyl LP a Barnes & Noble Exclusive pre-order here:

And also available on Mysterious Magenta 12” 33 RPM BioVinyl LP an Urban Outfitters Exclusive pre-order here:

And CD:

Lee Mendelson Film Productions (LMFP) is thrilled to announce the first-ever release of Vince Guaraldi’s complete soundtrack for *It’s a Mystery, Charlie Brown*, the 11th animated Peanuts® special, from writer and creator Charles Schulz, producers Bill Melendez and Lee Mendelson, and director Phil Roman. It originally aired 52 years ago on February 1, 1974, on CBS-TV. The special is currently available for streaming on Apple TV or on DVD/Blu-ray from Warner Home Video.

The soundtrack album includes 21 tracks, comprised of the full 15 cue score for *Mystery*, plus four alternate and unused tracks from the special's recording sessions along with two covers of jazz standards. This is the funkiest Peanuts® score ever, with Guaraldi playing wah-wah guitar, clavinet, and leaning into groovy rhythms more than ever.

Also out September 18 – the first single off of the album is **"It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown"**, the eponymous title theme from the special. The composition is played five times throughout the special, and each distinct performance is available on the album.

This release is unique, as the packaging invites the customer to solve several mysteries to uncover its secrets. Customers are challenged to try to find all the tiny Peppermint Patty robbers, with the aid of included *Snoopy Holmes* magnifying glass sheet (all vinyl and CD releases include this special treat). There are several other secrets in the packaging, where the listener/reader is encouraged to try to search for clues and solve puzzles that will lead to more surprises! A can't miss for Peanuts® fans and Guaraldi fans alike!

All the music was written by Vince Guaraldi, except for "Autumn Leaves" by Joseph Kosma and "Billie's Bounce" by Charlie Parker.

On "Mystery," Guaraldi whistles, plays guitar, piano, electric piano, and clavinet, and is joined by Seward McCain on bass, and both Mike Clark and Eliot Zigmund on drums. The tracks were recorded at Wally Heider Studios in San Francisco on December 14th and 16-19th, 1973 and January 24th, 1974.

Some of the bonus material comes from an additional recording session that features Ron McClure on bass and Mike Clark on drums from October 8th, 1973.

The soundtrack was produced by Sean Mendelson and Jason Mendelson; it was mixed at Bones and Knives by mixing engineer Terry Carleton, and was restored and re-mastered by Vinson Hudson (who has mastered all the LMFP releases).

The 42-minute LP album will be available September 18, 2026, on 12" 33 RPM BioVinyl, in

- Black, available everywhere
- Mysterious Magenta, an Urban Outfitters Exclusive
- Mystifying Teal, a Barnes & Noble Exclusive
- Magnifying Glass Clear, a Think Indie Exclusive

It will also be available on CD and Digital. Pre-order here

Continuing with LMFP's sustainability efforts, the LP is eco-minded and is made from BioVinyl with foundational material sourced from used cooking oil or industrial waste gases to reduce our carbon footprint, and employs sustainably forested paper in a compostable PLA bag.

- Replaces petroleum in S-PVC by using recycling used cooking oil or industrial waste gasses as the source material
-57% CO2 savings in S-PVC production over than traditional PVC production.
-ISCC PLUS certification guarantees sustainable PVC supply chain.
-100% recyclable and reusable.
-FSC-certified paper stock (jacket, insert, OBI strip, labels) for zero deforestation.
-Compostable, reusable PLA bag, made from 99% renewable material.
-Acoustic and optical quality identical to conventional vinyl records.

The CDs are made with a "Digipack Lite ™" with eco-friendly ink, 16pt FSC® certified partially recycled board stock, and a re-sealable eco-bag. Additionally, the flexi-tray that holds the CD is made

from repurposed water bottles and containers, and less paper overall was used relative to a standard digipak.

For more information about our sustainability efforts, please see LMFP's website.

The physical copies include liner notes that give a track-by-track analysis by album producer Sean Mendelson, and notes from album producer Jason Mendelson, sons of legendary Peanuts® producer Lee Mendelson. Derrick Bang, Guaraldi biographer and author of "Vince Guaraldi at the Piano," continues the tradition of providing an historical essay for both the special and the soundtrack. The liner notes (vinyl: 4-page and CD: 12-page booklet) contain images from the special, rare photographs, and each comes with a magnifying glass sheet.

"*It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown* is a full-on funk fest. It's also the bluesiest and guitar heaviest score. It's also an entirely unique flavor relative to the other fourteen Guaraldi Peanuts special scores."
— From the liner notes by Sean Mendelson, producer of the album.

"Guaraldi's primarily electric keyboard score for *It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown* is light, cheerful and whimsical, as befits the story's fantasy nature."
— From the liner notes by Derrick Bang, author of "Vince Guaraldi at the Piano"

For an extended version of the press release and more information, including the track list, click here.

Track Listing (CD/Digital):
1. Little Birdie
2. Mystery Theme / Mystery Theme (Reprise)
3. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown
4. Sassy Sally / It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (Reprise)
5. Mystery Theme (2nd Reprise)
6. Cops and Robbers
7. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (2nd Reprise)
8. Mystery Theme (3rd Reprise)
9. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (3rd Reprise)
10. Sally's Blues
11. Mystery Interlude #1
12. Joe Cool
13. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (4th Reprise)
14. Mystery Theme (4th Reprise)
15. Mystery Theme (5th Reprise)
--Bonus Material—
16. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (2nd Reprise Alternate Take)**
17. Snoopy Holmes**
18. Mystery Theme (Vibraslap Mix) / (Studio Banter) / Little Burdie (Alternate Vince Whistle) / Cops and Robbers (Rhythm Section Mix)**
19. Joe Cool (Just Vince Mix)**
20. Autumn Leaves by Joseph Kosma**

21. Billie's Bounce by Charlie Parker**
** Bonus material not on the special

Track Listing "It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown" (LP):
Side A:
A1. Little Birdie
A2. Mystery Theme / Mystery Theme (Reprise)
A3. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown
A4. Sassy Sally / It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (Reprise)
A5. Mystery Theme (2nd Reprise)
A6. Cops and Robbers
A7. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (2nd Reprise)
A8. Mystery Theme (3rd Reprise)
A9. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (3rd Reprise)
A10. Sally's Blues
A11. Mystery Interlude #1
A12. Joe Cool
A13. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (4th Reprise)
A14. Mystery Theme (4th Reprise)
A15. Mystery Theme (5th Reprise)

Side B: --Bonus Material—
B1. It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (2nd Reprise Alternate Take)**
B2. Snoopy Holmes**
B3. Mystery Theme (Vibraslap Mix) / (Studio Banter) / Little Burdie (Alternate Vince Whistle) / Cops and Robbers (Rhythm Section Mix)**
B4. Joe Cool (Just Vince Mix)**
B5. Autumn Leaves by Joseph Kosma**
B6. Billie's Bounce by Charlie Parker**
** Bonus material not on the special

About Peanuts:
The characters of Peanuts and related intellectual property are owned by Peanuts Worldwide, which is 80% owned by the Sony Group and 20% owned by the family of Charles M. Schulz. First introduced to the world in 1950 in the Peanuts comic strip, Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the rest of the gang have made an indelible mark on popular culture. In addition to enjoying beloved Peanuts shows and specials on Apple TV, fans of all ages celebrate the brand around the world through thousands of consumer products, as well as amusement park attractions, cultural events, social media, and comic strips available in all formats, from traditional to digital. Peanuts recently celebrated its 75th Anniversary with unprecedented worldwide exhibitions and activities, collaborations, digital marketing campaigns, and more.

About Lee Mendelson Film Productions, Inc.:
Lee Mendelson Film Productions (LMFP) is the publisher of the Vince Guaraldi musical catalog associated with Peanuts®. LMFP is also the producer of the classic Peanuts® television specials, including "A Charlie Brown Christmas," 'It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown,' and "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving," along with the Hollywood animation studio Bill Melendez Productions. LMFP also produced over 50 other network Peanuts® specials, 12 prime time Garfield specials, 121-program series "Garfield and Friends" and many other film and

television animated, documentary and entertainment programs. Founded by the late Lee Mendelson in 1963, Lee Mendelson Film Productions, Inc., has received 11 Emmy Awards (from 45 nominations) and four Peabody Awards, as well as producing projects that have received Grammy and Academy Award nominations.

Vince Guaraldi · It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown (Original Soundtrack Recordings) (Extended Edition)

Lee Mendelson Film Productions, Inc.
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Vinyl, CD, and Digital Release Date: September 18, 2026
For more information on Lee Mendelson Film Productions, please visit:
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Soundcloud Preview