



LONESOME, ON'RY AND MEAN: A TRIBUTE TO WAYLON JENNINGS

Dualtone, April 2003.

Lonesome, On'ry and Mean is a tribute record you should own. This salute to one of country's superstars reveals the heart of his outlaw talent, and why his songs are sturdy enough to withstand the test of time. These 15 songs are interpreted by an astounding array of musicians, from Jennings contemporary Kris Kristofferson ("I Do Believe") to punk rock legends Henry Rollins ("Lonesome, On'ry and Mean") and John Doe ("Only Daddy That'll Walk the Line"). Nanci Griffith's fragile voice is absolutely perfect for the song "You Asked Me To." Grammy award-winner Norah Jones shines on "Wurlitzer Prize (I Don't Want to Get Over You)." Whether you're a Jennings fan or not, you'll find something to love here.

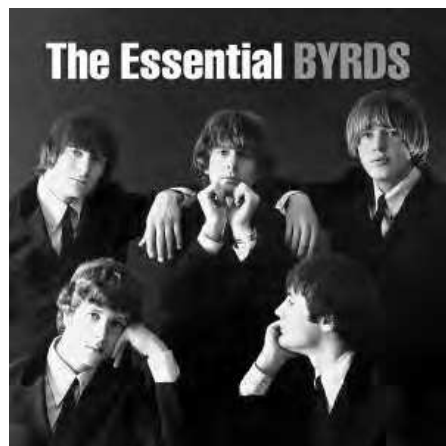
IT'LL COME TO YOU: THE SONGS OF JOHN HIATT

Vanguard Records, May 2003.

Since we're on the subject of tributes, here's one that was two years in the making, with 10 tracks personally selected by Hiatt himself. With a career spanning over 25 years and 19 albums, many artists have been influenced and inspired by Hiatt's songs.

More than 50 different artists have covered Hiatt's songs, and this release pulls together some of the best and most loved versions. Linda Ronstadt ("When We Ran")

and Eric Clapton, together with B.B. King ("Riding With The King"), and Bonnie Raitt ("Thing Called Love") are here, along with Emmylou Harris (Icy Blue Heart") and Freddy Fender ("Across the Borderline"). Three newly recorded tracks are included: Buddy and Julie Miller take care of "Paper Thin," Patty Griffin shines on "Take It Down," and Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise gets funky on "It'll Come To You."



THE ESSENTIAL BYRDS

Columbia/Legacy, April 2003.

The Byrds' incredible odyssey began in 1964, in the middle of the fertile L.A. folk scene. Over the course of the band's 6-year career, American folk and rock took on a different shape due to the great influence of the individuals in this band, such as Gram Parsons, Roger McGuinn and David Crosby (who were both founding members).

The band's first and immediate hit was

MUSIC & MERRIMENT

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in 1965, with Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man," and Dylan's subsequent influence on the band was unmistakable. Byrds members went on to form other influential bands, such as Parsons' and founding member Chris Hillman's departure to form the Flying Burrito Brothers. This two-CD set kicks in with "Tambourine," and sees their career through to a live version of 1970's "Lover of the Bayou." All the songs you want are here, along with an informative CD liner and enough songs to flesh out their influential career.

THE TESTORS: COMPLETE RECORDINGS

Swami Records, May 2003.

The Testors rocked the NYC punk rock world in the mid 1970s, blazing brightly then burning out just as fast, left to smolder in obscurity. Now, their complete recordings have been unearthed for punk rock fans everywhere who feel this band has been overlooked and under-appreciated for too long. Sonny Vincent formed The Testors in New York City in 1975. Vincent snubbed any major label offers for The Testors, while their New York contemporaries like Blondie and the Ramones were loudly taking over the world. Vincent eventually ended up in a psychiatric hospital.

This CD is 37 songs recorded between 1976 and 1979, with 10 never-before-heard songs. Vincent still plays today, and while his story might not be in the punk rock history books, thanks to Swami Records, his music can live to inspire another generation.

THE OLIVER MTUKUDZI COLLECTION: THE TUKU YEARS (1998-2002)

Putumayo, July 2003.

Known as Tuku in his native Zimbabwe, Mtukudzi cuts a legendary figure both here and in his native land. The internationally acclaimed musician sings of the hardships his people face every day in a land of political corruption and social devastation.

With gripping melody, Tuku's songs convey a powerful message of hope and dignity for his people. Songs on this CD were culled from a series of recordings done with South African producer Steve Dyer, who created a fresh African sound that became known as "Tuku Music." This collection features several tracks previously unavailable outside of Africa, and two rare live tracks, including "Hear Me Lord,"

which was recently recorded by Bonnie Raitt. With his distinctive gravelly voice and uplifting messages, Tuku has become a treasure in his homeland and is on his way to getting the recognition he deserves from other countries the world over.



BRUCE COCKBURN: YOU'VE NEVER SEEN EVERYTHING

Rounder, June 2003.

The Canadian Poet of the Apocalypse has done it again with this release. Twenty-seven years into his career, Cockburn is still experimenting and expanding his sound. On this release, the prized picker sheds his rootier ways for a more dense soundscape, a feature that may put off some fans of his more straightforward musicianship. Violinist Hugh Marsh lends an otherworldly vibe to this recording, as his electric violin wends its way through most of the CD. Cockburn gets murky on the song "All Our Dark Tomorrows," yet lets hope shine in the triumphant "Open." The senses are further entranced by his continued use of female vocals. Cockburn's simmering socio-political views magically merge with his universal humor in places, creating a new recording that's both stimulating and soothing.

HOWARD WALES & JERRY GARCIA: HOOTEROLL?

Evolver Records, April 2003.

Out of print for the past five years, this classic "lost" Garcia recording has been re-issued. For fans of the late Jerry Garcia, this is a chance to snap up one of the most collectible recordings of the Garcia oeuvre. *Hooteroll?* was Garcia's first non-Grateful Dead recording and was a collaboration with organist Howard Wales, who jammed in the San Francisco scene and played on the Dead's *American Beauty* LP. *Hooteroll?*, which was originally released

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