



HANK, BRUCE, BERT, JOE, BIG JIM & MORE

...THE UK INSTRUMENTAL SCENE, 1956 - 1961

CD1

- THE KREW KATS *Trambone*
- THE SCORPIONS *(Ghost) Riders In The Sky*
- THE HUNTERS *Teen Scene*
- THE DRIFTERS *Driftin'*
- RHET STOLLER *Chariot*
- THE TOM CATS *Tom Tom Cat*
- BERT WEEDON *Apache*
- NERO & THE GLADIATORS *Hall Of The Mountain King*
- THE OUTLAWS *Ambush*
- THE FLEE-REKKERS *Lone Rider*
- THE RAVENS ROCK GROUP *The Ghoul Friend*
- JOE BROWN *Swagger*
- THE BARONS *Whirlwind*
- ERNIE SHEAR WITH THE LEW RANDALL BAND *Cannonball*
- THE JETSTREAMS *Bongo Rock*
- THE APEX GROUP *Yorkshire Relish*
- THE CANNONS *I Didn't Know The Gun Was Loaded*
- JOHNNY GREGORY & HIS ORCH *A Thunder Of Drums*
- THE PACKABEATS *Gypsy Beat*
- JUDD PROCTOR *Clearway*
- THE WERLWINDS *Winding It Up*
- THE CHECKMATES *Caravan*
- MAX HARRIS *Gurney Slade Theme*
- THE SNEAKY PETES *The Savage (Part 2)*
- THE KREW KATS *Samovar*
- LORD ROCKINGHAM'S XI *Fried Onions*
- THE VIGILANTES *Man In Space*
- PETER JAY & THE JAYWALKERS *Mistral*
- JOHNNY 'THE GASH' GRAY WITH KEN JONES & HIS ORCH *Tequila*
- THE RUSTLERS *High Strung*

CD2

- THE MOONTREKKERS *Night Of The Vampire*
- THE HUNTERS *The Storm*
- THE FABULOUS FLEE-RAKKERS *Green Jeans*
- CHICO ARNEZ & HIS ORCH *Yashmak*
- THE TED TAYLOR FOUR *Cats Eyes*
- THE SHADOWS *Man Of Mystery*
- THE KREW KATS *Peak Hour*
- JOE BROWN *The Switch*
- THE SCORPIONS *Scorpio*
- BERT WEEDON *Guitar Boogie Shuffle*
- THE PETE CHESTER GROUP *Three Old Maids*
- THE OUTLAWS *Swingin' Low*
- THE CHECKMATES *Yep!*
- THE VAMPIRES *Clap Trap*
- THE BARONS *Samurai*
- THE STACCATOS *Main Line*
- KEN MACKINTOSH & HIS ORCH *Raunchy*
- REX & THE MINORS *Chicken Sax*
- NERO & THE GLADIATORS *Entry Of The Gladiators*
- THE VOLCANOS *Theme From Tightrope*
- DAVID EDE *Last Night*
- ARTHUR GREENSLADE & THE GEE-MEN *Eclipse*
- GEORGE CHISHOLM & THE BLUENOTES ft. BERT WEEDON *Honky Tonk*
- TOMMY STEELE & JOE BROWN *Drunken Guitar*
- THE JEFF ROWENA GROUP *Bullfight*
- LORD ROCKINGHAM'S XI *Hoots Mon*
- THE DRIFTERS *Jet Black*
- THE RED PRICE COMBO *Theme From Danger Man*
- THE IKONS *Rio Grande*
- THE PLANETS *Jam Roll*
- CHERRY WAINER *Cerveza*
- THE JOHN BARRY SEVEN *Beat Girl (Main Title Theme)*

FILE UNDER Instrumental / Rock 'n' Roll / Pop / Dance / 50s / 60s / Party



2CD Set RHGB 21

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The "Golden Age" of the UK R'n'R/Beat Instrumental occurred between the late 50s and the very early 60s, peaking in 1961 on the back of The Shadows' monumental breakthrough the previous year with the chart-topping 'Apache'. Indeed, more than half the sides featured on this compilation were recorded in '61, many of them in fairly straightforward attempts to copy The Shads' irresistibly twangy sound and style.

Instrumental music had, of course, always been hugely popular, long before the arrival of Rock'n'Roll - and here in the UK we'd boasted our own quaint array of favourites, ranging from pianist Winifred Atwell to trumpeter Eddie Calvert, not to mention an ill-assorted selection of Dance Bands and Jazz combos. But by the mid-50s, as ballroom dancing gave way to jiving, more strident, beatier instrumental styles began to emerge. American hits of the era were of course routinely covered, so we had Angli-fied versions of numbers like 'Honky Tonk', 'Raunchy', 'Tequila' and 'Cerveza', care of George Chisholm & Bert Weedon, Ken Mackintosh, Johnny 'The Gash' Gray & Ken Jones, and Cherry Wainer respectively. We even managed to squeeze out a few home-grown goodies, most notably Lord Rockingham's XI's 'Fried Onions' (recently revived in a TV commercial) and the chart-topping 'Hoots Mon'.

Initially, the tenor sax had been the dominant musical feature, but as R'n'R and Rockabilly began to flourish the guitar gradually took over as the genre's de facto 'lead instrument', and so guitar-driven Intros began to emerge. By this stage we'd had the Skiffle boom in the UK which meant that there was already an entire generation of guitar-toting teenagers standing idly around, wondering what to do next. And so when twangier records began to turn up in the UK, there was a ready-made cast of would-be twangers, all primed to copy them. Ironically, the first British guitarist to make the UK charts was 'old timer' Bert Weedon, whose cover of The Virtues' 'Guitar Boogie Shuffle' made the Top 10 in the Summer of '59. Another 'old school' session man was Ernie Shear, whose playing on Cliff & The Drifter's 'Move It!' more or less guaranteed his immortality. Although Ernie never pursued a solo career, his version of 'Cannonball' was one of the earliest Duane Eddy covers. Mention of The Drifters brings us to messrs Hank B. Marvin, Bruce Welch, Jet Harris and Tony Meehan, whose 'Jet Black'/'Driftin'", served to introduce what would become the celebrated "Shads' Sound".