



TELSTARS, MEXICANS, MANHUNTS & WONDERFUL LANDS

... THE UK INSTRUMENTAL SCENE 2 • 1956 - 62

Disc One

- THE FENTONES *The Mexican*
- THE SHADOWS *Guitar Tango*
- THE HUNTERS *Golden Earrings*
- THE COUGARS *Saturday Night At The Duckpond*
- THE EAGLES *Exodus*
- THE DUKES *Legend Of Glass Mountain*
- THE SUNSETS *Cry Of The Wild Goose*
- JOHN BARRY & HIS ORCHESTRA *James Bond Theme*
- BOB MILLER & THE MILLERMEN *Manhunt*
- DENNIS NEWAY *The Nightriders*
- CHARLES BLACKWELL & HIS ORCHESTRA *Death Valley*
- EARL GUEST *Winklepicker Stomp*
- THE JESTERS *Caso Pedro*
- JET HARRIS *Besame Mucho*
- THE DAVE CLARK FIVE *I Walk The Line*
- THE FLEE-REKKERS *Stage To Cimmaron*
- THE TORNADOS *Ridin' The Wind*
- THE MOONTREKKERS *Return Of The Vampire*
- TED TAYLOR FOUR *Spotlight*
- FRANK WEIR & THE WEREWOLVES *Manhunt*
- THE JOHNNY HOWARD GROUP *Mind Reader*
- THE NASHVILLE FIVE *Like Nashville*
- THE SCORPIONS *Torquay*
- THE PHANTOMS *Phantom Guitar*
- NERO & THE GLADIATORS *Bleak House*
- JUDD PROCTOR *Backfire*
- THE EAGLES *March Of The Eagles*
- THE OUTLAWS *Last Stage West*
- JOE BROWN & HIS BRUVVERS *Popcorn*
- THE KREW KATS *Jack's Good*
- TONY HATCH & HIS ORCHESTRA *Out Of This World*
- THE SHADOWS *Dance On*
- THE TORNADOS *Telstar (stereo)*

Disc Two

- THE SHADOWS *Wonderful Land (no strings)*
- THE HUNTERS *How's M'Chicks*
- THE FENTONES *The Breeze And I*
- THE PACKABEATS *The Traitors*
- THE SPOOKS *Spook Walks*
- THE TORNADOS *Love And Fury*
- TED TAYLOR FOUR *Jericho*
- THE MOONTREKKERS *Hatashiai (Japanese Sword Fight)*
- THE CHARLES BLACKWELL & HIS ORCHESTRA *Taboo*
- KENNY CLAYTON *String Gloves*
- EARL GUEST *Honky Tonk Train Blues*
- THE SUNSETS *Manhunt*
- THE OUTLAWS *Sioux Serenade*
- THE NASHVILLE FIVE *More Like Nashville*
- TONY OSBORNE *The Swinging Gypsies*
- FRANK & THE BARBARIANS *Concerto In The Stars*
- BARRY GRAY & THE SPACEMAKERS *Zero G*
- GORDON FRANKS *Outbreak Of Murder*
- PETER JAY & THE JAYWALKERS *Can-Can 62*
- THE FLEE-REKKERS *Sunburst*
- THE EAGLES *Bristol Express*
- THE SCORPIONS *Rockin' At The Phil*
- THE ECHOES *Cloak And Dagger*
- JET HARRIS *Rave*
- NERO AND THE GLADIATORS *Tovarich*
- THE BARONS *Cossack*
- RHETT STOLLER *Getting It On*
- THE STONEHENGE MEN *Pinto*
- THE KREW KATS *The Bat*
- JOE BROWN & HIS BRUVVERS *Hava Nagila 1.*
- THE SHADOWS *All Day*
- GARY EDWARDS COMBO *Africa*
- THE TORNADOS *Jungle Fever (stereo)*



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2CD Set

RHGB 30

Released Nov 4th 2013

As we have already learned (check out UK Instros Vol.1, RHGB 21), the "Golden Age" for British Beat Instrumentals occurred between the late 50s and the early 60s, peaking in 1961 & 62, following the arrival of The Shadows as a chart-topping phenomenon in their own right. This second set of predominantly twangy and/or keyboards-driven toons concentrates largely on 1962, with just a couple of handfuls of goodies left over from 1960/61 which were omitted from Vol.1 due to lack of space.

There can be no doubt that The Shads' unparalleled success changed the sound and style of your average UK Instro. Overnight, the sounds of rasping saxes were relegated to a supporting role, and although the likes of The Flee-Rekkers and Peter Jay & The Jaywalkers continued to thrive as live bands - notably in the nation's dancehalls, where a fuller sound was often required to get the punters up on their feet - their record successes were fewer and further between (indeed, the latter's only chart entry, the preposterous 'Can-Can 62', already sounded wildly anachronistic when it breached the NME Top 30 in November '62.

Meanwhile, The Shads' own monumentally successful 'Wonderful Land' (9-weeks at No.1 in the NME) presented a new variant on their allconquering blueprint, introducing Norrie Paramor's strings to the party (NB: the basic track was nearly a year old and featured original drummer Tony Meehan - just to be perverse, we've included that original, undubbed/unadorned Shads-only version!) Its immediate follow-up, 'Guitar Tango', took adornments a stage further, adding mariachi horns to the mix, although it was back to basics with the twangular 'Dance On', which gave them another UK No.1 (also included herein is the latter's unusual, bouzouki-driven flip, 'All Day').

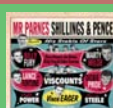
When bassist Jet Harris quit The Shadows in the Spring of 1962, it sent shock waves through UK Pop music. He re-emerged as a solo artist a couple of months later with a powerful revival of 'Besame Mucho', whilst the Bluesy 'Rave' (which featured Cyril Davies on harmonica) appeared on an eponymous EP. Former Shads bandmate Tony Meehan drummed on these sides, in a precursor of what was to come (wait for UK Instros Vol.3!). Of the groups most heavily influenced by The Shads, the best were probably The Eagles, although their only taste of chart action was as the backing group for the lamentable Valerie Mountain. Yet they recorded a fine body of work, 'Bristol Express' making for a great debut 45, while 'Exodus'/'March Of The Eagles' was probably as good a double-sider as you'd find.

Elsewhere, although their commercial success was modest, the short-lived Krew Kats - whose personnel included the era's outstanding guitarist, Big Jim Sullivan - cut two magnificent 45s; 'Jack's Good' was the flip of one, whilst the unfeasibly-rare 'The Bat' was their unissued third A-side. Likewise, Shane Fenton's backing group, The Fentones, cut a pair of bona-fide UK Instro classics during 1962, 'The Mexican' and 'The Breeze And I', both of which dented the Top 50.

But the big new Instro sound of 1962 was that of the keyboards - specifically, the clavichord - as envisioned by mad indie producer Joe Meek for Billy Fury's backing group, The Tornados. Although their first single, 'Love And Fury', failed to do much business, 'Telstar' (b/w 'Jungle Fever') more than made up for it, topping the UK and US charts and selling in its multi-millions (rare stereo mixes of both are included here). 'Ridin' The Wind' was the plug track on the chart-topping Sounds Of The Tornados EP.



RHGB21



RHGB22



RHGB23



RHGB24



RHGB25



RHGB26



RHGB27



RHGB28



RHGB29



RHGB31

also available in this series

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



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