

SIR 312 Home On The Range

vocal by: Paul Bristow

Release Date: (vinyl) 1994 / 02 (MP3) – 2004 / 01

Singing Call MS-53

Original artist: Gene Autry, Roy Rogers - et al

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(February 1994) – unplaced

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Gene Autry
PUBLISHERS: Gene Autry's Western Music Publishing Company

This is really a “traditional” tune that has been used by many of the “Singing Cowboys” who were popular in the early days of sound film (1930s / 1940s). The words that we used are only one set of many that seem to exist, the full text is shown below.

If you listen, carefully, to the music on this one you will hear a lot of “traditional” musical instruments. A “Prairie Organ” (as played with a foot tressle) sits amongst Fiddles Banjos and Guitars all of which are backed by an orchestral track – to give a full “movie-soundtrack” style. Okay, we have played a little with the “nostalgic” on this tune but – I believe – with a good result. This has to be an obvious “Square Dance” tune and – in my opinion – a great version, fit for the purpose!

Additional Lyrics:

Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day

Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day

Oh give me a land where the bright diamond sand
Flows leisurely down the stream
Where the graceful white swan goes gliding along
Like a maid in a heavenly dream

Oh often at night, when the heavens are bright
From the light of the glittering stars
Have I stood there amazed and asked as I gazed
If their glory exceeds that of ours

Where, When and Who produced the music:

In 1990, Ingvar Pettersson and Robert Björk formed a business relationship with Klaus Strand-Holm in Denmark.

Klaus's wife Karin had been teaching Traditional forms of Square Dancing in Denmark for some time and Klaus – an excellent musician, who had his own studio and access to many first-rate players – had been producing music for Karin to use in her courses. This same music was featured on a series of audio-cassette tapes, with which many Danish dancers will be familiar.

Klaus agreed that – if Ingvar and Robert would provide choreography and vocals for some of the audio-cassettes, in part using Sting and Snow instrumentals, then Sting and Snow could release his music – on vinyl – on our label.

These Danish recordings – more recently attributed to “Gammeldansk” (which is a most potent alcoholic “snaps-style” breakfast drink and literally translates as “old Danish”) – are very well structured tunes that rely upon a simple but effective rhythm that underpins very bright and clear lead and fill instrumentation. Many of them were written especially as Square Dance Tunes and have never been available in any other form.

In 2001, Klaus sold a further batch of his music to Sting and Snow, all of which were “original” songs.