

SIR 383 Daddy Sang Bass

vocal by: Ron and Ria Hepden

Singing Call MS-60

Original artist: Johnny Cash (et al)

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(October 2009) – No.3

Release Date: Vinyl, MP3 and CD – 2009 / 10

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Carl Perkins
PUBLISHERS: Universal – Songs of Polygram International Inc.

In a career that spanned almost five decades, Johnny Cash was the personification of country music to many people around the world. He received multiple Country Music Awards, Grammys and other awards, in categories ranging from vocal and spoken performances to album notes and videos. He appears in three major music halls of fame: the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame (1977), the Country Music Hall of Fame (1980 – of which he said he was most proud), and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (1992).

Recording a Nashville tune, in Nashville, is always great fun! All the players knew the track, so we just spent time on deciding how to “fine tune” the Square Dance arrangement; there was a lot of “input” and ideas from the musicians, which made it feel great – from the start! We managed to use all the parts of the original song in this Square Dance track, culminating in slightly longer part of “Will The Circle Be Unbroken”, than appeared in the original. This is a classic Country song with a great sound!

Additional Lyrics:

I remember when I was a lad, times were hard and things were bad
But there's a silver lining behind every cloud
Just poor people, that's all we were, trying to make a living out of black land dirt
We'd get together in a family circle singing loud

Daddy sang bass, Mama sang tenor - Me and little brother would join right in there.
Singing seems to help a troubled soul
One of these days and it won't be long, I'll rejoin them in a song
I'm gonna join the family circle at the Throne

Now I remember after work, Mama would call in all of us
You could hear us singing for a country mile
Now little brother has done gone on but, I'll rejoin him in a song
We'll be together again up yonder in a little while

No, the circle won't be broken, By and by, Lord, by and by
There's a better home awaiting - In the sky, Lord, in the sky
In the sky, Lord, in the sky

Where, When and Who produced the music:

This was part of the thirteenth group of releases on Sting and Snow that were recorded in Nashville, during September 2008. A total of Ten songs were recorded during this session, which was the eighth to be arranged and produced by Paul Bristow. On this occasion, Paul had his Goddaughter – Ria Hepden and her Father – Ron Hepden (Special Guest Caller on Sting), to help with “decisions”!

As in previous years, the music features the top musicians in Nashville: Gregg Galbraith – as band leader playing all Lead Guitars, Doug Jernigan on Steel and Dobro, Roger Morris on Piano and Keyboards, Fiddle by Rob Hojacos, Larry Paxton on Bass Guitar, Bruce Watkins playing Rhythm Guitar and Banjo and Jerry Kroon on Drums. As always Kevin McManus (studio owner) was the engineer.

Acknowledgement to Royal Records:

We are indebted to Jerry Story and Tony Oxendine who introduced us to the studio in Nashville and invited us to use the top-of-the-line professional session musicians that they had assembled, to play for Royal Records.