

SIR 306 Fraulein

vocal recorded by: Al Stevens

Release Date: (vinyl) 1988 / 09 (MP3) – 2004 / 01

Singing Call MS-40

Original artist: Bobby Helms

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(September 1988) – unplaced

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Lawton Williams
PUBLISHERS: EMI Unart Catalog Inc.

Bobby Helms found fame at an early age, performing on WTTS Bloomington, Indiana. He rose to fame in 1957 when he recorded Fraulein for Paul Cohen of the Decca Label. Fraulein was one of the first Country/Pop cross-overs and holds the record as the biggest country hit of all times by virtue of it remaining in the charts for 52 consecutive weeks. Bobby Helms' career continued for several decades, during which time he enjoyed several hit recordings.

There is a “cascading” feel to the music, on this recording, a full-string background over clear lead instrumentation that gives it a fairly unique sound when compared to other Sting and Snow music of the same era. Indeed, we tried very hard to make each recording distinctive and individual – a very “costly” exercise but one that was possible when we were able to sell enough of almost any release to break even. Al Stevens provides a first-rate vocal on this record. The whole track is superb!

Additional Lyrics:

Far across deep blue water lives an old German's daughter
By the banks of the old River Rhine
Where I loved her and left her now I can't forget her I miss my pretty Fraulein

Fraulein, Fraulein walk down by the river pretend that your hand's holding mine
By the same stars above you I swear that I love you, you are my pretty Fraulein

When my memories wander away over yonder to the sweetheart that I left behind
In a moment of glory a face comes before me the face of my pretty Fraulein

Fraulein, Fraulein look up toward the heavens
Each night when the stars start to shine
By the same stars above you I swear that I love you, you are my pretty Fraulein

Where, When and Who produced the music:

Stefan and Ingvar, together with Robert Björk, were very fortunate to locate a studio in Kumla, Sweden – by the name of the Music Mill - who were prepared to take on the task of helping us to produce music for Square Dancing.

In 1986, Bengt “Bula” Ericsson, from Katrineholm in Sweden, joined the Sting team. Ingvar Pettersson and Stefan Sidholm asked Bula to assist them with the production of the second batch of tunes and he remained an essential part of the Sting and Snow production-process for many years; this tune was recorded, as part of the third batch created in Sweden.

Using the players of a first rate Swedish Country band, called “Country Roads”, we set about creating new Square Dance music. All the players were of the highest standard, amongst these were Thomas Haglund, (on Fiddle and Mandolin); Thomas has often been referred to as the finest Fiddle Player – outside the U.S.

Over the years Sting and Snow spent quite a lot of time in the studio. This particular tune was recorded around the mid-point of our association with the Music Mill.