

SIR 313 Tennessee Waltz

vocal by: Klaus Strand-Holm

Release Date: (vinyl) 1993 / 10 (MP3) – 2003 / 12

Singing Call MS-53

Original artist: Golden West Cowboys

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(October 1993) – No. 3

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITERS: Pee Wee King, Redd Stewart
PUBLISHERS: Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music

Redd Stewart was already an accomplished song-writer and performer when he met Pee Wee King in 1937. Pee Wee signed him to join the Golden West Cowboys for whom he played – Eddy Arnold was the vocalist. After WWII, Eddy Arnold left and Redd took over as the lead vocalist. In 1948 Redd and Pee Wee wrote and released Tennessee Waltz and performed it with some success. In 1951 Patti Page released a cover version of the song and hit No.1, it became a Top 3 Country hit. It went on to sell over 6 million copies.

We were very pleased to be able to feature the vocal talents of Klaus Strand-Holm on this release; as you will see in the “box-out” below, Klaus was responsible for many of our tunes in the early 1990s. The music is instantly recognisable and will prompt a few “nostalgic” reactions from most dancers. We used a “modern” style on this version, so it is a little more “exciting” than the standard Square Dance conversion. Another great “crowd-pleaser”!

Additional Lyrics:

I was dancin' with my darlin' to the Tennessee Waltz
When an old friend I happened to see
I introduced her to my loved one
And while they were dancin'
My friend stole my sweetheart from me.

I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz
Now I know just how much I have lost
Yes, I lost my little darlin' the night they were playing
The beautiful Tennessee Waltz.

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.