

SIR 710 Vincent (Starry, Starry Night)

vocal by: Thorsten Geppert

Release Date: Vinyl, MP3 and CD – 2007 / 10

Singing Call MS-41

Original artist: Don McLean

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
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ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Don McLean
PUBLISHERS: Don McLean Music OBO The Benny Bird Co. Inc.
Songs of Universal Inc.

"**Vincent**" is a song by Don McLean written as a tribute to Vincent Van Gogh. It is also known by its opening line, "**Starry Starry Night**", a reference to Van Gogh's painting *Starry Night*. The song describes a different painting by Van Gogh in each of its stanzas. Don McLean wrote the lyrics in 1971 after reading a book about the life of the artist. The following year, the song became the #1 hit in the UK and #12 in the USA.

When Thorsten Geppert chose this song, it was very exciting. Whilst the song itself is undoubtedly an excellent choice, another aspect relates to our players. Our regular drummer, Jerry Kroon, is also Don McLean's regular concert drummer; he plays for Don on all of his live performances. With that thought in mind, there was a very special feeling associated with this recording. This is another very good example of a popular tune re-made as a Square Dance!

Additional Lyrics:

Starry starry night
paint your palette blue and grey
look out on a summer's day
with eyes that know the darkness in my soul
Shadows on the hills
sketch the trees and the daffodils
catch the breeze and the winter chills
in colours on the snowy linen land

And now I understand
What you tried to say to me
how you suffered for your sanity
how you tried to set them free
Starry starry night
paint your palette blue and grey
This world was never meant to be
For one as beautiful as you

Starry starry night
flaming flowers that brightly blaze
swirling clouds in violet haze
reflect in Vincent's eyes of China blue
Colors changing hue
morning fields of amber grain
weathered faces lined in pain
are soothed beneath the artist's loving hand

Starry starry night
portraits hung in empty halls
frameless heads on nameless walls
with eyes that watch the world and can't forget
Like the stranger that you've met
the ragged men in ragged clothes
This world was never meant to be
For one as beautiful as you

Where, When and Who produced the music:

This was part of the eleventh group of releases on Sting and Snow that were recorded in Nashville, during November 2006. A total of fourteen songs were recorded during this session, which was the sixth to be arranged and produced by Paul Bristow. On this occasion, Paul had his family with him to provide moral AND technical support! Also in attendance at this session was Snow Recording Artist: Wil Stans.

Recorded in November 2006, the music still features the top musicians in Nashville: Gregg Galbraith – as band leader playing all lead Guitars, Terry MacMillan on Harmonica and percussion, Doug Jernigan on Steel and Dobro, Jerry Kroon on Drums, Roger Morris on Piano and Keyboards, Fiddle by Rob Hojacos, Larry Paxton on Bass Guitar, Rhythm Guitar was played by Bruce Watkins and Mark Catstevens, with Bruce also on Banjo. We also had George Tidwell on Trumpet and Kevin McManus (studio owner) as 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.