

SIR 713 A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square vocal by: Thorsten Geppert Release Date: Vinyl, MP3 and CD – 2009 / 04

Singing Call MS-67

Original artist: Bobby Darin (etc.)

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(April 2009) – No.1

**ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITERS: Eric Maschwitz, Manning Sherman
PUBLISHERS: Shapiro Bernstein & Co. Inc.**

Berkeley Square (pronounced "BARK-lee") is a large leafy square in Mayfair, an expensive part of London; The Ritz Hotel referred to is also in Mayfair. This song has been recorded by many of the world's finest singers, including Nat King Cole, Mel Tormé, Rod Stewart, Bobby Darin etc., etc. The song was written in 1940 and is most often associated with Dame Vera Lynn who recorded it in 1940. However, the "definitive" version is widely regarded to be that sung by actor John Le Mesurier in 1975.

We chose to record this track in a style that reflected, as far as possible, the original feel of the song – but using our Nashville players. An important part of the team, who is featured on this track, is Sam Levine – on Clarinet and Saxophone.. The end result is a very smooth and melodic romantic song that contains all the depth and emotion of the original. As well as being a super song for a caller to sing, it's also one that you can use to encourage the dancers to "sing-a-long"; a real "feel good" Square Dance!

Additional Lyrics:

That certain night, the night we met,
There was magic abroad in the air.
There were angels dining at the Ritz
And a nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square

I may be right, I may be wrong,
But I'm perfectly willing to swear
That when you turned and smiled at me,
A nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square

*The moon that lingered over London town
Poor puzzled moon, he wore a frown
How could he know we two were so in love
The whole darn world seemed upside down*

The streets of town were paved with stars
It was such a romantic affair
And as we kissed and said "good-night"
A nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square

How strange it was, how sweet and strange
There was never a dream to compare
With that hazy, crazy night we met
When a nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square

This heart of mine beat loud and fast
Like a merry-go-round in a fair
For we were dancing cheek to cheek
And a nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square

*When dawn came stealing up all golden blue,
To interrupt our rendezvous.
I still remember how you smiled and said,
"Was that a dream or was it true?"*

Our homeward step was just as light
As the tap-dancing feet of Astaire
And like an echo far away,
A nightingale sang in Berk'ley Square.

I know 'cause I was there,
That night in Berk'ley Square

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. For the second year running we had Sam Levine on all the "Reeds" (Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet etc). 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.