



Kingston Trio **“Twice Upon A Time”** Collectors’ Choice Records

Recorded at The Sahara Tahoe on 31st July 1966 **“Twice Upon A Time”** is, basically, a supplement to the concurrently recorded, and previously released **“Once Upon A Time.”** Once recorded the latter live set was turned down by Decca Records, the Trio’s label at the time, and was finally released as a double lp during 1969 by Tetragrammaton Records. **“Once Upon A Time”** had been specially recorded to celebrate the impending demise of The Kingston Trio Mark II. And in terms of the Kingston Trio’s Discography the latter was pretty much the case until last year when Collectors’ Choice issued **“The Final Concert”** recorded on 17th June 1967 – the ‘actual and official final stage performance’ by the Mark II trio. Here’s a link to my Folkwax review of that collection – [[xxx@xxx](#)]

The forty-track CD version of **“Once Upon A Time”** features two-dozen songs and nine of those reappear among the eighteen tunes performed on **“Twice Upon A Time.”** The latter [repeats] include the ‘hits’ “M.T.A.,” “Greenback Dollar,” “Tom Dooley” and “Where Have All The Flowers Gone”; in addition both Sahara Tahoe recordings are opened by Woody Guthrie’s “Hard Travelin’” and closed by “When The Saints Go Marching In,” plus, Bob Shane, as was the norm prior to any Trio encore[s], delivers a solo rendition of “Scotch And Soda.”

Exclusive to **“Twice Upon A Time”** are performances of Tom Paxton’s “Where I’m Bound,” Lerner & Lowe’s “They Call The Wind Maria” and young Eric Andersen’s “Thirsty Boots.” During the early nineteen-forties Woody Guthrie was a member of the Almanac Singers [as was Cisco Houston and Pete Seeger] and that aggregation was a stepping-stone in ‘the folk process’ that led a decade and a half later to the formation of The Kingston Trio. With authorship credited to Guthrie and Almanac Singers the Trio performs “Reuben James.” The late John Stewart [d. 2008] was the principle Trio Mark II songwriter and **“Twice Upon A Time”** features a pair of his creations. There’s the Kingston’s, then, current single “The Spinnin’ Of The World” plus a solo reading by Stewart of the recently composed “Hit And Run” – which became the Trio’s next single.

According to fan and author Ben Blake’s liner note **“Once Upon A Time”** features the only known live recording of “Little Maggie” by the Mark II trio. Trio Mark I included the song on **“Stereo Concert Plus”** [1958]. Filmed during November 1966, with a railway depot set as the backdrop, **“Twice Upon A Time”** also includes a three-voice/three acoustic guitar video performance of Dylan’s “Tomorrow Is A Long Time.” Gathered around a single [television studio?] microphone the Trio sing it loud and Cowboy Junkies style.

Folkwax Score 6 out of 10

Arthur Wood.

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