



Bob Lind “**Elusive Butterfly**” Big Beat Records

This twenty-five track compilation of Bob Lind originals is sub-titled “**The Complete Jack Nitzsche Sessions.**” Basically the disc is composed of two World Pacific label albums that the late Nitzsche [d. 2000], a legendary American musician/producer, recorded with folk musician Lind during 1966. History proved that, as far as the Top 10 was concerned, Bob was a ‘one hit wonder’ – more of which in a moment. The sixteen-page liner booklet features Mick Patrick’s comprehensive notes on Bob Lind’s life in and out of music.

Tracks 1 through 12 appear in the order that they appeared on the February 1966 release “**Don’t Be Concerned,**” an album that opened with “Elusive Butterfly” a dream like love song that made # 5 on the U.S. Pop Chart the following month. In the U.K. it made the same position, circa that year, in direct competition with a version by Ireland’s Val Doonican, and the least said about the latter the better. At times, the melody to mermaid themed tale “Dale Ann” closely resembles “Elusive Butterfly.” As Bob reveals in Patrick’s liner notes a deal of spirit and weed inspired the melodies and words featured here. Peace man, it was the sixties man!

A handful of songs into the album, what particularly stands out on “**Don’t Be Concerned**” is Nitzsche’s lush use of strings in supporting Lind’s melodies. As for subject matter throughout this compilation there’s ‘in and out of’ love songs [“You Should Have Seen It” and “Oh Babe Take Me Home”] and road songs [“Drifter’s Sunrise” and “I Just Let It Take Me”].

The ten-song sophomore collection “**Photographs Of Feeling**” [tracks 13 to 22] was released during August 1966. Track-on-track the strings appear to be less prominent, for instance on the upbeat “San Francisco Woman” a banjo and brass section take centre stage. The “**Don’t Be Concerned**” sessions took place during late 1965 and it was commonplace back in the sixties for artists/bands to release two albums of original material within a period of twelve months. No so these days! Taken from the, then, forthcoming “**Photographs Of Feeling,**” the single “Remember The Rain” b/w “Truly Julie’s Blues,” was released during May 1966 and eventually peaked at U.S. Pop # 64, and in terms of chart success that was it for this Bob. As for the narrator’s bold ‘Go ask your boyfriend if I can borrow you for a few days’ approach in the sophomore album opener “Go Ask Your Man” – “*Just let him know that I am from a decent family, Go ask you man, I’m sure he’ll understand*” - well, that brought a wry smile to my face. Peace man, it was the sixties man!

Completing this collection is an unedited version of “I Can’t Walk Roads Of Anger,” the closing track on “**Don’t Be Concerned,**” and it’s followed by the previously unreleased demos [and compilation closing tracks] “Whose Is The Funeral” – a morbid little item - and the cheerful “Bring It All Down.” Lind’s compositions were subsequently covered by numerous contemporaries including Blues Project, Cher, Noel Harrison and Adam Faith [“Cheryl’s Going Home”], Marianne Faithfull [“Counting”] and Keith Relf former lead singer of The Yardbirds [“Mr. Zero”].

Folkwax Score 7 out of 10

Arthur Wood.

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