

UMC



BOBBIE GENTRY **'THE GIRL FROM CHICKASAW COUNTY'**

**CAREER DEFINING DELUXE 8 DISC BOX SET FEATURING ALL 7
REMASTERED STUDIO ALBUMS AND 75 UNRELEASED RECORDINGS**

BOX SET LISTENING GUIDE DISC BY DISC

Disc 1 Ode To Billie Joe

Ode To Billie Joe is an original combination of blues, folk and jazz elements, which in addition to containing one of the greatest debut singles of all time with 'Ode To Billie Joe'/'Mississippi Delta', also furthered Bobbie's recollections of her homeland on songs like 'I Saw An Angel Die', 'Chickasaw County Child', 'Papa Won't You Let Me Go To Town With You?' and 'Hurry, Tuesday Child'. These recordings are now supplemented by a selection of Bobbie's acoustic demos including previously unreleased song 'The Seventh Son', an alternate version of 'Mississippi Delta', a cancelled single of a re-recorded 'Sunday Best'/'Show-Off' and for the first time on cd Bobbie's Italian language entry in the 1968 San Remo song festival 'La Siepe' and it's b-side 'La Citta' E' Grande'.

Disc 2 The Delta Sweete

Widely acknowledged as one of Bobbie's best records, this multi-faceted, quasi-concept album about her Mississippi Delta roots, shows Bobbie at the peak of her powers as a singer, songwriter and interpreter. Highlights include the erotic 'Mornin' Glory', eerie chamber pop masterpieces 'Refractions', and 'Penduli Pendulum', tender folk fable 'Jessye' Lisabeth' the melancholy 'Courtyard' as well as strong covers of 'Big Boss Man' and a cinematic 'Tobacco Road'. In addition we can now hear some of Bobbie's demos for the album tracks, and two further self-penned originals 'I Didn't Know' and 'Morning to Midnight' as well as her interpretation of 'Feelin' Good' popularised by Nina Simone.

Disc 3 Local Gentry

The quality of Bobbie's song writing remained exceptional on her third album; from the sinister eroticism of 'Sweete Peony', and the chilled out high of 'Sittin' Pretty' to the comic small-town intrigue of 'Ace Insurance Man'. However, the album's highlights are three songs about death: the poignant 'Recollection' the black humoured 'Casket Vignette' and her cover of the Beatles 'Eleanor Rigby'. In addition, Bobbie's reading of Kenny Rankin's 'Peaceful' is surely definitive. The disc contains further previously unreleased outtakes including a powerful 'Conspiracy of Homer Jones' by Dallas Frazier, Kenny Rankin's charming 'Cotton Candy Sandman' and a mesmeric demo of her single 'Hushabye Mountain'.

Disc 4 Bobbie Gentry & Glen Campbell

One of Bobbie's most commercially successful releases saw her team up with fellow country star Glen Campbell for an album of duets that included her 'Mornin' Glory', a hit on the country and easy listening charts. The pair also deliver winning interpretations of Margo Guryan's 'Sunday Mornin'', 'Scarborough Fair' and the Everly Brothers hit 'Let It Be Me'. All are represented in previously unreleased alternate versions. The disc is rounded off with 'Love Took My Heart and Mashed That Sucker Flat' Bobbie's little known duet with friend and producer Kelly Gordon, and some foreign language singles including a Japanese 'Fool On The Hill' and Spanish 'I'll Never Fall In Love Again' - all appearing on cd for the first time.

Disc 5 Touch 'em With Love

In a new direction, Bobbie cut a laid-back set of classic and contemporary jazz tunes including Billie Holiday's 'God Bless the Child', 'Supertime' by Irving Berlin and Bacharach & David's 'This Girl's in Love With You' that were all abandoned in favour of the blue-eyed soul sound of what became *Touch 'em With Love*. Standout tracks were the southern-fried funk of the title track (now in stereo) 'Greyhound Goin' Somewhere' and 'I Wouldn't Be Surprised' The LP also features her UK No 1 'I'll Never Fall In Love Again'. Bobbie's own compositions remained strong on 'Glory Hallelujah How They'll Sing' and 'Seasons Come Seasons Go', both heard here in alternate versions. Also previously unreleased is a powerful performance of 'Spinning Wheel' by Blood, Sweat & Tears.

Disc 6 Fancy

Fancy was a country soul pop triumph that was the first album on Capitol to be produced by an outside producer. Recorded in Muscle Shoals with Rick Hall at the helm, the self-penned title track went on to become Bobbie's most successful single since 'Ode to Billie Joe'. Other highlights include the sexy soul of 'He Made a Woman out of Me' and 'Find 'em, Fool 'em, and Forget 'em' and interpretations of contemporary songs like Harry Nilsson's 'Rainmaker' and James Taylor's 'Something in the Way He Moves'. Also included are the superb 'Apartment 21', the previously unreleased 'Circle Round The Sun' and alternate takes of 'Wedding Bell Blues', 'Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head' and 'Scarlet Ribbons' originally from The Christmas Sound of Music.

Disc 7 Patchwork

Bobbie's sixth and final solo LP was the aptly titled *Patchwork*; a brilliantly diverse collection of short stories in song that effortlessly incorporated country, pop, soul, folk, gospel, blues and show-tune motifs; it was also the first collection that gave Bobbie credit as sole writer / producer. The album introduces us to a wide variety of characters including 'Benjamin' and the stripper with a heart 'Belinda' (both included here in alternate versions). Bobbie also gets confessional on songs like 'But I can't Get Back' and the poignant 'Lookin' In'. Two further originals were recorded: 'Smoke' and another of Bobbie's amusing 1940s-style pastiches called 'Joanne'. The disc ends with the superb 'The Girl from Cincinnati' her final Capitol 7".

Disc 8 Live At The BBC

Early in 1968 Bobbie was invited to host her own show on BBC2, making her the first female songwriter to front a TV series on the network. Over three series' in 1968, '69 and '71 Bobbie gave performances of songs such as 'Ode to Billie Joe', 'Refractions' and 'Nikki Hoeky' (paired with Robert Parker's 'Barefootin') that matched and sometimes went beyond the intensity of their studio counterparts. The BBC series' dramatic interpretation of her music would prove a lasting influence, and performances like 'Billy The Kid' and the extended version of 'Your Number One Fan' give an indication of what the elaborate stage shows Bobbie produced and choreographed in the 70's would have sounded like.

For full product tracklisting & more: <http://bobbiegentry.org.uk>
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