

Dan Does Elvis

Daniel T. Pountes

The whole idea of doing this Elvis album came from a special someone I met in the coldest months of 2018. Johanna loved the Elvis songs we do at shows or a quick king adlib during a stroll downtown. She asked if I would make her a recording of Teddy Bear, which I did. Then she suggested making an album, which I did. I would do anything she wanted, gladly.

Gabor Bardfalvi, Clemens Schirmer and Aaron Till were all right behind the idea too. After drummer Gregg Stocki did some tracks in July 2018, he said that he'd never been a big Elvis fan, but was charged up for this project and really liking it.

Elvis was prolific, having recorded over 700 songs between 1953 and 1977 including country and gospel. He starred in over 30 films. By self admission he was no writer, having only co-written 4 songs with Ken Darby. Aaron Till talked about Elvis as a kind of role model in his youth and watching all his motion pictures. Aaron also knows the ins and outs of how the material was originally recorded. We speculated on who Elvis would have become had he lived on.





I think he would have done guest appearances on Matlock, Deadwood and The Sopranos. He'd have done duetts with Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton and Prince.

"It's Now Or Never" caused John Lennon to pronounce that Elvis had gone the route of Bing Crosby. There was no Rock'n Roll when Elvis was coming up. He sang in the church choir with his folks. He would have admired crooners like Sinatra, Dean Martin and of course Bing Crosby. But his heroes were also black gospel guys, Bill Monroe, Hank Williams, Earnest Tubb, Red Foley and what the Grand Ol' Opry was offering up. Anybody who says Elvis was a light weight singer is wrong.

IT HURTS ME

Yes it's that devil fiddler Charlie Daniels who co-wrote this! "It Hurts Me" reached number 29 in 1964 and was a "non-movie-song". Considering the almost classic nature of this song, it is one of the less noticed gems which Elvis delivered. Aaron Till produced this version, doing all the Jordinaire harmonies, acoustic guitar and bass. Singing the lead requires some microphone technique in the studio since the vocal switches between close and intimate and almost aggressively loud.

Aaron Till: bass, acoustic guitar, harmony vocals

Daniel T. Coates: lead vocal, electric guitars, piano, snare

GOOD LUCK CHARM

Reached number 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 list in the week ending April 21, 1962. It remained at the top of the list for two weeks.

Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals, guitar, bass, piano, snare,





TEDDY BEAR

First recorded by Elvis in 1957 for the soundtrack of his second motion picture "Loving You", during which Presley performs the song on screen. It was number 1 on the country charts for a single week. This was the 3rd of 4 number 1 songs Elvis had in 1957.

Daniel T. Contes: lead and harmony vocals, guitar, bass, piano, snare.

FLAMING STAR

"Flaming Star" was first recorded by Elvis for the soundtrack of the 1960 movie Flaming Star. It was deemed one of Elvis's best dramatic roles. He plays a mixed Kiowa Indian/rancher white son torn between loyalties. While doing a gig at OLD HIPPIES in Fuerth, Germany a patron asked if we did this song. Was the first I heard of it! Notice the indian motifs in the Accordion!

Daniel T. Contes: lead and harmony vocals, guitars, accordion, bass
Elemens Schürmer: snare

SUSPICIOUS MINDS

In 1969 this was Elvis's eighteenth and last number-one single in the United States. Rolling Stone ranked it no. 91 on their list of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time. The writer Mark James was co-writer on Always On My Mind. This single is seen as the catalyst for Presley's comeback. Mike Leech played bass on the 1969 Elvis sessions. Mike was session leader for 3 of Dan's songs in Studio 19 in Nashville back in 2002. Dan tried to get into his head when working out the bass part here, without copying it.

Clemens Schürmer: snare Gregg Stocki: hi-hat, congas, tambourine
Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals guitars, bass
Marina Setzinger: harmony vocals

RETURN TO SENDER

1962 hit single for the king, it was featured in "Girls, Girls, Girls". The baritone sax part played by Boots Randolph is covered by Aaron Till's fiddle!

Aaron Till: fiddle,
Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals, guitars, piano, snare
Peter van den Bos: bass harmony vocal Gabor Baradfalvi: upright bass



IN THE GHETTO

Released in 1969 and the flipside of the 45 was "Any Day Now". It was a no. 3 hit in the US and a no. 1 hit in Germany. Bass player Mike Leech

told Dan that Elvis was very polite, sang great and sweated alot in the studio.

Gabor Baradfalvi: bass

Christina Zeidler: harmony vocals

Daniel T. Coates: vocals, guitar, piano,

STUCK ON YOU

Elvis Aaron's first hit single after his two-year stint in the US Army. Recorded in March 1960 it charted on the Billboard Hot 100 in late April 1960. It was his first number-one single of the 1960s and thirteenth overall. The writing has similarities to "Good Luck Charm".

(A. Schroeder co-wrote both)

Gregg Stocki: drums and percussion

Gabor Baradfalvi: bass

Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals, guitars, piano,



KENTUCKY RAIN

Possibly because of new recording possibilities and of someone giving the "ok" (certainly Elvis did) for a new, big, orchestrated arrangement, "Kentucky Rain" is a complicated song. Recorded in 1969 and released in 1970, it reached no.16. Two Country music giants were involved. Eddie Raven as writer and Ronny Milsap as pianist. I tried to copy Ronny's piano fills or at least capture their essence.

Gregg Stocki: drums and percussion Aaron Till: strings, string horns

Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals, guitars, piano.

Marina Selzinger, Christina Zeiller: harmony vocals

ALWAYS ON MY MIND

This song was recorded twice by female artists before Elvis got hold of it. It was not a no. 1 for Elvis. Willie Nelson's version is perhaps better known but Elvis left his indelible mark on the song and obviously, Willie was familiar with it. I chose to leave the arrangement very open with just piano and voice. The song reached Elvis through one of his bodyguards, who gave Presley a studio cut.

Daniel T. Coates: vocals, piano.



YOU'RE THE DEVIL IN DISGUISE

Debuted for Elvis in 1963 and peaked at number three in the US on the Billboard singles and number nine on the Billboard Rhythm and Blues singles chart, becoming his last top ten single on the Rhythm'n Blues charts.

Gregg Stocki: snare Aaron Till: tic tac bass

Daniel T. Coates: vocals, guitars, piano, precision bass

ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?

Certified gold in 1961 and upgraded to double platinum in 1992. Colonel Parker suggested Elvis do this one, being that it was the Colonel's wife's favorite song. Written in 1926! The version where Elvis cuts up on the song is almost more beloved than the serious one. The fact that Elvis did not take himself too seriously all the time could be a great lesson to present day entertainers.

Daniel T. Coates: lead and harmony vocals, guitars, bass

Gabor Barádfalvi: bass





LITTLE SISTER

Little Sister was released in 1961 and hit no. 5. Versions by Dwight Yokum and Ry Cooder kept it alive and known. We recorded this live in summer of 2018 with Aaron Till on Telecaster, Gabor Bardfalvi Upright Bass and Dan T. on snare drum, mouthing the words to keep oriented. Aaron put the tic tac bass on top of Gabor's bass just like in 61.

Aaron Till: guitar, tic tac bass

Gabor Bardfalvi: upright bass

Daniel T. Coates: vocals, snare



ITS NOW OR NEVER

Recorded by Elvis Presley in 1960 this no. 1 song is based on the Italian song of "O Sole mio" (music by Eduardo di Capua). It was Elvis's best selling single of all times and he got the idea of recording it while in Germany. Gold and Schroeder came up with the lyrics it is said in well less than an hour.

Our version was recorded live with Gregg Stocki on trapset, Gabor Bardfalvi on electric Fender Precision and Dan on guitar mouthing the words.

Gregg Stocki: drums and percussion Gabor Bardfalvi: bass

Daniel T. Coates: vocals, guitars, piano.

A LITTLE ELVIS

"A Little Elvis" is written for the kitten, my muse. Thanks to her I wrote a bunch and recorded more. Altogether about 35 songs in 2018. Elvis must really still be alive since he continues spreading so much happiness.

Daniel T. Coates: guitar and vocals

SHE WANTS HIM TO SING HER TEDDY BEAR

Bonus Track!

Daniel T. Coates: all vocals and instruments

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**COVER
OUTTAKES**

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Daniel T. Contes

ALSO AVAILABLE



»TAKIN' MY LAST CHANCE«



»GRASSED UP STAR TRACKS«



»HEY DADDY«



»COYOTE CAFE«



»LET THAT ONE RUN«



»JENNY WORKS IN THERE«



»WHEN I WANNA FALL«



»TRAVELIN' GUITAR MAN«



»CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY«

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. IT HURTS ME | 2:27 |
| 2. GOOD LUCK CHARM | 2:41 |
| 3. TEDDY BEAR | 1:51 |
| 4. LOVE ME TENDER | 2:32 |
| 5. FLAMING STAR | 2:49 |
| 6. SUSPICIOUS MINDS | 3:48 |
| 7. RETURN TO SENDER | 2:23 |
| 8. IN THE GHETTO | 2:38 |
| 9. STUCK ON YOU | 2:29 |
| 10. KENTUCKY RAIN | 3:16 |
| 11. ALWAYS ON MY MIND | 4:16 |
| 12. YOU'RE THE DEVIL IN DISGUISE | 2:38 |
| 13. ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT? | 2:49 |
| 14. LITTLE SISTER | 2:40 |
| 15. IT'S NOW OR NEVER | 3:14 |
| 16. A LITTLE ELVIS | 1:45 |
| 17. SHE WANTS HIM TO SING HER TEDDY BEAR | 1:56 |

MASTERING> WOLFGANG REISS

GRAPHICS> THOMAS SCHOENHEITER

PHOTOGRAPHY> LONNIE DALE

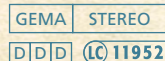
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