



BEAR FAMILY RECORDS

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ARTIST TITLE

Various
Calypso Craze
1956-57 And Beyond

LABEL
CATALOG #
PRICE-CODE
EAN-CODE

Bear Family Productions
BCD 16947
GK



5 397102 169472

FORMAT

6-CD/1-DVD Box-Set (LP-size)
with 176-page hardcover book

GENRE

Calypso

CD

173 tracks, 484:23 min.

DVD

14 chapters, ca 86 min.



INFORMATION

In the standard history of American pop music, the 1950s are a parade of rock icons: Bill Haley, Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Little Richard, Elvis Presley. But after the demise of the great dance bands of the 1940s, rock 'n' roll didn't actually secure its position as the Next Big Thing until quite late in the day. For a few short months, in fact, it seemed that rock might be just another passing fad – and that calypso was here to stay.

From late 1956 through mid-1957, calypso was everywhere: not just on the Hit Parade, but on the dance floor and the TV, in movie theaters and magazines, in college student unions and high school glee clubs. There were calypso card games, clothing lines, and children's toys. Calypso was the stuff of commercials and comedy routines, news reports and detective novels. Nightclubs across the country hastily tacked up fishnets and palm fronds and remade themselves as calypso rooms. Singers donned straw hats and tattered trousers and affected mock-West Indian 'ahk-cents.' And it was Harry Belafonte – not Elvis Presley – who with his 1956 album 'Calypso' had the first million-selling LP in the history of the record industry. No wonder reporters and marketers joined the trade journals and fanzines in declaring a 'Calypso Craze.' In fact, by the time 'Variety' announced "*Hot Trend: Trinidad Tunes*" (on the cover of its December 26, 1956 issue), the Craze was already well underway.

How calypso came from Trinidad to America and found such celebrity, vying seriously (if only fleetingly) with rock 'n' roll for the affections of the nation's youth, is one of the stranger tales of modern popular music. This collection offers an overview of calypso's slow rise, heady prominence, and precipitous fall in America and beyond in the period surrounding the Calypso Craze of 1956-57.



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The set comprises six CDs, covering the following topics:

- Before The Craze: Calypso Hits Of The 1930s, 40s, And Early 50s
- Belafonte And Calypso – Before And After Calypso
- Calypso Goes Pop (...and R&B, Rock 'N' Roll, Folk, Country, Comedy, And Jazz)
- Calypso On Stage And Screen
- Calypso 'Across The Pond': The Calypso Craze In England
- Mondo Calypso: The Calypso Craze In The Circum-Caribbean And Around The World



Performers include such surprises as:

- Louis Farrakhan, Maya Angelou, Robert Mitchum, and Fess Parker
- Stan Kenton, Louis Armstrong, and Hazel Scott
- Nat 'King' Cole, Eartha Kitt, Rosemary Clooney, and Fred Astaire
- Hank Snow, Tito Puente, Stan Freberg, and the Norman Luboff Choir
- and 'blue-eyed calypsos' written by Cole Porter, Johnny Mercer, and Harold Arlen



Also represented are:

- Trinidadian calypsonians Lion, Atila, Radio, and Caresser; Beginner, Invader, and Kitchener; Terror, Cristo and Panther
- Trinidadian expatriates Wilmoth Houdini, Duke of Iron, Sir Lancelot, and MacBeth the Great
- Other West Indians (and Bermudians) such as Lloyd Thomas, Lord Flea, Lord Foodoos, Mighty Zebra, The Talbot Brothers, Sidney Bean, Hubert Smith, Blind Blake, Enid Mosier, The Eloise Trio, Edric Connor, George Browne, and Frank Holder
- Folksingers The Tarriers, Terry Gilkyson and The Easy Riders, Stan Wilson, and The Kingston Trio



Bonus DVD:

- Unseen in over 55 years – a 'Calypso Craze' feature-length film never before issued on video or broadcast on television: 'Calypso Joe' (Allied Artists, 1957), starring Herb Jeffries and Angie Dickinson, and featuring Duke of Iron and The Easy Riders
- Four short 'soundies' from the 1940s and 50s, with Sam Manning and 'Belle Rosette' (Beryl McBurnie), Broadway and big-band singer Gracie Barrie covering *Stone Cold Dead In The Market*, and Lord Cristo and the March Of Dimes Quartet





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TRACKLISTING

CD 1: Calypso Comes To America

Hubert R. Charles: Marry An Ugly Woman • **The Caresser:** Edward The VIII • **The Atilla:** Roosevelt In Trinidad • **The Lion & Atilla The Hun:** Guests Of Rudy Vallee • **King Radio:** Matilda • **Wilmoth Houdini:** He Had It Coming • **The Andrews Sisters:** Sing A Tropical Song • Rum And Coca Cola • **Sir Lancelot:** Scandal In The Family • The Century Of The Common Man • Old Lady With A Rolling Pin • **Armando Castro & Joe Davis:** Mary Ann • **Duke Of Iron:** Calypsonian Invasion • **Lord Invader:** Jackie Robinson • **Louis Jordan & His Tympany Five:** Run Joe • **Ella Fitzgerald:** Stone Cold Dead In The Market (He Had It Coming) • **MacBeth The Great:** Cab Calloway • **Lloyd Thomas:** Cold In De Winter • **The Charmer:** Is She Is, Or Is She Ain't • **Stan Kenton & His Orchestra:** His Feet Too Big For De Bed • **Eartha Kitt:** Somebody Bad Stole De Wedding Bell • **Nat 'King' Cole:** Calypso Blues • **Duke Of Iron:** Last Train • **Lord Invader:** Labor Day Carnival (Jump In The Line) • Chicago, Chicago • **Duke Of Iron:** Parakeets • Prisoner Arise (Prisonaire Levé) • **Lord Christo:** Hurricane Janet • **Mighty Panther:** Big Bamboo • **Sir Lancelot:** Hacienda Hotel Radio Advertisement

CD 2: Harry Belafonte: The Reluctant Calypso King

Harry Belafonte: Man Smart (Woman Smarter) • Matilda • Hold 'Em Joe • Kalenda Rock (Mourning Song) • Man Piaba • Jump Down, Spin Around • Banana Boat Song • Jamaica Farewell • Brown Skin Girl • Melda Massi • Come Back Liza • Mary's Boy Child • Mama Look A BooBoo • Cocoanut Woman • Island In The Sun • Scratch Scratch • Don't Ever Love Me • Cordelia Brown • Haiti Cheri • Judy Drownded • Lead Man Holler • Sweetheart from Venezuela • Gloria • Monkey • Reincarnation • Tongue Tie Baby • Don't Stop The Carnival

CD 3: Calypso Is Everywhere

The Tarriers: The Banana Boat Song • **Terry Gilkyson & The Easy Riders:** Marianne • **The Hilltoppers:** Marianne • **David Rose & His Orchestra:** Calypso Melody • **Mills Brothers:** In De Banana Tree • **Richard Hayman & His Orchestra:** Calypso Gal • **Four Aces:** Bahama Mama • **Ray Gilbert:** Curiosity Calypso • **Rosemary Clooney:** Mangos • **The Norman Luboff Choir:** Yellow Bird • **Fred Astaire:** Calypso Hooray • **Ray Johnson:** Calypso Joe • **Freddie Mitchell & His Orchestra:** Freddy's New Calypso • **Nat 'King' Cole:** When Rock And Roll Come To Trinidad • **The Fontane Sisters:** Dancing To The Rock And Rolla (Rum And Coca Cola) • **The Deeps:** Calypso Rock And Roll • **Dave Day & the Redcoats:** Calypso Rock • **Mike Pedicin Quintet:** Calypso Rock • **Stan Wilson:** Waikiki Farewell • **Four Happy Fellas:** (Tell De Batter To) Hit De Long Ball • **Hoke Simpson:** Number One • **The Kingston Trio:** Zombie Jamboree • **Hank Snow:** Calypso Sweetheart • **Johnnie & Jack:** The Banana Boat Song • **Rusty Draper:** Let's Go Calypso • **Nita, Rita & Ruby:** My Man True To Me • **Stan Freberg:** Banana Boat (Day-O) • **Buchanan & Goodman:** The Banana Boat Story (The Banana Boat Song) • **Louis Armstrong:** High Society Calypso • **Hazel Scott:** Take Me, Take Me • **Sonny Rollins:** Don't Stop The Carnival • **Julie Conway:** The Safety Song

CD 4: Calypso Goes To The Movies, Broadway, Television And More

Johnny Desmond: Tastes Like Strawberries • **The Treniers:** Rock Calypso Joe • **Maya Angelou:** Run Joe • Donkey City • Scandal In The Family • **Herb Jeffries:** Devil Is A Woman • **Lord Flea:** The Naughty Little Flea • Shake Shake Senora • Calypso Be Bop • Donkey Bray • **Mary Kaye Trio:** Calypso Rock • **Jeri Southern:** Fire Down Below • **Robert Mitchum:** What Is This Generation Coming To? • Jean And Dinah • **Terry Gilkyson & The Easy Riders:** Don't Hurry Worry Me • **Mamie Van Doren:** Go, Go, Calypso! • **Pat Boone:** Technique • **Calypso Carnival:** Mama Look A BooBoo (Boo Boo Man) • **Enid Mosier & Her Trinidad Steel Band:** Two Ladies In De Shade Of De Banana Tree • Boys Days • **Josephine Premice:** Yankee Dollar • Leave De Atom Alone • **Geoffrey Holder:** The Bottle Imp • Sugar Cane • **Calypso MacNiles:** Stew Pig Knuckles • **Fess Parker:** Wedding Bell Calypso (Man Talk Too Much) • **Ray Anthony & His Orchestra:** Calypso Dance • **The Diamonds:** Limbo • **Roger King Mozian, His Trumpet & Orchestra:** Limbo • **Billy Duke & His Dukes:** Chalyпсо



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CD 5: Calypso 'Across The Pond'

Edmundo Ros & His Orchestra: Chocolate Whiskey And Vanilla Gin • **Edric Connor & The Caribbeans:** Day Dah Light (Banana Loaders' Song) • **Lord Kitchener:** London Is The Place For Me • Kitch (Small Comb, Scratch Me Head) • Food From The West Indies • The Underground Train • **The Lion:** Tick! Tick! (The Story Of The Lost Watch) • **Lord Beginner:** Victory Test Match • John Goddard • **Edric Connor:** Manchester United Calypso • **Lord Kitchener:** Kitch's Bebop Calypso • Is Trouble • **Mighty Terror:** Chinese Children • Patricia Gone With Millicent • No Carnival In Britain • Brown Skin Gal • **Lord Invader:** Prince Rainer • My Experience On The Reeperbahn • **George Browne (Young Tiger):** Woman Is A Man's Best Friend • **Bliff Radie Byne:** Liberia • **Johnny Duncan & The Blue Grass Boys:** Last Train To San Fernando • **Frank Holder:** Sweetie Charlie • **Maxine Daniels:** Coffee Bar Calypso • **Bernard Cribbens:** Gossip Calypso • **Lance Percival:** Shame And Scandal In The Family

CD 6: Calypso Goes Global

Talbot Brothers: Atomic Nightmare • **The Talbot Brothers Of Bermuda:** Don't You Call Me Boo Boo • **Sidney Bean And His Trio:** Collegiate Invasion • **Hubert Smith:** Green Ticket • Right Side Of The Road • **Goombay Kings:** Don't Touch Me Tomato • **The Eloise Trio:** Calypso Island • **Blind Blake:** Run, Come See Jerusalem • Delia' Gone • **Lord Foodoos:** Hold 'Em Joe • **Count Lasher:** Calypso Cha Cha Cha • **The Fabulous McClevertys:** Don't Blame It On Elvis • **Mighty Zebra:** I Like Ike • Scandal In St. Thomas • **The La Motta Brothers:** Vim, Vigor And Vitality • **Luis Amando:** Calypso Joe • **Perez Prado:** Calypso Man • **El Boy:** Jack, Jack, Jack • **Tito Puente & His Orchestra:** Calypso Blues • **Cuarteto D'Aida:** Matilda • **Lord Caresser:** Weekend News • Atomic Energy • **Max Woiski & seine Band:** Nescafe Calypso • **Nina & Frederik:** Limbo • **All Stell Percussion Band Of Trinidad:** Ramadin • **Geraldo La Viny Et Son Orchestre:** Ugly Girls Have Pretty Names • **Alice Babs:** Mama ist aus Kuba • **Michiko Hamamura:** Banana Boat Song • **Jimmy Soul:** If You Wanna Be Happy

DVD:

CLIPS March Of Dimes Quartet: March Of Dimes Calypso • **Gracie Barrie:** Stone Cold Dead In The Market • **Sam Manning and Belle Rosette:** Willie Willie • Quarry Road

MOVIE 'Calypso Joe' (USA,1957): Herb Jeffries & The Calypsomaniacs: Fly Joe Fly • The Devil Is A Woman • Don't Spank De Baby • untitled conga line • Herb Jeffries & The Calypsomaniacs with Lady T: Calypsociety • Herb Jeffries & The Calypsomaniacs: There's Only One Love (In A Woman's Life) • **Lord Flea & His Calypsonians:** Naughty Little Flea • **Lester Horton Dancers with Lord Flea's Calypsonians:** untitled percussion jam • **Terry Gilkyson & The Easy Riders:** Sweet Sugar Cane • Marianne • **The Duke of Iron with Lord Flea & His Calypsonians:** Take Me Down To Locero • **Herb Jeffries & The Calypsomaniacs:** Po Mule • Adam And Evil Blues • **Lord Flea & His Calypsonians:** Calypso Jamboree • Can't Cross Over • **Herb Jeffries, Lord Flea's Calypsonians & The Lester Horton Dancers:** Fly Joe Fly (reprise)

ALSO AVAILABLE

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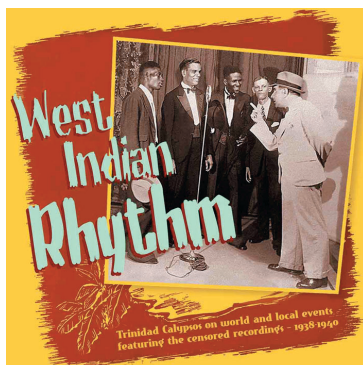
"The Encycopedia Calypsonica *****"

Simon Lee (SONGLINES magazine)

ROBERT MITCHUM

Calypso – Is Like So...

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