



AS AAPP 076-45

Dean Martin: Dream With Dean (45rpm, 200g-edition)

Format: 2LPs 45rpm / gatefold sleeve

Manufacturer: Acoustic Sounds

Original label: Reprise

Release date: 23.04.2015

A profile of a rugged Dean Martin by the fireplace with a cigarette adorns the jacket of this very interesting concept album. As Stan Cornyn's liner notes explain, »his longtime accompanist« on piano, Ken Lane, with »three of Hollywood's most thoughtful rhythm men« — those being drummer Irv Cottler, bassist Red Mitchell, and guitarist Barney Kessel — do create a mood, Dean Martin performing as if he were a lounge singer at 1:15 a.m. as the Saturday night crowd is dwindling. His signature tune, "Everybody Loves Somebody“, is here in a laid-back style, produced by Jimmy Bowen, who would go on to produce Reba McEntire, Kenny Rogers & the First Edition, and so many others, also the same man who was behind the 1964 No. 1 smash.

This album with the original Martin recording was released after the hit single version and on the same day as the "Everybody Loves Somebody“ LP, but how many times does the audience get a different studio reading of a seminal hit record? Not only that, but the version that preceded the hit. The backing is so sparse it is almost a cappella, with Kessel's guitar noodlings and Ken Lane's piano. The bass is mostly invisible, coming in only when needed. It's a slow and sultry version that caps off side one.

Martin is just crooning away, and if the album has one drawback, it is that the 12 songs are incessant in their providing the same atmosphere. The backing quartet does not deviate from their job, nor does producer Jimmy Bowen add any technique, other than putting Martin's voice way out in the mix. It sounds as if they tracked the album in one afternoon, and it is not only a very pleasant listening experience, it shows what a tremendous vocalist Dean Martin truly was.

Now "Dream With Dean — The Intimate Dean Martin“ is back bigger and better than ever! We've gone the deluxe Analogue Productions route — remastered from the original analog tape by Ryan Smith at Sterling Sound, cut at 45 RPM, plated and pressed at Quality Record Pressings. Then packaged in deluxe tip-on gatefold jackets from Stoughton Printing. A great title, a brilliant reissue. Exceptional!

"Dream With Dean" - Dean Martin (voc); Ken Lane (p); Barney Kessel (g); Red Mitchell (b); Irv Cottler (dr)