

JACK ELLIOTT



born in Brooklyn in 1931, Elliott Charles Adnopoz, the son of a doctor, ran away to join a rodeo, sailed boats, rode trucks, met Woody Guthrie and became Jack Elliott * so much has been told of this romantic legend over the years that its difficult not to echo all the stories and historical details once again in these notes * suffice to say that for me, along with countless other budding guitar flat-pickers of the late 1950's Jack was the hero who started it all! *

more than just a guitar player, he was Jack Kerouac, he was James Dean and his banjo-picking friend Derroll Adams was Robert Mitchum in *The Night Of The Hunter!* *

these are some of the first recordings that Jack made soon after his arrival in London – hanging out at The Yellow Door Flophouse by day and singing in Soho by night to hungry beatniks at The Roundhouse and then on to entertain well-heeled night-owls at The Blue Angel * all too soon he was gone, away across Europe on some mad adventure and although he was to return a couple of times and record more songs these are the tapes that inspired a generation *

Jack told us stories of his travels with Woody Guthrie who by then was lying in hospital terminally ill with Huntingdon's Chorea and many of these tracks feature Guthrie's songs played with reverence and humour on his old Gretsch guitar and the Marine Band harmonica * the Jimmie Rogers song *All Around The Water Tank (Waiting For A Train)* demonstrates Jack's great feel for country music while a hint of the blues is right there in *Dink's Song* * Jack's way of playing Jesse Fuller's *San Francisco Bay Blues* was to become the blueprint for flat-pickers everywhere in the same way as Davy Graham's *Angi* was the icon for finger picking blues guitarists and the final five tracks capture the magic of Jack and Derroll playing together with a unique rapport that duos can sometimes achieve but rarely lasts * nearly four decades on from when these recordings were made, Jack is still out there on the road somewhere in his motorhome, still sporting a stetson hat, blue jeans and cowboy boots and still delighting enthusiasts young and old across the globe * make sure you catch him live next time he breezes through your town! *

* WIZZ JONES *

* design by **john haxby**
* photography by **brian shuel**

1	talking columbia blues – guthrie; pub. kensington music –	3.46	12	ol' riley	2.03
2	pretty boy floyd – trad.; guthrie; pub. harmony music –	3.01	13	the boll weevil	3.05
3	ludlow massacre – trad.; guthrie; pub. harmony music –	4.10	14	new york town – trad.; guthrie; pub. tro essex music –	3.22
4	talking miner blues – guthrie; pub. harmony music –	1.59	15	mule skinner's blues – rodgers, vaughn; pub. peermusic (uk) ltd –	5.22
5	hard travelling – trad.; guthrie; pub. tro essex music –	3.26	16	east texas talking blues	2.34
6	so long, it's been good to know you – guthrie; pub. kensington music –	2.58	17	dink's song	3.21
7	talking dustbowl blues – guthrie; pub. tro essex music –	2.56	18	it's hard, ain't it hard – trad.; guthrie; pub. tro essex music –	3.19
8	1913 massacre – trad.; guthrie; pub. harmony music –	3.39	19	all around the water tank – rodgers –	2.56
9	rambling blues – guthrie; pub. harmony music –	2.44	20	mother's not dead*	2.03
10	talking sailor blues – guthrie; pub. harmony music –	4.00	21	east virginia blues*	2.37
11	san francisco bay blues – fuller; pub. tro essex music –	3.01	22	danville girl	2.53
			23	rich and rambling boys*	2.45
			24	roll on buddy*	2.00

* with Derroll Adams *vocal & banjo*

tracks 1-10 are from **talking woody guthrie** [topic 12T93 - complete]

tracks 11-17 are from **muleskinner** [12T106]

tracks 18-24 are from **roll on buddy** [12T105]

production for cd by **tony engle** ★ compiled by **simon geal**

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