

# ***“NEIL DIAMOND”***

## **AUSTRALIAN ALBUM DISCOGRAPHY**

©2016 *Manfred*

**1966**

**THE FEEL OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**EMI STATESIDE OSL10024 (Black Label)**

: Released December 1966.

: Released in Australia as a “Mono recording only” and had two extra tracks included (The Boat That I Row & Thank The Lord For The Night Time) due to it being released months later than the initial USA Bang Records disc which also had a Stereo version issued alongside the Mono.

: Early LP release came out using “Flip back” style cover

: Re-issued around 1969 with the same Cat. No. of OSL-10024 but using the later issued Orange Stateside LP label.

: The Original Black label and Second Orange Labelled issue were made from the same mother and therefore technically speaking are parts of the same pressing. This is clearly demonstrated by the fact that both issues have the same flaw in the song “The Boat That I Row” where the sound dips up and down for about 5 seconds at approximately 0:45~0:50 minute mark. The only differences between the two records are the label design itself

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

**1967**

**JUST FOR YOU**

**EMI STATESIDE MSL-6035 (NZ)**

: To date I have not seen an Australian copy of this release except as a New Zealand issue that was released there.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

**1968**

**NEIL DIAMONDS GREATEST HITS**

**EMI STATESIDE SSLM-6041 (NZ)**

: To date I have not seen an Australian copy of this one except as a New Zealand issue that’s in my collection and thus until I know more I won’t speculate.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

**1969**

**SWEET CAROLINE**

**MCALP-110 (Blue Label)**

: Initially this was the Blue labelled Australian issue of the USA release of “**Brother Loves Travelling Salvation Show**” but using a portrait cover instead of the “Original Medicine Show Wagon” cover and minus the track “Brother Loves Travelling Salvation Show.

: Re-issued several times on the Black / Rainbow label, but still minus the track Brother Loves Travelling Salvation Show and sporting the same portrait cover. This cover was later adopted in the USA on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. re-issue (1969) of the album, released by UNI Records. The US version had Sweet Caroline added on the 9<sup>th</sup>. re-issue (1985) onwards, while it was on all Australian issues from day one of its release.  
: Last issue in 1983 has a new Cat. Number ASTLP-2003 and issued on the Clouds & Rainbow label. (See 1983 entry)  
CD MCAD-31050 (Import only with portrait cover & contains the track “Brother Loves”)

### TOUCHING YOU, TOUCHING ME

MCALP-116 (Blue Label)

First charted 23/3/70, went to No.9, spent 8 weeks in top 40.

: First Issue on Blue label.

: Re-issued on Black / Rainbow label

: Last issue in 1983 has a new Cat. Number ASTLP-2006 and issued on the Clouds & Rainbow label. (See 1983 entry)

CD MCAD-31052 (Import)

### VELVET GLOVES AND SPIT

MCALP-124 (Blue Label)

First charted 13/5/73, went to No.40, spent 10 weeks in top 40.

: First issue using this title had the Blue label with the same gloss cover picture as used in the USA which had the close up of Neil's face on it. This LP only had 2 production runs and never used the same “artist's rendition” graphics as used on the USA re-issue LP.

: Very first production run was released in 1969 “without” the old flip back style cover, thus using the new style, standard bottom seam glued covers. It was noted on the rear cover as “Also Playable-Mono”

**: In Australia this title strangely came out after the previous studio albums, this is clearly shown by the sequence of catalogue numbers. It must have been held back for reasons unbeknown to me.**

: Re-released in mid 1973 with the same cover as mentioned above, but sporting the new Black / Rainbow MCA label. This issue was a very short-lived issue as it was re-packaged again 10 months after the release of Hot August Night as “Brooklyn Roads”. The Black / Rainbow issue of VG&S is Very Rare indeed and had the “**Playable Mono**” reference removed from the rear cover.

: Re-released as “BROOKLYN ROADS” MCALP-124 late 1973 with the Black / Rainbow label. The front cover now had the same portrait picture of Neil dressed in black standing against a pillar as used on the US re-issues of the “Rainbow” LP, but the rear cover remained basically unchanged from VG&S, only the name of VG&S on the rear changed to Brooklyn Roads. Strangely by changing the title and front cover of the record jacket propelled this album to be a very high volume seller for a number of years after its initial release. The actual song list remained unchanged.

CD MCAD-31051 (Import using the re-issued US LP cover graphics)

## 1970

### GOLD “Recorded Live at The Troubadour”

MCA MAPS-3374 (Blue Label)

First charted 18/1/71, went to No.34, spent 2 weeks in the top 40.

: Neil's first Live LP issued on Blue label with sticker on the front cover promoting “Solitary Man” due to the re-issue of the single on EMI Stateside Records.

: Re-issued on Black / Rainbow label.

: Re-issued again in the very late 70's on the Clouds & Rainbow label.

CD MCAD-1683 (Import)

### SHILO

### EMI Stateside SASL-9707 (Green label)

: First issue had the “White” Dot to Dot cover, same as the US issue but using the Stateside Logo on the bottom right hand corner where the US issue had the Bang Logo.

: Re-released 1978 under the label (budget label) DRUM STATESIDE 8024 featuring a Portrait photo on the cover but still had the original Cat. Number SASL-9797 Green Stateside Label record inserted.

: Re-released with Photo cover.

CD (Never Manufactured)

### TAP ROOT MANUSCRIPT

### MCA MAPS-3974 (Blue Label)

First charted 29/3/71, went to No.31, spent 2 weeks in the top 40.

: First issue had the blue label and gatefold cover.

: Re-issued on Black / Rainbow label with quality of the cardboard cover differing from pressing to pressing, but it still utilised the original style gatefold cover.

: Last issue on Clouds & Rainbow label and still with the gatefold cover.

CD MCAD-31071 (Import)

### DO IT

### EMI STATESIDE SESL-9773 (Green label)

Cover showing two people dancing with red/yellow background, (very 1960's)

: First issue had high gloss laminated cover.

: Second issue had a matt finish cover deleting the laminated gloss plastic.

: Re-issues were pressed by the same company and kept the same Cat. Number, its cover has a centred portrait of Neil surrounded by pink stripes on black background

: Re-released using the following new Cat. Number **EMI AXIS-6215** (Black & White budget label for sales in Woolworth's / Safeway Variety Stores) it had the same black portrait cover as previous issue but showing Axis Logo on bottom RH corner.

: Last issue was the same as previous entry, but advertising song titles on the front cover.

CD (Never Manufactured)

## 1971

### STONES

### MCA MAPS-5376 (Blue Label)

First charted 13/12/71, went to No.13, spent 15 weeks in the top 40.

: First issue on the Blue label.

: Subsequent re-issues were on the Black / Rainbow label.

CD MCAD-31049 (Import)

## 1972

### MOODS

#### MCA MAPS-6097 (Blue Label)

First charted 31/7/72, went to No.4, spent 38 weeks in the top 40.

: First issue had a textured cover with the disc having the MCA Blue label.

: Original issue came with an insert containing Record credits and portrait of Neil

: Subsequent re-issues all had smooth covers with the Black / Rainbow label.

: Last issue in 1983 had a new Cat. Number, ASTLP-2004 and was issued on the Clouds & Rainbow label. (this last issue of Moods is still subject to confirmation as I don't have one)

**CD** MCAD-31061 (Import)

### DIAMONDS AND GOLD

#### EMI AXIS-6069

A Bang compilation. (Black & White budget label for sales in Woolworth's / Safeway Variety Stores)

: First release has high gloss cover.

: Re-issue had matt cover without any gloss for appeal enhancement.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

### HOT AUGUST NIGHT

#### MCA MAPS-6385 (Blue Label)

First charted on 11/12/1972 and went straight to No.1, spending a whopping 224 weeks in the top 40.

1. The "First" very short-lived issue had a Full Gloss laminated Gate-fold outer cover and was the last of Neil's MCA LP's to sport the "Original" Blue MCA label with multi-coloured Hexagonal centre. Its labels were replaced shortly after the albums release with the new predominantly Black label which featured the striking multi-coloured Rainbow that was soon to become arguably their best known label.

2. Issued with the same laminated cover but with the new Black / Rainbow labelled records.

3. Re-issued with the same gatefold cover but now with matt-finished outer surfaces, also continued to contain the discs with the Black / Rainbow label. This was the most common issue that most households owned. It was released towards the end of 1973 and remained basically unchanged for years until the Clouds and Rainbow label was released.

4. Re-released in 1980 with a LIMITED EDITION "Custom Label" **BLACK VINYL ISSUE** that had an extra "**10 of ONLY**", **GOLD VINYL, LIMITED EDITION** discs integrated within the whole pressing.

: Gold Discs limited to only 10 in Australia, made exclusively for a competition with the major prize being an all expenses trip to the USA to see Neil in concert.

: Pressed by Polygram due to their acquisition of MCA Records, this change was noted on the lower portion of the rear cover where it previously had Astor Records mentioned

5. Re-released around 1981 as gatefold cover but having discs with the new Clouds and Rainbow Label. Polythene bags were replaced with label exposing paper sleeves. This new issue had a significant change made where as previously the first record had Sides 1 & 4 on it and the second record had Sides 2 & 3 on it, this now changed to record 1 having Side 1 & 2 and record 2 having Side 3 & 4 on it. This was done due to the phasing out of the old style automatic record changers that you placed multiple discs on the spindle and at the end of each record the next record would drop down and then be played in succession.

6. Re-released in 1985 by Hammard TV Productions and using the same original MCA artwork but including the Hammard Company Logo on the front and rear covers. It was given a new Cat. Number of HAM-118 also it had the yellow / white Hammard labels and was advertised as a TV Special. This 2 LP set was licensed through WEA Records.

7. 1990. The very last release in Australia of Hot August Night pressed on vinyl was issued with a new Cat. Number, MCA 6896-1 This remained an MCA release still using the clouds and rainbow label. Same artwork on the outer cover but no gatefold, both discs slid into the budget made single sleeve cover. This 2 LP set was also licensed through WEA Records.

8. Re- released in 1992 on CD, "BMG" MCAD2-6896 utilising the Double thickness casing. Entered the charts in Feb 92 at No.33, went to No.15, spent 14 weeks in the charts. This Album was the No.1 selling album on vinyl in 1973 and 40<sup>th</sup>. best selling album on CD in 1992.

9. Released as an "ORIGINAL MASTER RECORDING" by Mobile Fidelity Sound Labs, utilising a Cat. Number of MFSL-2-024. MFSL was a company that specialised in producing very high quality Audiophile records of landmark LP's. Having a number of 024 means it was one of the first and thus was a highly regarded LP in its time.

The Artwork for the cover was much the same as the "Original" LP but had extra thick paper and polythene protective sleeves for the precious vinyl enclosed, also a printed sheet was enclosed explaining all about the whole manufacturing process that goes into the making of the final product. These records are clearly identified by a BOLD yellow strip across the top of the album cover containing the words "Original Master Recording". These discs were pressed in Japan by the Japanese Victor Company (JVC) and available worldwide, including Australia. This was the first of two, Neil Diamond LP's that were to be made available by MFSL and many of the later CBS releases were issued by CBS's own Half Speed Master Recordings label, "Mastersound". These discs are the most collectable and highly sought after versions of the mainstream records and thus are very hard to find in Mint Condition.

#### 10. HOT AUGUST NIGHT CD MFSL ULTRA DISK II **UDCD2-584**

This is the above mentioned 2 LP set remastered and issued on 24 karat gold surfaced CD's opposed to regular Aluminium variety. It was released in August of 1995. These were solely manufactured in the USA and only available as a "Special Order" through music stores that had the ability to import directly from overseas themselves. These "ULTRA DISK II" issues were packaged in special "Lift & Lock" jewel cases that allowed goof proof access to the discs as they were lifted upwards and released for easy handling when the case was opened, but when closed this mechanism retracted and clamped the disc down firmly, thus avoiding the precious gold disc the ability to rattle around inside the case and running the risk of damaging the surface of the disc by the centre press fit mount. As the years have gone by many of these special cases have had to be discarded due to accidental breakage owing to the casings lightweight construction and thus the contents can be easily transplanted into a normal jewel case, so this is a dead give away that the item is no longer totally original. This issue came in two separate cases and had all new specially made artwork that was totally different to the artwork we've all grown to love, also a lovely booklet

just finishes this stunning set off to perfection. This is a “True Collectable” and good examples complete with the original cardboard outer Slip Case have been known to fetch up to around US\$120.00 on the secondhand market. Ouch !

#### 11. Hot August Night Digitally Remastered with 3 Bonus Tracks.

In the year 2000 Universal Music (that was originally Polygram) released a 24 bit digitally Remastered edition of HAN that contained 3 additional tracks, Walk On Water, Kentucky Woman and Stones. These 3 tracks were taken from the recordings that were done of each concert that Neil performed in that 10 show engagement at the Greek Theatre. These 3 tracks showed how Neil bantered with the crowd during those 10 shows and somewhat contrasts from the original album that was in fact highly edited to eliminate all the interaction with the crowd and simply show Neil as the performer and not as the entertainer. It has been said that this newer digitally remastered version is of better sound quality than the 24 Karat Gold MFSL Ultradisk. This release was given a new Cat. No. Of 112330-2.

\*\*\*Please Note, The normal retail Hot August Night issued album was known to be in at least one of every 7 households Australia wide by 1976 but who knows now where that figure lies ever since it's issue onto CD. First CD issues were originally brought into Australia as an Import from Germany and then the USA in two separate standard jewel cases but then eventually was locally pressed by Discronics in 1992 and sold in the double thickness case containing both discs but with substantially poorer grade artwork. Discronics was Australia's first CD pressing plant and came online in the very late 80's but didn't do much mainstream pressing until the early 90's as Australia was one of the last countries to embrace the “then” new audio age technology.

## 1973

### **RAINBOW**

### **MCA MAPS-7018**

First charted 10/9/73, went to No.7, spent 25 weeks in the top 40.

: The “original issue” had an Artist's rendition painted portrait of Neil on the front cover and a rainbow on the rear of the cover. This cover was soon discarded in the USA due to Neil's disapproval and replaced with the same picture as used on the Australian release of “Brooklyn Roads”.

: Last issue in 1982 has a new Cat. Number ASTLP-2001 and issued on the Clouds & Rainbow label. (See 1982 entry) The “ASTLP” prefixed Cat. Numbered LP's were all manufactured in New Zealand and retailed in Australia

**CD** MCAD-1606 (Import)

### **BROOKLYN ROADS**

### **MCA MCALP-124**

This was the re-covered / re-named re-issue of the original “Velvet Gloves and Spit” LP and shared the same catalogue number as the “Original” 1969 release LP. This album used the exact same picture as the USA re-issued Rainbow LP that was released nearly simultaneously and thus the picture was shared between both LP's.

\*\* Please Note ! Just to clarify, This LP was only ever released on the Black / Rainbow label, which indicates that it was never released any earlier than late 1973 as so many people seem to suggest it was. This confusion is created solely due to the early Cat. No. it retained from its low volume selling predecessor. It was also released at about the same time as Neil was about to release JLS with his new Record Company, CBS. This was an attempt to capitalise on the new CBS release. The “Brooklyn Roads” LP far outsold the original “Velvet Gloves and Spit” LP release. Just as a matter of interest this LP with similar appearance but different typeset was also released in South Africa.

**CD** (As Brooklyn Roads it was Never Manufactured, see Velvet Gloves & Spit)

## **JONATHON LIVINGSTON SEAGULL**

**CBS SBP-234402 (Custom Label)**

First charted 3/12/73, went to No.1, spent 42 weeks in the top 40.

Several different gatefold covers were manufactured.

: One has the record sleeve in the right hand side of the gatefold with a side access for disc, also a top access sleeve variety for the disc on the RH side was made.

: The other 2 versions are the same but with the record on the LH side and thus the text / picture positions had to be swapped.

: Final issue had the record on the RH side of the gatefold but with no viewing hole for the label in the centre of the inside cover.

: Half Speed Master Issued, Imported from Germany, CBS-H-42550

All artwork is the same. Also note that the Songbook was never made available in the Australian pressings as was inserted with the UK and USA issues.

**CD** CBS 69047 (Import & Locally made)

## **1974**

### **HIS TWELVE GREATEST HITS**

**MCA MAPS-7400**

First charted 8/7/74, went to No. 32, spent 34 weeks in the top 40.

: Direct Disk Labs, Imported Audiophile Disc (Super Disk) SD-11612

: Re-Issued on the Clouds and Rainbow label in the early 1980's but made in New Zealand for the Australasian Market.

**CD** MCAD-37252 (Local & Imported)

### **SERENADE**

**CBS SBP-234482 (Custom Label)**

First charted 4/11/74, went to No.1, spent 35 weeks in the top 40.

: Has been issued about 6 different times and can be identified by the small inconsistencies / changes and positioning of the CBS logo and catalogue number on the front cover. No dates can be identified by these small abnormalities. Note that the first pressing had no logo displayed at all on the front cover.

This album was the 14<sup>th</sup>. best selling album in 1974, & the 24<sup>th</sup>. best selling album for the successive year of 1975.

**CD** CBS 69067 (Local) (US Import CK-32919 & Later Imported Issue using Australian Cat No. CBS 69067)

### **SERENADE**

**SQP-234482**

Quadraphonic issue released under CBS's unique SQ label. This was a "one of" issue.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

## **1975**

### **DIAMONDS**

**MCA MAPS-7541**

First charted 7/7/75, went to No.52, spent 12 weeks in the top 100.

: 2LP set released predominantly in Australia and the UK (Not in the USA)

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

## **SOLITARY MAN**

**EMI INTERNATIONAL SCA-002**

Released November 1975

First charted on 2/2/76, went to No.4 and spent 15 weeks in the top 100.

: The common misbelief of this one being a repackaged version of the 1967 Bang Records issue of "Neil Diamonds Greatest Hits" and released in 1972 is simply a myth. It was merely a record issued for the 1975 Christmas sales market as there was no new material of Neil's released for that year. It was actually marked published "Bang Records 1972", as was the USA 2LP release titled "Double Gold", which was Bang's failed weapon to combat MCA's new unbeatable "Hot August Night MCA2-8000" USA release. But here in Australia EMI decided Hot August Night was far too big to peg anything against and thus kept the compacted, re-packaged / named version of "Double Gold" as a single disc, gatefold covered release and held it over until 1975 as no real MCA competition appeared on the "then" market.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

## **1976**

### **BEAUTIFUL NOISE**

**CBS SBP-234777**

First charted 9/7/76 at No.2, spent a total 16 weeks in the charts, 8 of those weeks were at No.1 and 4 weeks at No.2.

This album was the 5<sup>th</sup> Best Selling album for 1976.

**CD** CDCBS 86004 (Local and Imported)

### **20 SUPER HITS, NEIL DIAMOND**

**MCA MAPS-7740**

: This LP was MCA's attempt to capitalise on Neil's 1976 World Tour which was to see Neil perform for the very first time in Australia.

First charted 31/5/76, went to No.52, spent 11 weeks in the top 100.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

### **AND THE SINGER SINGS HIS SONGS**

**MCA MCA-2227**

This LP was merely a compilation of previously released material to once again capitalise on the success of CBS's new "Beautiful Noise" LP, much the same scenario as what BANG / EMI did every time MCA released a new LP previously.

This LP was issued using a US made cover but an Australian pressed Black / Rainbow labelled record inserted.

\*Note ! This LP did not chart.

**CD** MCAD-1607 (Import)

## **1977**

### **LOVE AT THE GREEK**

**CBS S2BP-220184**

First charted 25/2/77 at No.8, went to No.7, spent 25 weeks in the top 100.

**CD** CDCBS 95001 (Import) minus 2 Songs, "The Last Picaso" and "Serenade" that were on the 2LP set and cassette issues

### **I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE WITH ME TONIGHT**

**CBS SBP-237052**

First charted 28/11/77 at No.10, went to No.8, spent 3 weeks in the charts.

: First pressing had the Lizard skin textured pattern cover.  
: Subsequent re-issues were printed on plain non-textured flat cardboard.  
**CD** 462740 2 (Local) CK-34990 (Import) (“Select” Marketing logo on cover)

## **1978**

### **YOU DON'T BRING ME FLOWERS**

**CBS SBP-237233**

First charted 22/12/78 at No.25, went to No.4, spent 24 weeks in the top 100.

This album was the 30<sup>th</sup>, best seller for 1978 and top 20<sup>th</sup>. in 1979.

: First pressing had a Brown classy inner sleeve with credits printed on one side.

: Second issue had a Buff coloured inner sleeve with lyrics.

: Third issue had no inner sleeve just a lyrics sheet inserted.

: Half Speed Master Issued, Imported from Germany, CBSH-86077

**CD** CDCBS-86077 (Import)

## **1979**

### **READERS DIGEST, THE BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**RD4-275-1/2/3/4**

Blue coloured 4 LP box set with a Portrait of Neil on the front box cover. Release date between 1978 and 1980. This box set was also manufactured overseas (UK) with virtually no variation except for country of manufacture stated on the record labels themselves.

**CD** (Released later in 1995)

### **SEPTEMBER MORN**

**CBS SBP-237341**

First charted 1/2/80 at No.15, went to No.3, spent 19 weeks in the charts.

: Re-released in 1980 as a (Nice Price) double album with “I’m glad you’re here with me tonight”, using a new Cat. Number of, CBS 241057

**CD** CDCBS-86096 (Import)

### **THE VERY BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**J&B JB 039**

First charted 7/1/80, went to No 30, spent 10 weeks in the top 100.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

### **A COLLECTION OF HIS GREAT WORKS 1968-1972**

**MAPS-10924**

This is the ultra rare 8 Record Box Set that MCA released towards the end of 1979 and to date I only know of 5 in existence. It has a full-length gold silhouette of Neil in “Concert Pose” against a totally black background with his name written in Gold link script underneath.

The LP's included are Hot August Night, Sweet Caroline, Touching You Touching Me, Stones, Brooklyn Roads, Moods, Gold, Tap Root Manuscript. All of the LP's have the Clouds and Rainbow label on them apart from Brooklyn Roads which had the Black / Rainbow Label, which in itself is quite unique, as some of these LP's were never individually re-issued using this later issued label eg. **Gold & Tap Root Manuscript**

The Moods LP also has the MCA Logo in a different position as per the original release.

*If you have one of these and are prepared to sell it please contact me on the e-mail address at the bottom of this list.*

## 1980

### **THE JAZZ SINGER**

**CAPITOL EMI PST-12120**

First charted 19/12/80 at No.24, went to No.13, spent 9 weeks in the top 40, then re-entered charts on 19/6/81 at No.13. Went to No.2 and spent a further 16 weeks in the top 40. It spent a total of 45 weeks in the top 100 was the 14<sup>th</sup>. best selling album for the year of 1981.

There were various issues of this LP under the same catalogue number.

: First issue had raised Gold Lettering on the front cover and the disc had the Capitol Custom Black Jazz Singer Label.

: The second had the same raised covered lettering but a different silver and black label.

: The future pressings were printed on plain flat cardboard and sported the standard Purple Capitol company label.

: The last standard issue was the same as previous issue but had the Tri-Colour circular bordered Capitol label.

**CD** CDP-7-46026-2 (Import)

**CD** Re-issued onto SONY due to EMI Copyright Expiration, Cat No.483927-2 (Local)

### **THE JAZZ SINGER MOBILE FIDELITY**

**MFSL-1-071**

Made in Japan and pressed by JVC, available in Australia using the unique MFSL catalogue number.

### **THE JAZZ SINGER MOBILE FIDELITY**

**CAPITOL EMI PST 12120**

Released after the initial album, this MFSL album was pressed in Japan, the cover printed in America but had a scheduled release in Australia so I have mentioned it here.

### **SEPTEMBER MORN / I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE WITH ME TONIGHT**

**CBS SBP-241057**

This was the beginning of a unique era by joining two different single album releases together as a double LP set and known as "THE NICE PRICE DOUBLE". This was the only vinyl issue to date utilising Neil's material but the trend resumed in the CD era.

### **COLLECTOR SERIES NEIL DIAMOND**

**R90066**

World Record Club release of a single LP compilation album.

: Released approximately 1980 and only available to World Record Club members.

**CD** (Never Manufactured)

## 1981

### **LOVE SONGS**

**MCA MCA-5239-1**

Released to capitalise of the huge success of "The Jazz Singer".

This LP did not Chart.  
CD MCD-01490 (Import)

### LOVE SONGS TV OFFER J&B RECORDS

**J&B JB-O86**

A later re-release of the MCA original  
First charted 26/10/81, went to No.37, spent 13 weeks in the top 100.  
CD (Never Manufactured)

### ON THE WAY TO THE SKY

**CBS SBP-237720**

First charted 7/12/81, went to No.12, spent 17 weeks in the top 100.  
: Half Speed Master Issued, Imported from Germany, CBS-H-47628  
CD CK-37628 (Import only)

## 1982

### HIS 12 GREATESTS HITS VOLUME II

**CBS SBP-237776**

First charted 7/6/82, went to No.21, spent 23 weeks in the top 100.  
: Half Speed Master Issued, Imported from Germany, CBS-H-48068  
CD CBS-85844 (Import)

### HEARTLIGHT

**CBS SBP-237854**

First charted 15/11/82 at No.15, went to No.8, spent 17 weeks in the top 100.  
: Half Speed Master Issued, Imported from Germany, CBS-H-48359  
CD CBS-462778 2 (Local) CBS-25073 (Import)

### RAINBOW

**ASTLP-2001**

Re-release of the original 1973 MCA album.  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market, using the picture cover of Neil standing next to a stone column as used on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. issue of the same US title.  
This photo was also used on the “Australia Only”, Brooklyn Roads LP.

### BROOKLYN ROADS

**ASTLP-2002**

Re-release of the original 1973 MCA album  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market, sporting a black edge banding around the outer perimeter of the whole front cover.

### SWEET CAROLINE

**ASTLP-2003**

Re-release of the original Australian MCA 1969 album  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market.

## **MOODS**

Re-release of the original 1972 MCA album  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market.

**ASTLP-2004**

## **STONES**

Re-release of the original MCA 1971 album  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market.  
: Initial pressings had the standard Clouds and Rainbow label.

**ASTLP-2005**

## **TOUCHING YOU, TOUCHING ME**

Re-release of the original MCA 1969 album.  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market.  
: Initial pressings had the standard Clouds and Rainbow label.  
: Future pressings had a paint splash label (tan label with colourful fake paint markings)

**ASTLP-2006**

## **PORTRAIT**

Re-release of the original Portrait compilation, (MCA-027) with the Bluish Purple cover and the clouds and rainbow label.  
Made in New Zealand for the Australian Market.  
**CD** (Released later in the 90's as Rainbow Records RCD-305)

**ASTLP-2007**

## **1983**

### **CLASSICS, THE EARLY YEARS**

All songs are original "Bang Records" recordings released on the CBS Label.  
This album was issued after Neil secured back the rights to all of his Bang era written material  
**CD** CDCBS-25531 (Local)

**CBS SBP-237924**

## **1984**

### **THE VERY BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

Re-issue of the 1979 LP, but sporting a newer style yellow label with a circular pattern.  
First charted 30/1/84, went to No.27, spent 11 weeks in the top 100.  
**CD** (Never Manufactured)

**J&B JB-166**

## **SWEET CAROLINE**

**AXIS AX-156100**

Aussie issue coinciding with the same LP released on the MFP Budget label (MFP-50449) in the UK. (not the original 1969 issue with the same name) This Australian issue is on the budget Axis Label, which makes this one somewhat strange as it was pressed by EMI but contains all MCA compositions. EMI, as we know, was the company that was contracted to release all of Neil's "Bang Records" material.

### **PRIMITIVE**

**CBS SBP-238021**

First charted 13/8/83 at No.21, went to No.19, spent 12 weeks in the top 100.

: Original issue had a round sticker on the front advertising "Turn Around" as the hit single.

: Later issues were identical apart from the deleted Promo sticker.

**CD** 471306 2 (Local) (released under "RED HOT" marketing label using a red Jewel case insert tray opposed to standard grey)

### **1986**

#### **HEADED FOR THE FUTURE**

**CBS SBP-8169**

First charted 16/6/86, went to No.76, spent 6 weeks in the top 100.

**CD** CBS-26952 (Local) (released under "RED HOT" marketing label using a red Jewel case insert tray opposed to standard grey)

### **1987**

#### **HOT AUGUST NIGHT II**

**CBS-460408-1**

First charted 14/12/87 at No.24, went to No.16, spent 13 weeks in the top 100.

**CD** CBS-460408-2 (Import)

#### **THE CLASSIC NEIL DIAMOND COLLECTION, 20 LOVE BALLADS**

**J&B-313**

Budget J&B Yellow label release as a TV Special, quite common on vinyl but released as a CD in very limited numbers and thus it is quite rare and fetches big money whenever one surfaces for sale. (around the US\$50.00 mark)

**CD** J&B-613

### **1989**

#### **THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES**

**CBS-463201-1**

First charted 13/3/89, went to No.92, spent 2 weeks in the top 100.

The "Last" album released of Neil's that was pressed on vinyl locally in Australia.

**CD** CBS-463201-2 (Import)

**\*\*\*All releases from this point on in Australia are on Compact Disc Only as LP's ceased production\*\*\***

## 1991

### **LOVESCAPE**

**COLUMBIA 468890-2**

First charted 14/10/91 at No.33, went to No.12, spent 24 weeks in the top 100.

Album was 34<sup>th</sup> Best Selling album for the year 1992.

## 1992

### **THE ESSENTIAL DIAMOND COLLECTION**

**MCA MCAD 218609**

First charted 30/3/92, went to No.24, spent 12 weeks in the top 100.

### **HOT APRIL NIGHTS**

**MCA SVND 1000-2**

This Australia Only Box Set contained the following 2 double disc sets, “Hot August Night” & “The Essential Diamond Collection”, slipped inside a specially made Promotional cardboard cover.

This Box Set was released to commemorate the “1992 Australian Concert Tour” and his first return to the country since 1976.

First charted 6/4/92, went to No.17, spent 9 weeks in the top 100.

### **NEIL DIAMOND, THE DEFINITIVE COLLECTION**

**MCA MCD-32181**

This 3 Disc Box Set Contained the following 3 albums, Stones, Moods and Touching You Touching Me, slipped inside a specially made Promotional cardboard cover.

This was yet another disc set released to capitalise on the 1992 Australian Tour.

### **THE GREATEST HITS 1966 - 1992**

**COLUMBIA 471502-4**

First charted 16/4/92 at No.23, went to No.1, spent 26 weeks in the top100.

Album was 23<sup>rd</sup>. best selling album for the year 1992. Around this same period it was the first time ever that Neil had 5 separate album entries in the “Official” Aria Charts (Australia Record Industry Association) at any one time. A record of which still stands proudly to date.

Strangely this was Sony’s (Neil’s current recording label) only attempt of capitalising on Neil’s 1992 Australian Tour, the first in 16 years on Australian soil.

PLEASE NOTE ! All tracks which were licensed to MCA that were used on this 2 CD set were substituted for live cuts due to copyright limitations.

It far outsold all other releases at the time and is still a very sought after CD set today.

### **THE CHRISTMAS ALBUM**

**COLUMBIA 472410-2**

First charted 14/12/92, went to No.18, spent 3 weeks in the top 100.

## 1993

### **UP ON THE ROOF**

**COLUMBIA 474356-2**

First charted 28/10/93 at No.38, went to No.38, spent 6 weeks in top 50.

## 1994

### **LIVE IN AMERICA**

**COLUMBIA 477211-2**

Live tracks recorded in America from the 1991~1993 "In the Round" concerts.

### **THE BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**MCD-19509**

Very unique album cover as it shows Neil playing guitar left handed. Artwork has been accidentally reversed in manufacturing process and never corrected. Nice Flaw !

### **THE CHRISTMAS ALBUM VOLUME II**

**COLUMBIA 477598-2**

This Album follows on from the first Christmas album theme.

## 1995

### **THE BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**Readers Digest 300275300-1\2\3**

3 CD set release of the earlier Blue Boxed 4 Vinyl Record Set. This CD set now has a green cover with a small photo of Neil in the centre.

### **HOT AUGUST NIGHT MFSL ULTRA DISK II**

**UDCD2-584**

MFSL 24Kt Gold CD release of Hot August Night (Import Only)  
See the special notes under the "Hot August Night" entry for this item.

### **NEIL DIAMOND CHRISTMAS ALBUM 1 & 2**

**COLUMBIA 481549-2**

Double "Nice Price" Series, complete with original artwork from both albums.

## 1996

### **THE ULTIMATE DIAMOND COLLECTION**

**MCA MCD-34177**

This has the identical track listing to the earlier 1992 released "The Essential Diamond Collection". The only noticeable difference was the substituted artwork and using HAN era artwork. This was released due to Neil's upcoming "**Tennessee Moon World Tour**" that saw Neil here in Australia for 18 Sold Out shows across the country.

### **THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION**

**COLUMBIA / MCA MOOD CD45**

First ever collaboration between Columbia and BMG (MCA) record companies

Digitally Remastered 2 Disc Set.

: First issue had a sticker claiming that the song list was digitally remastered.

: Further issues had the sticker deleted.

### **TENNESSEE MOON**

**COLUMBIA 481378-2**

First charted South Australia 25/2/96 at No.22, went to No.2, spent 19 weeks there.

Entered National charts 25/2/96 at No.5, went to No.4, spent 15 weeks in charts.

First issue had a sticker place on the front promoting the upcoming 1996 Tour. It is also worth mentioning that inside the artwork the contact details of the now defunct Australian FOND Club appear. Later issues of this Album have had this removed.

Note that this album was the first album since the 1991 released "Lovescape" album that had basically all new material written apart from a country version of the original "Kentucky Woman" which appears on this album.

### **IN MY LIFETIME**

**COLUMBIA C3K65013**

First charted 22/12/96 at No.49 and stayed in the charts for just one week.

This is a 3 Disc Fold out Style Book complete with a very comprehensive booklet with liner notes for all the tracks written by Neil himself. This set contains many early demos and tracks that were never released for one reason or the other. The inserted Book contains all the explanations why. This one was only manufactured in the USA but plenty were shipped to Australia with an initial price-point of AUD\$50.00. This one set the new high watermark for the most expensive Neil Diamond music release to date. There was more to come, stay tuned !

## **1997**

### **NEIL DIAMOND LIVE IN CONCERT**

**Reader's Digest A3281562001**

3 Disc Set of concert tracks recorded between 1977 & 1996.

This was a "Sony Music Special Products" item released exclusively for "Readers Digest Subscribers only". This one was never made available for general sale in retail stores.

## **1999**

### **AS TIME GOES BY, THE MOVIE ALBUM**

**COLUMBIA 491655-2**

Cover tracks done by Neil of many Classic Movie Songs. It never charted.

Neil Toured Australia doing 16 shows to promote this album. Concerts were a success but the album a dismal failure here in Australia.

### **CLASSIC NEIL DIAMOND, THE UNIVERSAL MASTERS COLLECTION**

**MCA-112 155-2**

This compilation disc was part of a whole series which was brought out for the Millennium by Universal Music for many of its most successful artists. This disc and whole series was actually made in the EU and was released worldwide, but not officially in Australia with import stores bringing copies in to be made available to the Australian market, thus why it is listed here. See entry of this album under the year 2005.

## **2000**

### **HOT AUGUST NIGHT**

**MCA-112 330-2**

See entry 11 under Hot August Night 1972 for more details on this Original release.

Known as the "Hot August Night 2000 issue".

24 Bit Digitally Remastered version containing 3 extra tracks intergrated onto the end of Disc 1, These are as follows, Walk on Water, Kentucky Woman and Stones. It is worth mentioning that it is claimed that the sound quality of this release is supposedly to be better than the MFSL Ultra Disc II issued in 1995.

### **THE BEST OF THE MOVIE ALBUM**

**COLUMBIA 886977394621**

A condensed One CD version of the previously released 2 disc set. Expectably it failed to chart and the earlier released 2 CD set “**As Time Goes By**” was instantly deleted by Sony.

## **2001**

### **THREE CHORD OPERA**

**COLUMBIA 5024932000**

This release was all new “Neil Diamond written material” but failed to chart in Australia. Its release was in time with a rumoured Australian tour but due to America’s 911 tragedies, Australia was deleted from the tour schedule, so the story goes.

### **THE GREATEST HITS 1966 - 1992 + CHRISTMAS ALBUM**    **COLUMBIA 452703-2**

The same 1966~1992 2 CD Compilation set as previously released but including the first Christmas Album as an added Bonus Disc. This was a “2001 Christmas Special” release only.

## **2002**

### **NEIL DIAMOND LOVE SONGS**

**MCA-112 522-2**

14 Re-mastered, previously released Tracks.

## **2003**

### **THE ESSENTIAL NEIL DIAMOND**

**COLUMBIA 5010669000**

2 CD Set. Part of the “ESSENTIAL SERIES”, of many SONY Artists.

### **STAGES, PERFORMANCES 1970~2002**

**COLUMBIA C5K-90540-S1**

Live performances from between 1970 & 2002 spanning a 5 Disc set.

Also contains a bonus DVD of an Ireland Concert back in 2002 and also a sneak peak backstage pass to “Diamondville” on the road.

This set was only manufactured in the USA and a limited amount of about 100 were sent to Australia due to the price-point of the product being AUD\$100.00 which was about the same base price for a ticket to the 2005 World Tour Concerts. This set has now become the high price watermark for any “Official” Neil Diamond Music release.

## **2005**

### **NEIL DIAMOND GOLD**

**GEFFEN 9862865 (Universal Music)**

2 Disc compilation set from Universal Music containing all previously released MCA tracks. This part of a series of “Gold” titled CD’s, all from current or previous Universal Music (BMG / MCA) artists.

**Please Note that due to the absorption of MCA into Geffen Records in 2003 all new Neil Diamond “MCA” releases are now under the Geffen Label**

### **THE ESSENTIAL / GREATEST HITS LIVE**

**COLUMBIA 5010663000**

2005 World Tour “Commemorative Edition” of the previously released 2 CD Set along with the added “Greatest Hits Live” bonus DVD that was originally released on VHS. This was placed inside a commemorative slip case and marked as Australian Tour edition, the same was done in the USA for Neil’s US leg of the same tour.

### **CLASSIC NEIL DIAMOND, THE UNIVERSAL MASTERS COLLECTION (re-issue)**

**MCA-112 155-2**

This CD is part of “The Universal Masters Collection” which features discs of 38 different artists that are all part of the “Universal Music” stable. This compilation is actually published and copyrighted in 1999 as it was released overseas originally back in 1999 but was not released in Australia at that point, but copies did find their way into the country via import stores. This CD was finally released in Australia for the Christmas sales period for 2005 with the same Cat. No. as originally issued in 1999, thus it’s not noted as a Geffen Records release. Also let it be known that this disc was actually manufactured in the EU, which is the European Union. Note that the catalogue number is out of sequence for this year and in line with 1999.

### **12 SONGS (Digipak then Jewel Case)**

**COLUMBIA 828767597324**

This Album is somewhat totally different to any Neil Diamond offering in the past. This one is Neil stripped bare to predominantly just him and his guitar. This is the first album since the song Cherry Cherry was recorded in 1966 that features Neil actually playing and singing at the same time of the recording process taking place. Rick Rubin, who produced the last few Johnny Cash albums, produced this particular album. There are also numerous songs that never made it to the final cut of this album and thus may show up at a later date. (so says Neil)

### **12 SONGS (Bonus Songs) (Digipak)**

**COLUMBIA 828767597324**

This disc is identical to the standard issued album, but included 2 extra tracks to boost sales. The bonus tracks are 1, Men Are So Easy 2, Delirious Love with Brian Wilson from the Beach Boys.

### **12 SONGS ARTISTS CUT (Special Edition)**

**COLUMBIA 886970395823**

This version of the above album has a moroon coloured cover and has alternative versions and demos of the same songs featured on the Original 12 Songs album. This version was imported but sold here in Australian retail stores, thus why I have included it here.

## **2008**

### **HOME BEFORE DARK (Digipak with Sticker then Jewel Case) COLUMBIA 886971546521**

This critically acclaimed album was again produced by Rick Rubin and featured another 12 Diamond only penned songs. This album debuted at No.1 in the UK as Neil was about to tour there and as such buying influence was riding high with the anticipation of the live shows.

The album never charted in Australia.

### **HOME BEFORE DARK (2 Disc Deluxe Version, Digipak)**

**COLUMBIA 886972807829**

Same marketing strategy as the 12 Songs album with the first issue having twelve tracks and another 2 bonus tracks added, those being 1, Without Her 2, Make You Feel My Love

Also added for this issue was a DVD of 5 tracks done in the studio. This is definitely the one to own from this album.

## **2009**

### **THE ESSENTIAL NEIL DIAMOND 3.0 (Digipak)**

**COLUMBIA 886973404423**

Another re-issue of the 2003 2 CD set that was also issued for the 2005 World Tour with a bonus DVD of the Greatest Hits video, but this time has a third disc added that contains previously unreleased Live tracks and a few updated songs. Being that it's the third issue it was only natural that this re-issue would be titled in a Microsoft / Apple type format of 3.0

### **CHERRY CHERRY CHRISTMAS**

**COLUMBIA 0886975689224**

Released 16<sup>th</sup> of October for the 2009 Christmas Market. The only bonus to this CD is Neil's comical song titled "The Chanukah Song" which takes the micky out of Jewish Christmas. Many famous names are mentioned in this song and it was the final track on the Album.

## **2010**

### **HOT AUGUST NIGHT NYC**

**COLUMBIA 886976284121**

2 CD disc set recorded live at Neil's 4 night Sold Out engagement at Madison Square Garden's Basketball stadium. One of the most famous concert venues in the world.

The Australian issue is somewhat different with missing bonus tracks that were included on the US edition.

Aussie issue only had 3 Bonus tracks, Lady Oh, If You Know What I mean and Glory Road, while US edition had 4 other tracks taken from various other concerts but noticeable the track "If You Know What I Mean" was substituted for one of the other extra tracks.

There was also a special "Walmart only" edition released in the USA on the date of the albums release. This concert was also released on DVD and Blu-Ray formats

### **ICON**

**GEFFEN 602527468723 (Universal Music)**

Part of a series of CD's of iconic performers eg. Abba, Kiss etc. that was made again for the Christmas market.

## **2011**

### **DREAMS (Digipak then Jewel Case)**

**COLUMBIA 886977983924**

An album containing songs that Neil likes on a personal basis from a bye gone era that were written by other artists. A new slow tempo version of "I'm a Believer" was added. Definitely not one of my favourite albums. Neil toured New Zealand and Australia to promote this album during February / March 2011.

### **THE BANG YEARS (Jewel Case Only in Australia)**

**COLUMBIA 886976070526**

Fantastic official release of all Neil's original Bang era songs as recorded in Mono. Not to be confused with the 1994 "The Complete Bang Recordings" release that was a very poorly manufactured (both CD & Artwork) unofficial CD that was only available as an imported disc via internet sales.

## 2012

### **THE VERY BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND**

**COLUMBIA 88691903602**

Another filler CD to market while awaiting fresh new material while Neil is on his 2011~2012 “Dreams” World Tour that included New Zealand, Australia, South Africa for the very first time, Europe and the UK, then a short break before embarking on the US leg of the tour which is to include the “Greek Theatre” to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of “Hot August Night”

### **HOT AUGUST NIGHT 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DELUXE EDITION**

**GEFFEN 0252794639 (Universal Music)**

**See entry 11 under Hot August Night 1972 for more details on this Original release.**

Released August 1<sup>st</sup> to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of firstly the recording of HAN but also the 10 night engagement at “The Greek Theatre”. This edition is released using a double fold out digipak with new booklet inserted behind the centre section. This version gets somewhat closer to the setlist of the original concerts that were performed. Extra songs included are as follows,

Track 12, Gitchy Goomy

Track 14, I Think It’s Going To Rain Today

Track 16, Modern Day Version of Love

Track 21, Band Intros (7 mins)

The Band intros were originally done between Song Sung Blue and Cracklin’ Rosie during the actual concerts, but it was somehow decided to put them at the end of Disc 1, instead leaving Disc 2 totally unchanged.

Also the crowd interaction between Neil and the audience prior to the song “Walk On Water” as it appeared on the 2000 release has been removed, why, is anybody’s guess.

Overall this is the best version of this iconic live album set and is definitely worth having in ones collection.

Whether it remains in this same format for future pressings or returns to the 2000 version is yet to be seen.

\*\*Just an update on the above statement regarding what version of HAN would remain the standard issue for purchase and that has now been confirmed with the 2000 issue as being the normal retail unit and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary issue being a Limited Edition only. There are still some left being sold on eBay but the prices are rising rapidly on this “Must Have” Limited Edition.

## 2013

### **THE CLASSIC CHRISTMAS ALBUM**

**COLUMBIA 888837436328**

Another Christmas stocking stuffer at the expense of no new material being released since 2011, that being the “Dreams” Album which was merely cover versions of famous songs from other artists that Neil liked.

This makes it the fourth Christmas release that Neil has indulged himself in and his last Columbia release as his contract with that label was due to expire and as we now know was not to be renewed.

## THE FREEDOM SONG

This song was written / performed but not officially released on CD. This song was written as an American patriotic song after the Boston Marathon Bombings on April the 15<sup>th</sup> 2013. It was issued on iTunes in the USA but not for Australia. I'm certain that this song will never be performed live outside the USA.

## 2014

**20<sup>th</sup> January, Capitol Records announces the signing of a new record deal with Neil ending a 40 year association with Columbia Records (Sony Music Entertainment) This new deal encompasses for the first time the whole Neil Diamond Catalogue to be now under the one label.**

## NEIL DIAMOND, ALL TIME GREATEST HITS CAPITOL 602537839810

Released 28<sup>th</sup> of July, Capitol's first ND release to crib time until Neil's new all original material recording titled "Melody Road" was released on October 21<sup>st</sup>. This is Capitol's first Neil Diamond release since "The Jazz Singer" album. It encompasses all the normal greatest hits with one exception, that being the Solo version of "You Don't Bring Me Flowers" as the Duet version is licensed to Sony Music due to Barbara Streisand's current recording contract being with Sony Music and Neil's departure from that label (Columbia)

## MELODY ROAD

**CAPITOL 602547023919**

Released October 21<sup>st</sup>. Neil's first all new and original material recording since "Home Before Dark", which was released 6 years ago. "Melody Road" has been simultaneously released in Australia in 2 versions, one being **602547023919** which is the Standard issue in the standard plastic Jewel Case containing 12 song titles and also **602537991358** which is a Digipak Deluxe issue that contains two extra tracks and a 36 page Lyric Booklet with Guitar Cords. The Deluxe issue will be deleted when stocks are exhausted and the album will revert back to the standard issue after its initial release is over.

## 2016

## ACOUSTIC CHRISTMAS

**CAPITOL 602557222272**

Released on October the 21<sup>st</sup>. This is Neil's fifth Christmas instalment in his long and distinguished Catalogue. The album was released in the USA with its original track line up but the Target Store release had an added extra 2 tracks. Here in Australia it was released with the bonus tracks as the standard album, not quite sure why as normally there is a marketing ploy to release a basic and then a "deluxe version" to add extra sales, but not in this instance here in Australia.

**EXTRA COMPACT DISCS ( In No Particular Order )**

**RAINBOW**

This has been released with a multitude of different covers

**RAINBOW MUSIC RCD-304**

**PORTRAIT**

This one also has been released with a multitude of different covers. The last version of this CD was released with the photo taken from the HAN 2 cover and re-issued with a new Cat No. Of RCD-9009

**RAINBOW MUSIC RCD-305**

**PLAY ME**

Compilation released by WEA Records under license from EMI.

**AX-701542**

**NEIL DIAMOND – SWEET CAROLINE**

**EMI AXIX-1561002**

**NEIL DIAMOND FIRST HITS**

1989 German made Compilation CD of early “Bang Records” releases put out by the Duchess Compact Disc Co. Five tracks were taken directly from records and thus have a small amount vinyl noise on them but with them never having been previously released on CD makes this one definitely worth finding and adding to your collection.

**CD-352071 (Budget Import)**

**PLAY ME**

Premium Masters Series, MCA / Castle Communications, 1994.

**PCD-10056**

**HIGH ROLLING MAN**

Premium Masters Series, MCA / Castle Communications, 1994.

**PCD-10137**

**NEIL DIAMOND, I KNEW LOVE**

Released in 1996 on the BMG’s “Ariola” Label. Made overseas but sold in Australia.

**BMG 74321-40873-2**

**SONG SUNG BLUE**

Number not known, Release of songs from the “Hot August Night” album

**?????????**

**NEIL DIAMOND LIVE****SW-130**

“UNLICENSED ISSUE”, Distributed by Mainline Music.

This CD had shocking sound quality and all tracks are simply poached directly from “Hot August Night”. Definitely not worth hunting down unless you’ve got nothing better to spend your cash on.

**EXTRA VINYL & CD ALBUMS WITH NEIL DIAMOND SONG RELEASES****SOUNDS FOR HOPE AND HAPPINESS****EMI HMV SL-114**

1975 Channel 10 Xmas Appeal record that included “THE LONG WAY HOME” as the final track.

**20 EXPLOSIVE HITS****EMI / COLUMBIA TVS-3**

TV Special release that included the “Bang Records” issue of the 1967 song “Shilo” that was ultimately to cause the split between Neil and Bert Berns, thus as soon as Neil was at UNI / MCA Records the song was re-recorded and issued on his first 1968 UNI album “Velvet Gloves & Spit”.

**BIG HITS AND DIAMONDS****EMI SESL-10070**

Green Stateside label

Original issue has the Maroon cover, but the Re-issue was Brown and issued on the cheaper Drum Label

Compilation album including 3 of Neil Diamond’s hits.

**BANG & SHOUT****WRC-S/4975**

Australian release by the World Record Club of many Bang Recording Artists songs, much the same as the US version.

**TOP STAR FESTIVAL****6830-100 (Local)**

1975 Australian equivalent to USA release of “20 Dynamic Hits Vol II”

**K-Tel TU-223**, except that it was minus 2 tracks. It featured Neil’s “Until It’s Time For You To Go”.

All artists featured on the record including Neil, supported the aid of World Refugees.

**NEIL DIAMOND SONGBOOK****VSOP-CD-172**

This CD is a great collection of covers that were all originally written by Neil and performed by other artists eg. 3 titles performed by The Monkees, Sunflower which was a hit for Glen Campbell, Kentucky Woman / Deep Purple, Sunday & Me / Jay & The Americans, The Boat That I Row made famous by LULU and so on. This one is certainly interesting and thus should be found and added to any serious collection. It was released on a rather strange label, “Connoisseur Collection”, manufactured overseas in Europe but was sold here in Australia and thus I’ve included it in this listing.

**FRANK SINATRA, DUETS II CD****EMI CDP7243 8 28103-2-2**

The Last Track is "THE HOUSE I LIVE IN (*that's America to me*)". This was a song that was never done as a true duet, rather both voice tracks were recorded individually and then mixed together using the magic of electronics in the studio to produce a rather good result. This has become one of those forgotten tracks that's rarely mentioned nowadays.

### **DOUBLE NICE PRICE ALBUM SETS**

Apart from the Double Christmas Album Set that has been mentioned previously, there were about 2 or 3 other "NICE PRICE" doubles released as part of a marketing series that I can recall, but I don't have. They included the albums "CLASSICS THE EARLY YEARS" + "BEAUTIFUL NOISE" Cat No. SMPACK-01, BEAUTIFUL NOISE + YOU DON'T BRING ME FLOWERS Cat No. NPCD-6 (do have), also "JONATHON LIVINGSTON SEAGULL", "YOU DON'T BRING ME FLOWERS". As soon as this information becomes clearer I shall amend the list, alternatively if you have them please don't hold back, let me know on the E-mail address at the bottom of this list.

\*There are probably Thousands of obscure records out there that would have the odd Neil Diamond track on them, especially many compilation LP's that have been released over the years that have passed us by. Many yearly compilations records put out by companies such as "Majestic Records, K-Tel" etc. featured early Diamond songs eg. "I am I said" etc. etc. etc.

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

\*All MCA releases up to and including Hot August Night were first released on the "Original" Blue, Multi-coloured Hexagonal centred MCA label. Subsequent re-issues were released on the Black / Rainbow Label which probably makes up the majority of album sales over the latter years. All the LP's were released over and over again and thus it is very hard to identify the exact years of issue. Production techniques and changes are a general giveaway for the experienced collector.

\*All the very early EMI Stateside singles that were issued as Promos were merely a standard retail issue with a red and white promo sticker attached to the "A" side label. Later issues had a large full label size "A" printed in light blue on the 'plug side'.

\*MCA Promo singles never were issued with anything out of the ordinary, rather Universal just gave out standard retail discs for radio station usage. The occasional record had the red and white sticker applied, but that's a rarity.

\*Most CBS releases had white labelled promotional discs produced for Radio Station usage apart from a few of the later CBS issues had a Gold style "Promotional Use Only" Stamping on the rear cover but with the normal label issued eg. "Primitive" and "Best Years Of Our Lives" and a couple of others. Since the introduction of CD's, most of these promos have been long discarded from Radio Stations and found their way into charity auctions, second hand record shops and markets which in turn have been bought and found their way into the hands of collectors worldwide, thus they are incredibly hard to find yet alone obtain at an affordable price. Ebay has become a good source for collectable releases, both albums and singles with some fetching incredible prices due to interests from overseas bidders who seem to love Australian releases with a passion. Eg. See how much a copy of the original Australian release of "The Feel of Neil Diamond" in "mint condition would fetch, the mind boggles.

Early in the 1960's and 70's, the charts were compiled of the top 40 singles and occasionally the top 20 albums so we could find no record of some of Neil's early released albums.

I have mentioned the chart if it was the top 40 or the top 20, (and occasionally the top 100) but during the early years the records are quite inaccurate for sale of albums and vary from state to state.

The listing is compiled of known releases, compilations and imports which actually went on sale in shops across Australia. If you have any others that we may have missed, please let me know so that I can firstly verify, then add it / them to the list. A lot of the new CD's were imported specially at the buyer's request and thus won't be added to the list. A lot of my CD collection is actually imported as I purchased various releases from America prior to their release in Australia. I have given the catalogue numbers of locally manufactured / available CD's first and if only imported ones were available I have listed those Numbers in-place and specially noted it. eg. "On The Way To The Sky" **CD CK-37628** (Import only). I know there are / may be discrepancies within the list, for instance, I know that the Serenade CD was released in a very limited amount in Australia, (approx. 200 copies), then deleted. From there on only US versions were being directly imported by individual music stores. Later on the original Australian Catalogue Number has been re-utilised on American made discs that were exported to Australia, discarding the usual US "CK" prefixed number. No one from Sony Music Entertainment can verify this and nor are they likely to want to attempt to, but instances like this are only picked up by eagle eyes and ears like myself and other people with the same passion thus can't be taken as gospel.

This Discography was originally conceived and instigated by my friend Pam, she and I spent many hours producing and presenting a live Radio Show called "**The Real Feel Of Neil**" that aired on **PBA-FM in Adelaide, South Australia** for nearly 2 years and I suppose this dedication eventually turned into the discography project. We spent considerable time researching old Newspapers etc. at our capital city library to gain chart information. My own vast Neil Diamond Record / CD collection (known to be Australia's Largest) has supplied much of the actual collated information, eg. Numbers, Issues, Re-issues, Order of Issue, Dates and Labels etc. etc. etc.

I would welcome any information that will help upgrade and improve this discography. **\*Please Note\*** that this Discography is updated quite regularly without notice and not just to add extra releases each year, but to correct or add information as it comes to hand whether it be for the very first album or anything in between 1966 and 2014.

Meanwhile, enjoy it and I hope it provides you with an accurate and most up to date database to work from.

*Cheers from Australia,*

**Manfred.**

PS. I can be contacted at anytime at: [rennovator@iprimus.com.au](mailto:rennovator@iprimus.com.au)

© Copyright 2016.