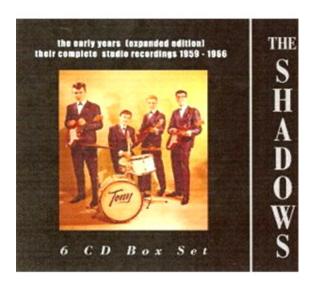
The Shadows

"The Early Years (Expanded Edition) – Their Complete Studio Recordings 1959-1966" Parlophone 50999 444270 2 3 [6 CD Box] Released 16 September 2013



First seven tracks: The Drifters; tracks listed are stereo except: *mono

CD 1 (50999 444271 2 2) Feelin' Fine* / Don't Be A Fool (With Love)* / Driftin'* / Jet Black* / Chinchilla* / Saturday Dance* / Lonesome Fella* / Bongo Blues / Apache / Quatermasster's Stores / Man Of Mystery / The Stranger / Mustang / Theme From Shane / Shotgun / Theme From Giant / F.B.I. / Midnight / The Frightened City / Back Home / Kon-Tiki / 36-24-36 / Shadoogie / Blue Star / Nivram / Baby My Heart / See You In My Drums / All My Sorrows / Stand Up And Say That! / Gonzales / Find Me A Golden Street / Theme From A Filleted Place

CD 2 (50999 444272 2 1) That's My Desire / My Resistance Is Low / Sleepwalk / Big Boy / The Savage / Peace Pipe / Wonderful Land / Stars Fell On Stockton / Guitar Tango / What A Lovely Tune / Theme From 'The Boys' / The Girls / Sweet Dreams / The Boys / The Rumble / The Bandit / Cosy / 1861 / Perfidia / Little 'B' / Bo Diddley / South Of The Border / Spring Is Nearly Here / Are They All Like You? / Tales Of A Raggy Tramline / Some Are Lonely / Kinda Cool / Some Are Lonely ("French" slower take) / Dance On / All Day

CD 3 (50999 444273 2 0) Foot Tapper (Summer Holiday version) / Les Girls / Round And Round / Foot Tapper (single version) / The Breeze And I / Atlantis / I Want You To Want Me / Granada / Adios Muchachos (Pablo The Dreamer) / Valencia / Las Tres Carabelas (Three Galleons) / Shindig / It's Been A Blue Day / Geronimo / Shazam / Theme For Young Lovers / This Hammer / The Rise And Fall Of Flingel Bunt / It's A Man's World / Chattanooga Choo-Choo / Blue Shadows / Fandango / Tonight / That's The Way It Goes / Big 'B' / In The Mood / The Lonely Bull (El Solo Toro) / Dakota / French Dressing / The High And The Mighty / Don't It Make You Feel Good

CD 4 (50999 444274 2 9) Zambesi / Temptation / Walkin' / Rhythm & Greens / Ranka-Chank / Main Theme / The Drum Number / The Lute Number / The Miracle / Genie With The Light Brown Lamp / Little Princess / Me Oh My / Mary Anne / Chu-Chi / Friends / Stingray / Alice In Sunderland / Brazil / The Lost City / A Little Bitty Tear / Blue Sky, Blue Sea, Blue Me / Bossa Roo / Five Hundred Miles / Cotton Pickin' / Deep Purple / Santa Ana / The Windjammer / Dean's Theme / Breakthru' / Let It Be Me / National Provincial Samba

CD 5 (50999 444275 2 8) Don't Make My Baby Blue / My Grandfather's Clock / The War Lord / I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Arthur / I Met A Girl / Late Night Set / I Only Want To Be With You / Fourth Street / The Magic Doll / Stay Around / Maid Marion's Theme / Benno-San / Don't Stop Now / In The Past / Fly Me To The Moon / Now That You're Gone / One Way To Love / Razzmataz / A Sigh (Un Sospiro) / March To Drina / A Place In The Sun / Will You Be There / The Dreams I Dream / Scotch On The Socks / Lady Penelope / Thunderbirds Theme / Zero X Theme / My Way / Spanish Music / Medley: a) Finders Keepers: b) My Way: c) Paella: d) Fiesta / Mustang* / Theme From Shane*

CD 6 (50999 444276 2 7) Shotgun* / Theme From Giant* / Back Home* / Theme From 'The Boys'* / The Girls* / Sweet Dreams* / Granada* / Adios Muchachos (Pablo The Dreamer)* / Valencia* / Las Tres Carabelas (Three Galleons)* / I Want You To Want Me* / It's A Man's World* / Chu-Chi* / Brazil* / The Lost City* / A Little Bitty Tear* / Blue Sky, Blue Sea, Blue Me* / Bossa Roo* / Five Hundred Miles* / Cotton Pickin'* / Deep Purple* / Santa Ana* / The Windjammer* / Dean's Theme* / Breakthru'* / Let It Be Me* / National Provincial Samba* / My Grandfather's Clock* / The Dreams I Dream*

Quite a popular and subsequently very sought-after collection, when first released in September 1991, reissued in December 1998. It brought together most of The Shadows' studio recordings, first issued between January 1959 and December 1966, and featured a total of 120 tracks, spread over six discs:

- All singles (A- and B-sides) from "Feelin' Fine" to "The Dreams I Dream".
- Most of the tracks exclusive to UK Shadows EPs.
- The first three primary UK albums: "The Shadows", "Out Of The Shadows", "Dance With The Shadows".
- Tracks first issued on primary UK Cliff Richard EPs and albums.
- Two rarities: "Some Are Lonely" ("French" slower take) by The Shadows, and "Evening Comes" by Hank Marvin solo (actually recorded in 1969 and first released in 1970).

All tracks were presented in their stereo mix, with these exceptions:

- The first seven tracks were originally issued in mono only: "Feelin' Fine", "Don't Be A Fool (With Love)", "Driftin", "Jet Black", "Chinchilla", "Saturday Dance" and "Lonesome Fella".
- "F.B.I." was presented in its first mock stereo implementation.
- "What A Lovely Tune" was presented in its mock stereo mix.
- "Some Are Lonely" ("French" slower take), "Foot Tapper" (single version), "Blue Shadows", "French Dressing" and "Scotch On The Socks" were issued in their original mono mixes.

Some of the tracks were alternative versions in stereo, compared to their mono counterparts:

- "Wonderful Land" in stereo, omitted Tony Meehan's tom-tom overdub and extra drumming.
- "Perfidia" in stereo omits the overdubbed electric lead guitar part.
- "Atlantis" in stereo omits the orchestral accompaniment from 2:36 to 2:46.
- "I Want You To Want Me" in stereo fades in slightly during the introductory drum beat.
- "It's Been A Blue Day" in stereo omits the echo on the orchestra and the wordless female voices.
- "Geronimo" in stereo has an extra orchestral overdub from 0:04 to 0:06.

- "Theme For Young Lovers" in stereo, differed from the original stereo version in that its stereo channels were reversed and it added a mismastered note at the start of the track.
- "Dakota" in stereo ends with full loudness, rather than slightly fading out.
- "Stingray" in stereo subdues the overdubbed electric lead guitar, audible from 1:19 to 1:27.
- "I Met A Girl" in stereo features a misplayed penultimate note, which was corrected for the mono version.

Each of the six discs were housed in a separate jewel case, containing the tracklisting with composer credits and first publishing date (the latter not always correct). All six jewel cases were housed in a glossy cardboard box. Completing the package was a 24-page booklet with mainly black and white photographs of the various line-ups of the group in the late 1950s and early to mid 1960s and a 16-page text by John Tobler discussing career and examining the individual tracks.

22 years on in 2013, the decision was made to reissue the set, still covering the period January 1959 to December 1966, but with some vast changes, dropping Hank Marvin's "Evening Comes" from the set, but expanding it to 185 tracks.

All tracks are now presented in stereo (except for the first seven tracks from 1959, which were only ever recorded and issued in mono). Tracks differing in sound mix and/or version, as compared to the 1991 edition, are these:

- "F.B.I." gets its very first stereo issue on a UK Shadows compilation. The stereo mix on this set, however, is not the one with the wide stereo soundstage, first issued on the 1963 USA compilation album "Surfing With The Shadows", but a narrower stereo mix, first issued on Tony Hoffman's 2008 UK various artists compilation CD "Instro Beat 28 British Instrumentals Of The 60's". It places Bruce's electric rhythm guitar just right of centre and Bruce's multi-tracked electric rhythm guitar, Jet's electric bass guitar and Tony's drums just left of centre.
- "What A Lovely Tune", "Some Are Lonely" ("French" slower take) and "Foot Tapper" (single version) are now presented in their stereo mixes.
- "Blue Shadows" and "French Dressing" are now presented in 'stereo' (or rather a sort of modern mock stereo) for the very first time ever. They have a somewhat wider soundstage, but sound quite unstable, especially under headphones and do not really have instrument separation.
- "Theme For Young Lovers" now omits the mismastered note at the start of the track, but still has its stereo channels reversed.
- "Scotch On The Socks" is now presented in its stereo mix as it was on the 1997 UK CD "The Shadows At Abbey Road". A difference here is that it omits the studio conversation between all four members and the count-in by Bruce. The timbre of this stereo remix is more close to the original mono single mix than the stereo remix version on the aforementioned CD album and as a result puts the adlibs and larking about (probably during the recording of the vocal overdubs) more back in the sound mix.

Added to the set, all in stereo, are these:

- "Foot Tapper" (Summer Holiday version) from the Cliff Richard & The Shadows primary UK album "Summer Holiday" and The Shadows' later UK EP "Foot Tapping With The Shadows".
- "Me Oh My" from the Cliff Richard & The Shadows primary UK album "Aladdin And His Wonderful Lamp" and The Shadows' later UK EP "Themes From Aladdin".
- All fourteen tracks from the fourth primary UK album "The Sound Of The Shadows": "Brazil" to "National Provincial Samba".
- All fourteen tracks from the fifth primary UK album "Shadow Music": "I Only Want To Be

- With You" to "March To Drina".
- All three Shadows tracks from the UK EP "Thunderbirds Are Go!": "Lady Penelope",
 "Thunderbirds Theme" and "Zero X Theme".
- "Spanish Music" and "Medley: a) Finders Keepers b) My Way c) Paella d) Fiesta" from the Cliff Richard & The Shadows primary UK album "Finders Keepers", the latter track also from The Shadows' later and last UK EP "On Stage And Screen".

A couple of remarks about the following tracks, referenced above:

- "The Magic Doll" in stereo features echo and/or reverb on the double-tracked lead guitar, whereas it sounds flat on the mono mix.
- "Benno-San" in stereo has the drums and all percussion instruments audible from 1:28 to 1:41
- "Don't Stop Now" in stereo: the multi-tracked electric lead guitar parts are present from 1:18 to 1:37. Also, Brian's tom-tom or bass drum overdub is more back in the mix.
- "In The Past" in stereo features echo and/or reverb on the vocals, whereas it sounds flat on the mono mix.
- "Fly Me To The Moon" in stereo omits the most likely unintended knock by Hank or Bruce on the body of the acoustic guitar at the very end of the track, present on the mono version.
- "March To Drina" in stereo includes four introductory bars, whereas the mono version includes only two.
- "Lady Penelope" is now presented in true stereo for the very first time ever. A great rich soundstage. Thanks to the separation, the instruments can be appreciated much better.
- "Thunderbirds Theme" and "Zero X Theme" are presented in their stereo remixes, first issued on the 1997 UK CD "The Shadows At Abbey Road".
- "Spanish Music" has been issued on its own for the very first time (fading out before Cliff Richard & The Shadows' "Fiesta" would start in the original medley) and for the first time on a UK Shadows compilation.

As a bonus, 31 tracks have been added in their original mono mixes, hitherto unreleased on CD:

- All four tracks from the UK EP "The Shadows": "Mustang", "Theme From Shane", "Shotgun" and "Theme From Giant".
- The singles tracks "Back Home", "I Want You To Want Me", "It's A Man's World", "Chu-Chi", "My Grandfather's Clock" and "The Dreams I Dream".
- The three remaining tracks to be released in mono on CD from the UK EP "Theme Music From The Boys": "Theme From The Boys", "The Girls" and "Sweet Dreams".
- All four tracks from the UK EP "Los Shadows": "Granada", "Adios Muchachos (Pablo The Dreamer)", "Valencia" and "Las Tres Carabelas (Three Galleons)".
- All fourteen tracks from the fourth primary UK album "The Sound Of The Shadows": "Brazil" to "National Provincial Samba".

The sound quality of all tracks is first-rate as can be expected with the use of first generation master tapes. The exception is "Some Are Lonely" ("French" slower take), the sound of which is not exactly bright, but rather adequate. The reason is that it had to be taken from a vinyl stereo copy of the French October 1962 10" LP "Out Of The Shadows", as the master tape wasn't available.

We now come to the presentation of the new set. The six discs haven't each got a separate jewel case, but have been housed in a hinged 'double-disc' jewel case with fold-out transparant panels on each side. The left inner sleeve shows front covers of nineteen out of the twenty-six original UK EP's, as well as the one from Cliff Richard & The Shadows' EP "Wonderful Life". The right inner sleeve shows six labels from six original UK A-sides, three in green/silver and three in black/silver.

As with the original issue, this issue includes a booklet. John Tobler's liner-notes from the original booklet have been used as a basis for the new one, with additional information on the added tracks by Rob Bradford.

An addendum provides a brief summary of the whole content, with special mention of the rare and previously unreleased versions which appear on this set.

There is also a summary of the various line-ups of the group between 1959 and 1966.

Some of the photographs from the original booklet have been reused, while others have been replaced by different (colour) photographs.

Lastly, there is the tracklisting for all six discs. Each track also has a discographical reference to the original first issue of the track, mentioning format, title (in case of EP and LP), original catalogue number, original release date (month and year) and in case of EP and LP, the track numbers from this set which relate to the original EP or LP. After the tracklisting for each CD, the publishing dates for each track have been summarised. This hasn't been done very consistently. For some tracks the original publishing date has been listed, while for others the publishing date of a digital remaster of a track has been listed.

For the die-hard fan, it is a bit of a nuisance to rebuy most of the tracks, just to get the unreleased stereo mixes and the whole set of mono mixes, previously unreleased on CD, but the bargain price of this edition (the original was quite expensive) is worth it. On top of that, the set is (in my opinion) the definitive collection to start with, when one wants to get to know the music of The Shadows.

A follow-up to this collection (called something like "The Later EMI Years: 1967-1980") would be great, containing all of the remainder of The Shadows' recordings for the company between 1967 and 1980 and adding the tracks which still have to appear in their mono mixes on CD:

- The album tracks: "Blue Star" (original mono version) and "Benno-San" (second mono version).
- The singles tracks: "Little Princess", "Alice In Sunderland", "I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Arthur", "Late Night Set", "Will You Be There", "Maroc 7", "Bombay Duck", "Tomorrow's Cancelled", "Running Out Of World" and "Dear Old Mrs. Bell".
- The EP tracks: "Ranka-Chank", "Main Theme", "Me Oh My", "Friends", "Medley: a) Finders Keepers b) My Way c) Paella d) Fiesta" and "My Way".
- Tracks from primary Cliff Richard releases: "Walkin", "Spanish Music", "Voyage To The Bottom Of The Bath", "Poem", "The Average Life Of A Daily Man", "Banana Man", "The Magical Mrs. Clamps", "Here I Go Again Loving You" and "Maggie's Samba".
- Miscellaneous tracks: "I Can't Forget".

Ivo Koers