

Donovan – Barabajagal (1969)

Written by bluelover

Monday, 21 November 2011 11:49 - Last Updated Thursday, 05 January 2017 20:50

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01. *Barabajagal* – 3:23 [play](#) 02. *Superlungs My Supergirl* – 2:46 03. *Where Is She* – 2:46 04. *Happiness Runs* – 3:25 05. *I Love My Shirt* – 3:12 06. *The Love Song* – 3:06

[play](#)

07. *To Susan On The West Coast Waiting* – 3:10 08. *Atlantis* – 4:56 09. *Trudi* – 2:23 10. *Pamela Jo* – 4:24

Personnel: - Donovan Leitch – acoustic guitar, vocals - Jeff Beck - electric guitar (01,09) - Ron Wood - bass (01,09) - Nicky Hopkins - piano (01,09) - Tony Newman - drums (01,09) - Big Jim Sullivan - electric guitar (02) - John Paul Jones - bass and arrangement (02) - Alan Hawkshaw - piano (03) - Harold McNair - flute (03) - Danny Thompson - bass (03) - Tony Carr - drums (03) - Richard "Ricki" Polodor - electric guitar (08) - Bobby Ray - bass (05,06,07,08,10) - Gabriel Mekler - piano (05,06,07,08,10), melodica (07), organ (08) - Jim Gordon - drums (05,06,07,08,10) - Graham Nash - backing vocals (04) - Mike McCartney - backing vocals (04) - Lesley Duncan - backing vocals (01,04,09) - Madeline Bell - backing vocals (01,09) - Suzi Quatro - backing vocals (01,04,09)

Barabajagal is the seventh studio album and eighth album overall from Scottish singer-songwriter Donovan. It was released in the U.S. on August 11, 1969 (Epic Records BN 26481 (stereo)), but was not released in the UK because of a continuing contractual dispute that also prevented *Sunshine Superman*, *Mellow Yellow*, and *The Hurdy Gurdy Man* from being released in the UK. While the majority of the *Barabajagal* sessions took place in November 1968, "Happiness Runs" and "Where Is She" were recorded the previous May. All of these songs except "Atlantis", "I Love My Shirt" and "To Susan on the West Coast Waiting" were shelved while Donovan's *Greatest Hits* was still high in the charts. "Atlantis" / "I Love My Shirt" was released as a single in November 1968 in the UK. In the U.S., "To Susan on the West Coast Waiting" / "Atlantis" was eventually released in March 1969. "Atlantis" ended up charting higher than its a-side. Some of the songs recorded were originally meant to be included on the unreleased *Moon In Capricorn* album.

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In May 1969, Mickie Most produced at least one session with Donovan fronting the Jeff Beck Group. "Goo Goo Barabajagal (Love Is Hot)" (also "Barabajagal (Love Is Hot)" and simply "Barabajagal") and "Trudi" (originally "Bed with Me") resulted from these sessions. There were other songs recorded by Donovan and the Jeff Beck Group, but they remained unreleased until they appeared as bonus tracks on the 2005 UK reissue of the album. Rod Stewart was in the band at this time, but he does not sing lead on any of the songs that were released. Tony Newman is featured as drummer.

"Goo Goo Barabajagal (Love Is Hot)" / "Trudi" was released as a single in June of 1969 in the UK and in August 1969 in the United States. Following the pattern of Donovan's previous releases, his next album was named after the hit single of the time. The inclusion of "Atlantis" and "To Susan on the West Coast Waiting" helped make Barabajagal a strong seller in the United States.

The songs on this album represent all facets of Donovan's career. Several rockers adorn the album, including the title track, "Trudi", "The Love Song" and "Superlungs (My Supergirl)". "I Love My Shirt" updates the sound of Donovan's children's music, and there are several slow songs featuring breathy vocals ("Where Is She?", "To Susan on the West Coast Waiting") reminiscent of the For Little Ones portion of A Gift from a Flower to a Garden. It is during the Barabajagal sessions that Donovan's musical vision and work ethic began to diverge from that of producer Mickie Most. The two eventually stopped working together, effectively ending Donovan's chart success.

"Happiness Runs" is a round sung by Donovan, Graham Nash, Michael McCartney, and Lesley Duncan and was originally released without the round as "Pebble and the Man" on Donovan in Concert. "Superlungs (My Supergirl)" was originally recorded during the Sunshine Superman sessions, but was not used for that album. That recording was released on Troubadour The Definitive Collection 1964 – 1976. Donovan re-recorded the song for Barabajagal.

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