

Sam Cooke - Hits Of The 50's (1960)

Written by bluelover

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Sam Cooke - Hits Of The 50's (1960)



A1 Hey There 2:32 A2 Mona Lisa 2:34 A3 Too Young 2:08 A4 The Great Pretender 3:02 A5 You, You, You 2:45 A6 Unchained Melody 3:24 [play](#) B1 The Wayward Wind 3:10 B2 Secret Love 2:46 B3 The Song From Moulin Rouge 2:30 B4 I'm Walking Behind You 2:45 B5 Cry 2:13

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B6 Venus 2:53

Sam Cooke – vocals Glenn Osser – conductor

Sam Cooke's second RCA album is mostly a missed opportunity, in terms of representing much about Sam Cooke as an artist or singer -- having him cover pop hits of the previous decade wasn't a terrible idea on its face, but Cooke was still getting accustomed to working at RCA, and he wasn't inspired by the material or the way it was chosen, and the result is an album aimed at what the label thought the white teenage market was all about (and what the company thought the parents of those kids would be most comfortable with them buying from a black recording artist), that's a lot less interesting than some of the singles, including "Chain Gang" and "Wonderful World," that he was doing around the same time. His versions of hits associated with Nat "King" Cole, Johnnie Ray, and the Platters should have made for a more interesting record. Hits of the Fifties is still an improvement over its immediate predecessor, Cooke's Tour, but it's also one of the records that for many years -- in the absence of his best material being available -- blighted Cooke's reputation as a soul singer. ---Bruce Eder, allmusic.com

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