

The Velvet Underground - Scepter Studios Sessions (2012)

Written by bluesever

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01 – *European Son* 02 – *The Black Angel's Death Song* 03 – *All Tomorrow's Parties* 04 – *I'll be Your Mirror* 05 – *Heroin* 06 – *Femme Fatale* 07 – *Venus in Furs* 08 – *Waiting For the Man* 09 – *Run Run Run* Personnel: John Cale – electric viola, piano, celesta on "Sunday Morning", bass guitar, backing vocals Sterling Morrison – guitar, bass guitar, backing vocals Nico – chanteuse, lead vocals on "Femme Fatale", "All Tomorrow's Parties" and "I'll Be Your Mirror" Lou Reed – vocals, guitar and ostrich guitar Maureen Tucker – percussion

Norman Dolph's original acetate recording of the Scepter Studios material contains several recordings that would make it onto the final album, though many are different mixes of those recordings and three are different takes entirely. The acetate was cut on April 25, 1966, shortly after the recording sessions. It would resurface decades later when it was bought by collector Warren Hill of Montreal, Canada in September 2002 at a flea market in the Chelsea neighborhood of New York City for \$0.75. Hill put the album up for auction on eBay in November. On December 8, 2006, a winning bid for \$155,401 was placed, but not honored. The album was again placed for auction on eBay and was successfully sold on December 16, 2006 for \$25,200.

Although ten songs were recorded during the Scepter sessions, only nine appear on the acetate cut. Dolph recalls "There She Goes Again" being the missing song (and, indeed, the version of "There She Goes Again" that appears on the final LP is attributed to the Scepter Studios session).

Though rumors have circulated concerning an eventual official release of this version of the album, this has yet to be confirmed or announced by any major record label. However, a ripped version of the acetate began circulating the internet in January 2007. Bootleg versions of the acetate tracks have also become available on vinyl and CD.

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In 2012, the acetate was officially released as disc 4 of the omnicomprehensive "45th Anniversary Super Deluxe Edition" box set of the album. The disc also includes six previously unreleased bonus tracks, recorded during the band's rehearsals at The Factory on January 3, 1966.

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