

SNW 1204 Red Staggerwing

vocal by: Ralf Bender and Steffi Celler

Release Date: Vinyl, MP3 and CD – 2009 / 06

Singing Call MS-67

Hanhurst's Best Seller listing
(June 2009) – No.7

ORIGINAL MUSIC DETAILS: WRITER: Mark Knopfler
PUBLISHERS: Almo Music Corp. OBO Rondor Music (London) Ltd.

Original artists: Emmylou Harris & Mark Knopfler

This is a track from the extremely successful 2006 album “All the Roadrunning”, which featured the combined talents of Emmylou Harris (award winning American country singer-songwriter and musician) and Mark Knopfler (Lead guitarist, songwriter and vocalist for “Dire Straits” 1977 - 1995). The album was recorded over a seven-year period and “Red Staggerwing” presents Emmylou and Mark using the kind of teasing, affectionate banter reminiscent of the style of June Carter and Johnny Cash.

This is a “high energy” song and we felt that we wanted to keep it that way, using a fast rhythmic feel with a “Rolling Banjo” playing throughout and with the Fiddle added to the “signature” response on each chorus, we were able to retain a lot of the original feel of the song, whilst giving it a true “Nashville” flavour. Ralf and Steffi do a great job on the vocal and the whole thing works really well as a Square Dance song. This is the type of tune that you can use to raise the spirits of the dancers, a real blast-off!

Additional Lyrics:

If I was Staggerwing plane, a Staggerwing painted red
I'd fly over to your house, baby - buzz you in your bed
If I was a Taperwing, a Taperwing painted blue
I'd be barrell-rolling over you
You're gonna need a rider anyhow
Let me be your rider now

If I was a Maserati, a red 300s
I'd ride around to your house, baby - give you a driving test
If I was a Mustang racer, white with a stripe of blue
You could ride me baby, whenever you wanted to

If I was a Fender guitar, a Fender painted red
You could play me, darlin' - until your fingers bled
If I was one of them Gibsons - like a '58 or '9
You could plug me in and play me anytime

If I was a motorcycle, a Vincent Red Rapide
I'd ride around to your house, baby - get you up to speed
If I was short track racer I'd be an Indian
You could ride me around and ride me round again

Where, When and Who produced the music:

This was part of the thirteenth group of releases on Sting and Snow that were recorded in Nashville, during September 2008. A total of Ten songs were recorded during this session, which was the eighth to be arranged and produced by Paul Bristow. On this occasion, Paul had his Goddaughter – Ria Hepden and her Father – Ron Hepden (Special Guest Caller on Sting), to help with “decisions”!

As in previous years, the music features the top musicians in Nashville: Gregg Galbraith – as band leader playing all Lead Guitars, Doug Jernigan on Steel and Dobro, Roger Morris on Piano and Keyboards, Fiddle by Rob Hojacos, Larry Paxton on Bass Guitar, Bruce Watkins playing Rhythm Guitar and Banjo and Jerry Kroon on Drums. For the second year running we had Sam Levine on all the “Reeds” (Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet etc). As always Kevin McManus (studio owner) was the engineer.

Acknowledgement to Royal Records:

We are indebted to Jerry Story and Tony Oxendine who introduced us to the studio in Nashville and invited us to use the top-of-the-line professional session musicians that they had assembled, to play for Royal Records.