

“Saturday Nite Special”/“Valse de Soleil Couché”

The Sundown Playboys

First appearance in trade magazines: October 7, 1972

Label af1

Apple

1852

Apple label with “MFD. BY APPLE” on the full side.



Factory: Los Angeles with black star

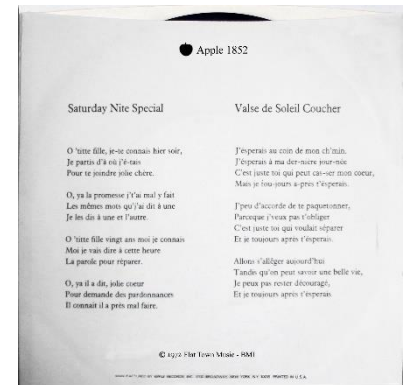


Factories: Los Angeles, Jacksonville, Winchester

Teenage accordion player Pat Savant had joined Lesa Cormier and the Sundown Playboys in October 1971. Their label, Swallow Records of Ville Platte (Louisiana), pressed up copies of his first single with the Playboys, and they released it locally.



Reportedly, Savant was talking about the single with a friend when he wondered what the Beatles would think of it. With the blessing of Lesa Cormier and Floyd Soileau (their producer), Pat sent a copy of the single to Apple Records – as somewhat of a joke. Near the end of September 1972, Apple had sent them information about contracting for Apple to release and distribute the record worldwide.



During week days, Lesa and Larry work for an oil refinery, Darrel is a vending route candyman, Wallace operates a grocery and Pat and Danny attend school.



Saturday night they all come together.

“Saturday Night Special”
THE SUNDOWN PLAYBOYS
Apple Single 1852

Something new from Apple where there's always something new

The Ville Platte Gazette reported the news on September 26th, and October 2nd saw the contract completed. Apple began advertising the single immediately. Harrison kept his word, and Apple released the record in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, France, Norway, and New Zealand. The UK and France even released the single with a picture sleeve; alas, the US did not.

In November, British Homophone, a pressing plant that still had the capacity to press 78-RPM singles in Great Britain, pressed a very rare Apple 78 for British collectors as part of its "Back to Mono" campaign that Phil Spector was championing. No more than 300 copies were made, and it is unknown how many actually sold.

All that promotion put the single on people's radar, but only briefly. Aficionados of Cajun music consider this record to be a classic. Apple included it in their boxed set, and Swallow reissued the single in 2011.

