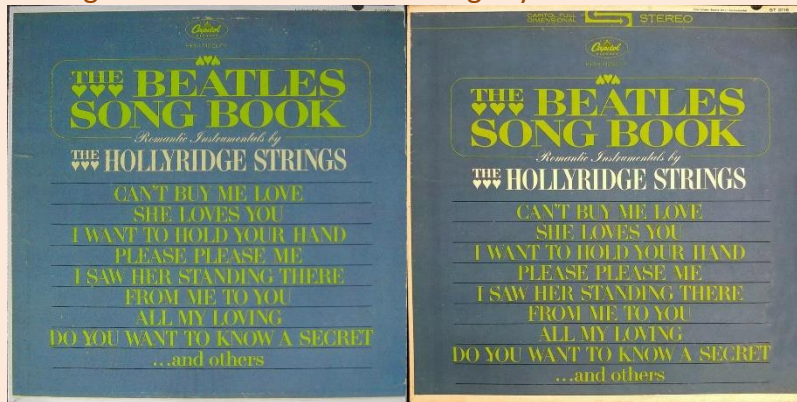


The Hollyridge Strings

The Hollyridge Strings were an in-house act released by Capitol Records. Throughout the 1960's, they were perhaps best known for their instrumental versions of Beatles songs. In fact, so popular was their first album that an album exists by "The Mustangs" whose cover is a take-off of the cover to the first instrumental Beatles album by the Strings. **Stu Phillips** arranged and conducted the first three volumes, plus the album with solo songs on it. **Perry Botkin, Jr.** and **Mort Garson** did the honors on volume four, but Garson alone did the job on volume five. Botkin had previously conducted the Strings some years before. For the interested fanatic, here are the Hollyridge Strings' Beatles albums in all their glory:



The Beatles Song Book

Capitol (S)T-2116

Side One

1. From Me to You
2. I Saw Her Standing There
3. Please Please Me
4. P.S. I Love You
5. Love Me Do
6. I Want to Hold Your Hand

Side Two

1. Can't Buy Me Love
2. All My Loving
3. A Taste of Honey
4. Do You Want to Know a Secret?
5. She Loves You

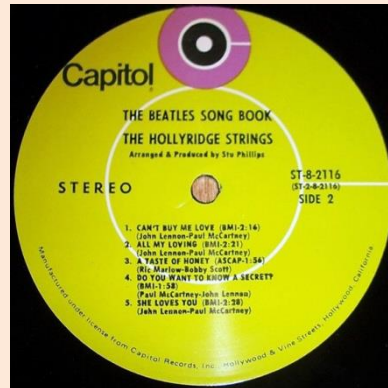
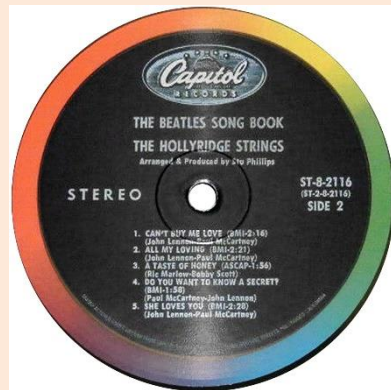
Two songs from this LP are featured on the promotional album, *Balanced for Broadcast*, from June, 1964 (Capitol PRO-2634/5). Two edits also appear on *Instant Music* (also June '64, Capitol PRO-2656/7).

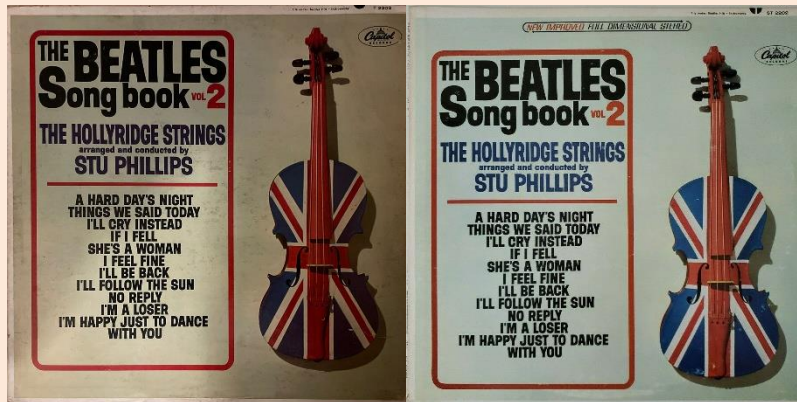
The album was also reviewed in the June 6, 1964, issue of *Billboard*.

This record surprised all critics by climbing to the #15 position in the *Billboard* album listings (August 22, 1964). As it continued to sell, the success of this album, the Strings' first, prompted Capitol to create a series of songbooks -- a series for which the band became known. This was Stu Phillips' first record and was the Strings' first attempt at instrumental rock and roll.



This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2116; as an eight-track tape, it was available as TA-63110.





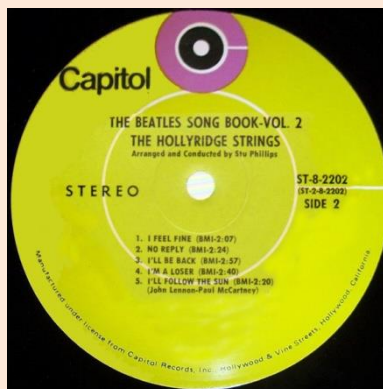
The Beatles Song Book, Vol. 2
Capitol (S)T-2202

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Side One</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Hard Day's Night 2. Things We Said Today 3. She's a Woman 4. If I Fell 5. I'll Cry Instead 6. I'm Happy Just to Dance With You | <p>Side Two</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I Feel Fine 2. No Reply 3. I'll Be Back 4. I'm a Loser 5. I'll Follow the Sun |
|--|--|

The second volume of Beatles covers was advertised by Capitol in the February 6, 1965, issue of *Billboard* as being one of the first fourteen records to employ the "new improved Full Dimensional Stereo" process.



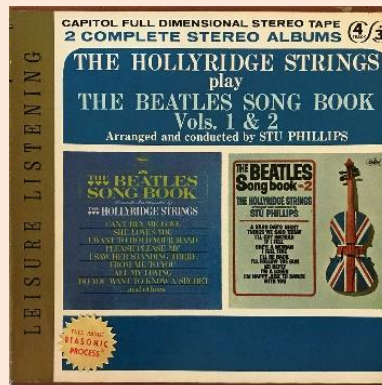
This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2202.

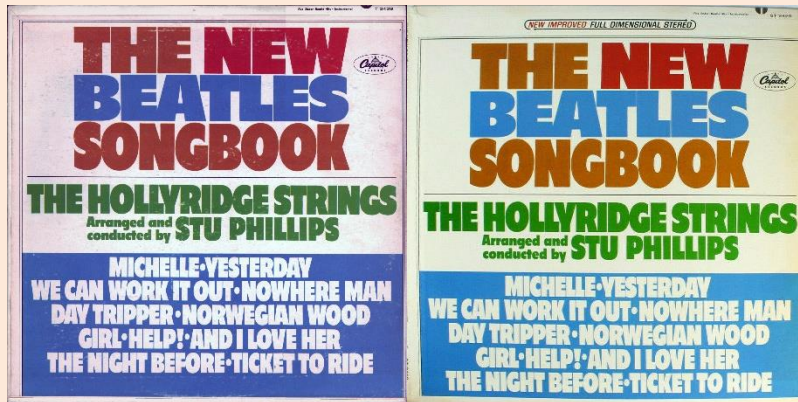


One song from this LP is featured on the promotional album, *Balanced for Broadcast*, from January-February, 1965 (Capitol PRO-2785/6).



The first two Hollyridge Strings Beatles LP's were collected together in the reel-to-reel tape format as Capitol Y2T-2223. The same collection was available on eight-track tape as 8X2T-2223. This was split up in 1968 into two separate tapes – cartridges that were numbered the same as their respective LPs.





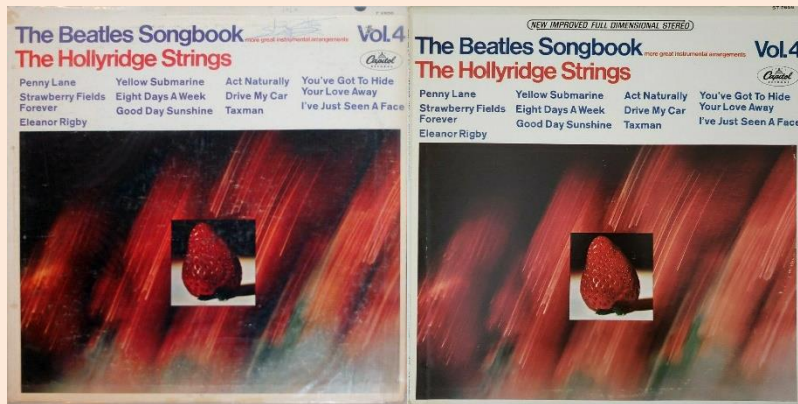
The New Beatles Song Book
Capitol (S)T-2429

- | Side One | Side Two |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The Night Before | 1. Day Tripper |
| 2. Yesterday | 2. Nowhere Man |
| 3. Ticket to Ride | 3. And I Love Her |
| 4. Norwegian Wood | 4. Girl |
| 5. Michelle | 5. We Can Work It Out |
| 6. Help! | |

This album was released in March, 1966. *Billboard* reviewed the album favorably, and it sold acceptably well -- charting briefly in summer. Not long after the album's release, Stu Phillips announced that Capitol Records had released him as an artist, although he might continue to be used in conjunction with Hollyridge Strings records.

The Strings' third Beatles LP was collected together with the *Oldies But Goldies* LP in the reel to reel tape format (Capitol Y2T-2710).





**The Beatles Song Book, Vol. 4
Capitol (S)T-2656**

Side One

1. Strawberry Fields Forever
2. Eleanor Rigby
3. You've Got to Hide Your Love Away
4. Taxman
5. Good Day Sunshine
6. Act Naturally

Side Two

1. Penny Lane
2. Yellow Submarine
3. Eight Days a Week
4. Drive My Car
5. I've Just Seen a Face

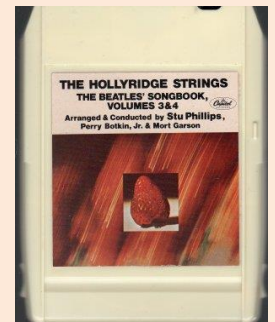
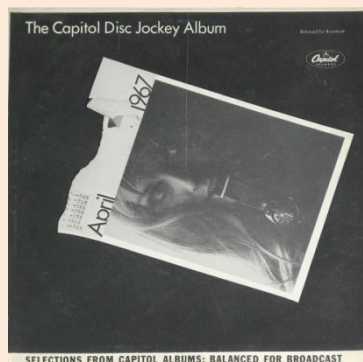
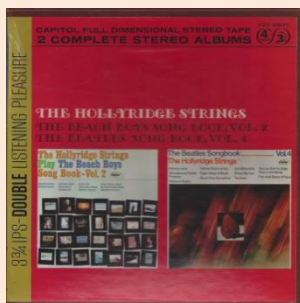
Returning to their bread-and-butter, the Strings released another volume of Beatles-related instrumentals in April, 1967. Stu Phillips was gone, having been replaced by Mort Garson and Perry Botkin, Jr.. The record sold well enough for Capitol to schedule two more albums by the Strings.

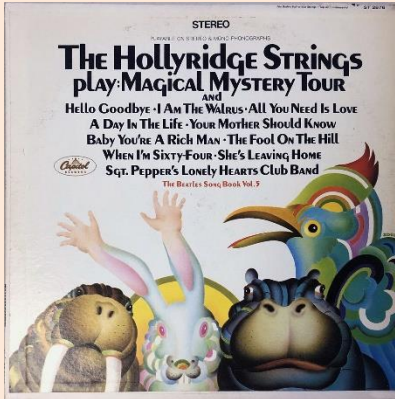
Two songs from this LP are featured on the promotional album, *Balanced for Broadcast*, from April, 1967 (Capitol PRO-4315/6). Part of one song is featured on the promotional album, *Squeeze Play* (Capitol SPRO-4417/8).

This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2656.

The fourth Hollyridge Strings Beatles LP was collected together with their second volume of Beach Boys songs in the reel to reel tape format (Y2T-2807).

A combined 8 track was also issued of the third and fourth Strings LP's (8X2T-2753), which was later split up into two separate 8 tracks.





The Beatles Song Book, Vol. 5
Capitol (S)T-2876

Side One

1. Magical Mystery Tour
2. I am the Walrus
3. The Fool on the Hill
4. A Day in the Life
5. Your Mother Should Know
6. Baby You're a Rich Man

Side Two

1. Hello Goodbye
2. She's Leaving Home
3. All You Need is Love
4. When I'm Sixty-Four
5. Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band

This fifth installment of Beatles hits, Strings-style, was released in February, 1968. Mort Garson was conducting. That the album sold fewer copies than the previous four installments is evidenced by the fact that it is scarcer today.

This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2876.

Two songs from this LP are featured on the *Capitol Disc Jockey Album*, from March, 1968 (Capitol SPRO-4501/2).



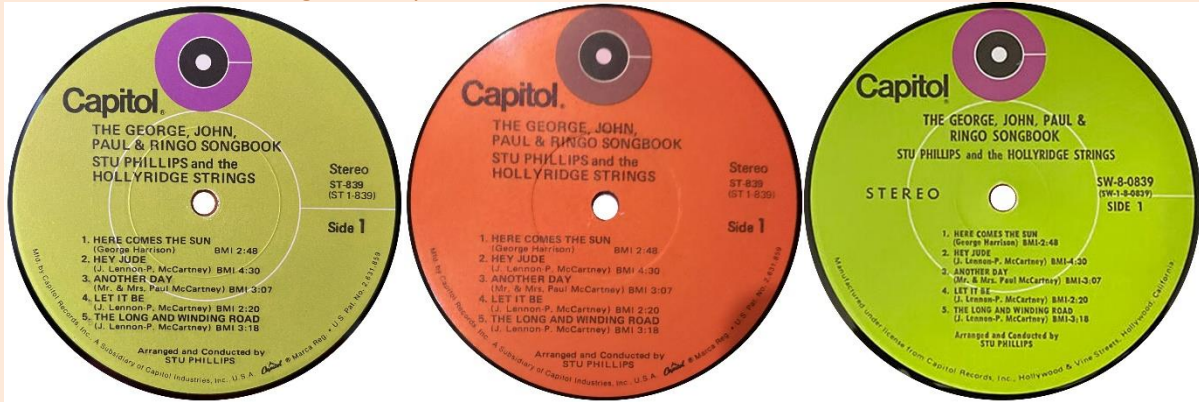
The George, John, Paul, & Ringo Songbook
Capitol ST-839

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Side One</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Here Comes the Sun 2. Hey Jude 3. Another Day 4. Let it Be 5. The Long and Winding Road | <p>Side Two</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My Sweet Lord 2. Uncle Albert/Admiral Halsey 3. Something 4. It Don't Come Easy 5. Bangla-Desh |
|--|---|

After a hiatus of several years, Stu Phillips returned to conduct the Strings on this album. The album was reviewed favorably in the October 30, 1971, issue of *Billboard* but went nowhere.

This LP came out on the second red label (Label 71a) on the east coast and on the green label (Label 69) on the west coast.

This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as SW-8-0839.





Great Hit Songs of the Beatles

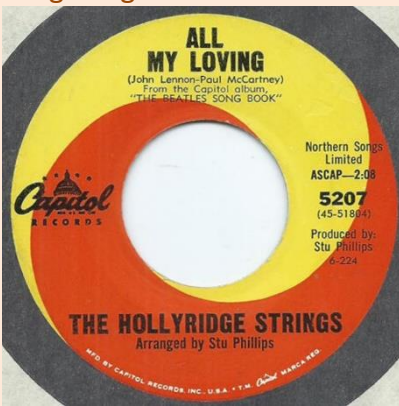
Capitol Special Products SLB-8091

	Side Two	Side Three	Side Four
	1. Eleanor Rigby	1. A Hard Day's Night	1. Yesterday
Side One	2. Can't Buy Me Love		2. I Feel Fine
1. I Want to Hold Your Hand	3. Do You Want to Know a Secret	2. Penny Lane	3. Ticket to Ride
2. And I Love Her	4. Something	3. All You Need is Love	4. Hello Goodbye
3. Norwegian Wood	5. She Loves You	4. Long and Winding Road	5. Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
4. Let it Be	6. Yellow Submarine	5. Michelle	6. Hey Jude
5. We Can Work It Out		6. Help!	

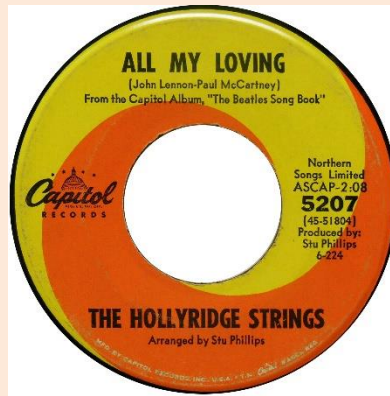
This two-disc set contains nothing new, being only a compilation of past albums by the Strings. The album director was Ernest K. Dominy. The LP was released in 1977.

The Strings Single Out the Beatles

Strings singles are much harder to come by than their LP's. Of interest to Beatles fans are:



"All My Loving" / "Love Me Do"



Capitol 5207

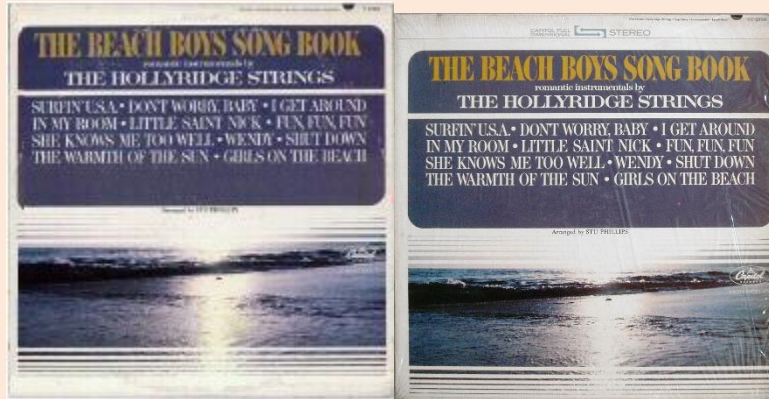


This single, which came out during the second week of June 1964, was released contemporary to the promotional EP, Capitol PRO-2626/7, also shown above, which featured "All My Loving," "Can't Buy Me Love," "Love Me Do," and "PS I Love You."

"All My Loving" reached the lower end of the *Billboard* singles chart briefly in Summer, 1964.

The Strings Play Other Artists

The Strings also recorded a fair number of other albums, including:



The Beach Boys Song Book Capitol (S)T-2156

Side One

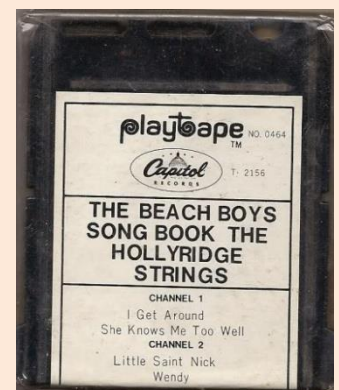
1. I Get Around
2. Don't Worry, Baby
3. She Knows Me Too Well
4. Fun, Fun, Fun
5. In My Room
6. Little Saint Nick

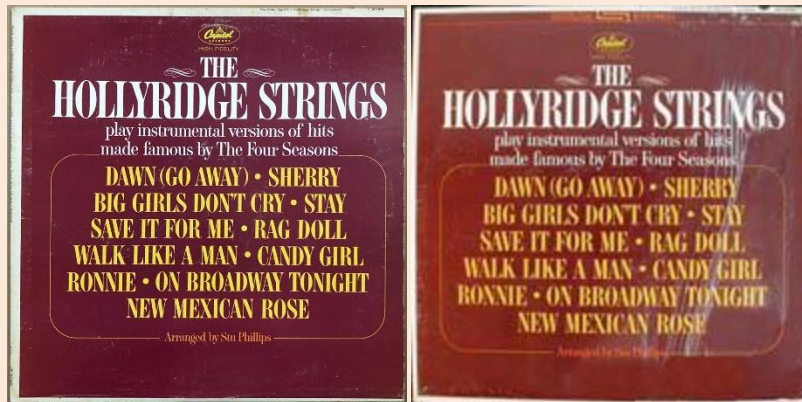
Side Two

1. Surfin' USA
2. The Warmth of the Sun
3. Wendy
4. Shut Down
5. Girls on the Beach

This album was reviewed in the September 19, 1964, issue of *Billboard*, after an announcement by Capitol in the August 8 issue. It peaked at #82 in November.

The above album was available as a solo title on four-track cartridge (c. 1967) as 4CL-2156. Four songs from this album were released in the PlayTape format as number No. 0464.

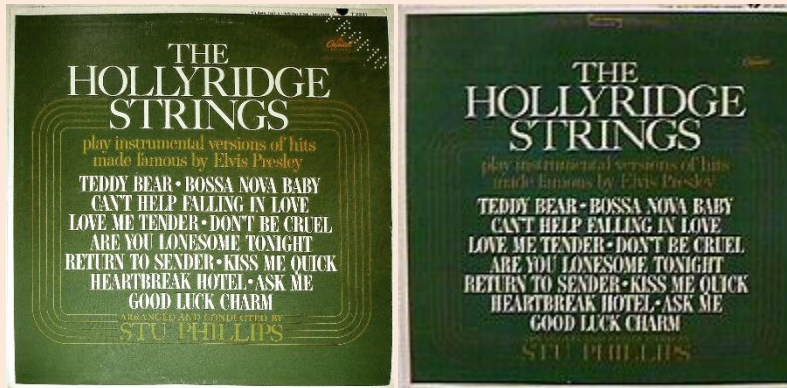




**The Hollyridge Strings Play Instrumental Versions of Hits Made Famous by the Four Seasons
Capitol (S)T-2199**

- | Side One | Side Two |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Dawn (Go Away) | 1. Sherry |
| 2. Rag Doll | 2. Walk Like a Man |
| 3. Candy Girl | 3. Stay |
| 4. Ronnie | 4. New Mexican Rose |
| 5. Save it for Me | 5. On Broadway Tonight |
| 6. Big Girls Don't Cry | |

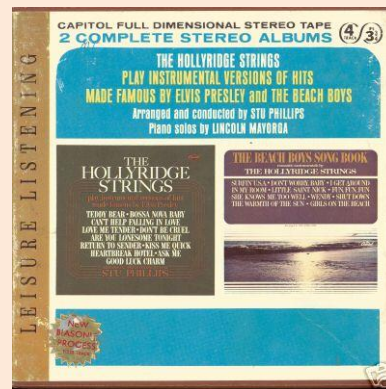
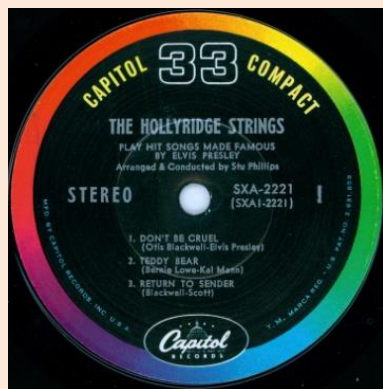
Reviewed in the October 10, 1964, issue of *Billboard*, the album failed to achieve the success of the earlier two Strings albums. An announcement in the December 26, 1964, issue of the magazine indicated that the first three of the group's LP's had sold 400,000 units cumulatively. It is clear, however, that most of these came from the first Beatle album, and that most of the rest were Beach Boys Songbook sales.

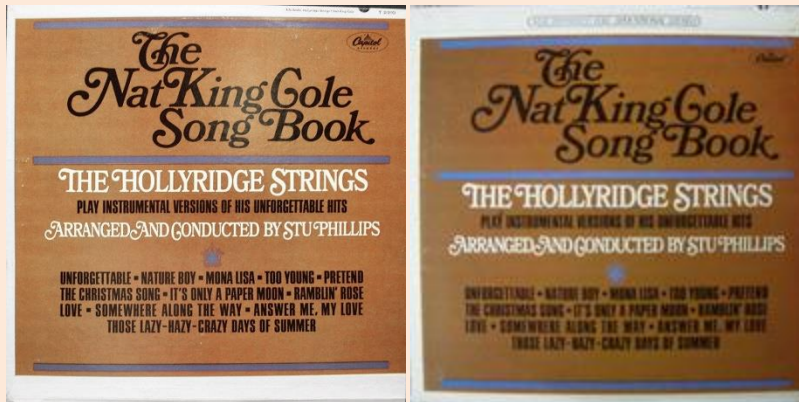


**The Hollyridge Strings Play Instrumental Versions of Hits Made Famous by Elvis Presley
Capitol (S)T-2221**

- | Side One | Side Two |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Teddy Bear | 1. Bossa Nova, Baby |
| 2. Heartbreak Hotel | 2. Can't Help Falling in Love |
| 3. Don't Be Cruel | 3. Kiss Me Quick |
| 4. Ask Me | 4. Are You Lonesome Tonight? |
| 5. Return to Sender | 5. Good Luck Charm |
| 6. Love Me Tender | |

Issued the second week in January, 1965, and reviewed in *Billboard's* January 16th issue. Sales were acceptable for an album of cover instrumentals but still did not reach previous levels. The above album was available as a solo title on four-track cartridge (c. 1967) as 4CL-2221. Six songs from the above LP were available as a jukebox compact 33, SXA-2221. The first Beach Boys LP was boxed together with the Elvis Presley LP in late 1964 as a reel-to-reel tape, Capitol Y2T-2224.





The Nat King Cole Song Book
Capitol (S)T-2310

Side One

1. Unforgettable
2. Paper Moon
3. Somewhere Along the Way
4. The Christmas Song
5. Ramblin' Rose
6. Pretend

Side Two

1. L-O-V-E
2. Mona Lisa
3. Nature Boy
4. Answer Me, My Love
5. Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer
6. Too Young

Released in April, 1965, the album charted briefly.

In January, 1966, six tracks from the LP were collected in a jukebox compact 33, Capitol SU-2310.

In Fall, 1965, the Cole Song Book LP was collected together with the Strings' Four Seasons LP as a reel-to-reel tape, Capitol Y2T-2406.

After the release of *The Nat King Cole Song Book*, Stu Phillips gathered a separate orchestra of his own and released an album, *Feels Like Lovin'* (Capitol ST-2356) and a single ("Feels Like Lovin'"/"Goin' Out of My Head," Capitol 5466) in July, 1965.

Six songs from the above LP were available as a jukebox compact 33, SU-2310.





Christmas Favorites
Capitol (S)T-2404

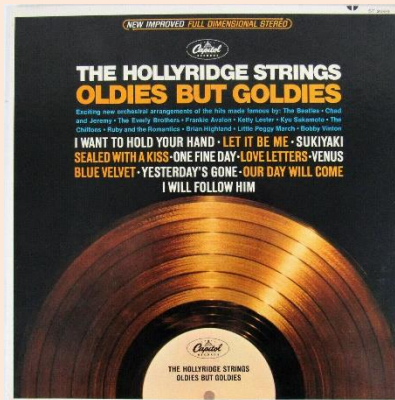
Side One

1. Winter Wonderland
2. Jingle Bells
3. The Christmas Song
4. Santa Claus is Coming to Town
5. Santa's Got a Brand New Bag
6. Jingle Bell Rock

Side Two

1. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
2. White Christmas
3. I'll Be Home for Christmas
4. Little Saint Nick
5. Do You Hear What I Hear?

This album was first released during the second week of October, 1965 and was reissued in 1978 as Capitol SM-11830.



The Hollyridge Strings Play Oldies but Goldies
Capitol (S)T-2564

Side One

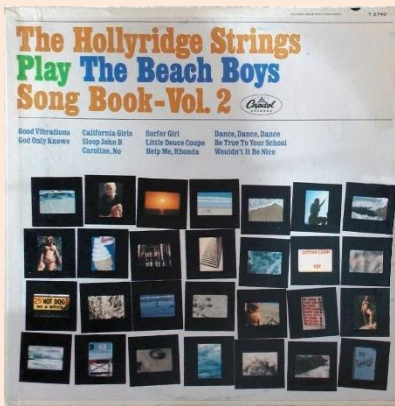
1. I Want to Hold Your Hand
2. Let it Be Me
3. Sukiyaki
4. Sealed With a Kiss
5. One Fine Day
6. Love Letters

Side Two

1. Venus
2. Blue Velvet
3. Yesterday's Gone
4. Our Day Will Come
5. I Will Follow Him

Two songs from this LP are featured on the promotional album, *Stereo Sampler*, from October, 1966 (Capitol SPRO-4155/6).

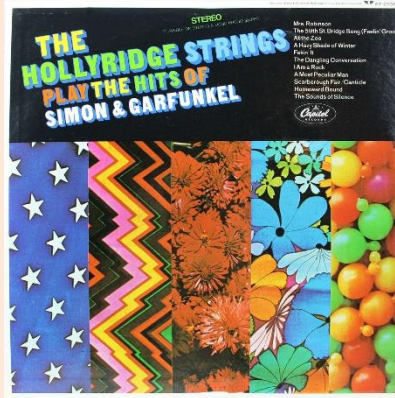
This LP was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2564.



**The Hollyridge Strings Play the Beach Boys Song Book -- Vol. 2
Capitol (S)T-2749**

- | Side One | Side Two |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Good Vibrations | 1. God Only Knows |
| 2. Caroline, No | 2. Wouldn't it be Nice |
| 3. Sloop John B | 3. Surfer Girl |
| 4. Dance, Dance, Dance | 4. Help Me, Rhonda |
| 5. California Girls | 5. Be True to your School |
| 6. Little Deuce Coupe | |

Reviewed in the July 1, 1967, issue of *Billboard*, the record was treated favorably. Capitol marketed it with a full-page ad in the July 8th issue, with a headline reading "Capitol Salutes Brian Wilson." Perry Botkin, Jr., and Mort Garson conducted the Strings for this record.



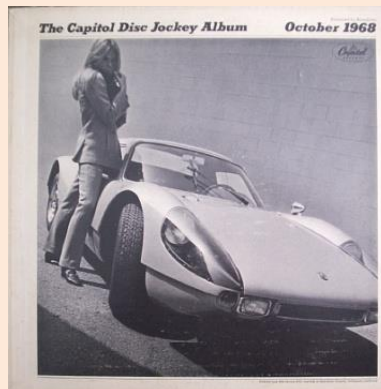
The Hollyridge Strings Play the Hits of Simon & Garfunkel
Capitol ST-2998

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Side One</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mrs. Robinson 2. Scarborough Fair/Canticle 3. The 59th Street Bridge Song 4. Homeward Bound 5. The Sound of Silence 6. I am a Rock | <p>Side Two</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Hazy Shade of Winter 2. The Dangling Conversation 3. A Most Peculiar Man 4. Fakin' It 5. At the Zoo |
|---|--|

This was the last Hollyridge Strings album of the 1960's, having been released in early November, 1968. Again Mort Garson was behind the conductor's podium. The LP quickly became more obscure than the Strings' previous records. The album was available through the Capitol Record Club as ST-8-2998.

Six songs from the LP were also available as a compact 33 from Capitol Special Markets, SU-2998.

Two songs from this LP are featured on the promotional record, *The Capitol Disc Jockey Album*, from October, 1968 (Capitol SPRO-4633/4).





Hits of the 70's

Capitol ST-883

Side One

1. Theme from "Love Story"
2. Imagine
3. It's Impossible
4. Theme from "Summer of '42"
5. Bridge Over Troubled Water

Side Two

1. Theme from "Shaft"
2. We've Only Just Begun
3. Superstar
4. If
5. It's Too Late

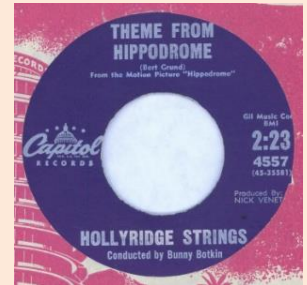
Released in late January, 1972, this would be Stu Phillips' last "great" album with the Hollyridge Strings. Due in part to the past two albums' failure to sell in reasonable quantities, the Hollyridge Strings did not release full album packages after this point -- except as reissues of earlier material.

The album was available through the Capitol Record Club as SW-8-0883. This record **contains "Imagine"**, a Beatles-related song that is not on any of their other albums.

During the 1960's, music from the Strings was available on several promotional albums. The May-June, 1964, issue of Capitol's *Silver Platter* promotional series featured an interview with Stu Phillips. Two songs are played from *The Beatles Song Book*, and Phillips discusses making the album. (Numbered 105/106).

The April, 1965, issue of Capitol's *Instant Music* promotional series was a Hollyridge Strings LP, containing shortened versions of songs from their earlier LP's (T-2310, T-2221, T-2202, T-2199, T-2156, and T-2116). The album, *Minute Masters*, is numbered Capitol PRO-2858/2859.

THE HOLLYRIDGE STRINGS
LUCY'S THEME FROM PARRISH (Witmarks, ASCAP)
 (2:24)—The Hollyridge Strings turn in a fine instrumental performance of the forthcoming movie theme. It's played with style and taste, and has a chance for a good share of the sales. Flip is "Theme From Hippodrome" (Gil, BMI) (2:23).
Capitol 4557

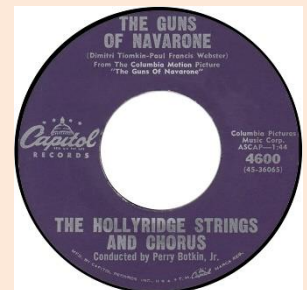
Non-Beatles-Related Singles

The Strings also released a few (commercial and promotional) 7-inch records, including: "Lucy's Theme"/"Theme from Hippodrome" (both sides conducted by Bunny Botkin), Capitol 4557

This was the Strings' first record. It was first mentioned in the April 24, 1961, issue of *Billboard*.

"The Guns of Navarone"/"A Thunder of Drums" (both sides conducted by Perry Botkin, Jr.), Capitol 4600

Mentioned in the August 5, 1961, issue of *Cash Box*.



"Moon River"/"Something Big" (both sides conducted by Perry Botkin, Jr.), Capitol 4631

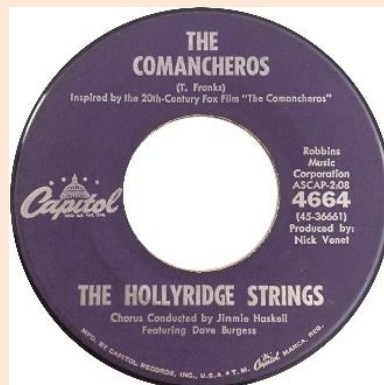
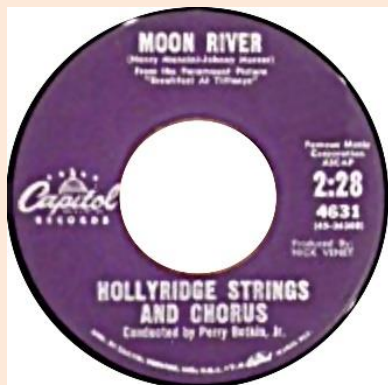
The single received a four-star review in the September 18, 1961, issue of *Billboard*. When the Strings' version of "Moon River" was released in several other countries in January, 1962, a non-USA song, "Green Eyes," was issued as its B-side. It was available, for example, in Japan as Capitol 7P-235. In Italy the single charted.

"The Comancheros"/"Devil at 4 O'Clock"/ (both sides conducted by Jimmie Haskell), Capitol 4664

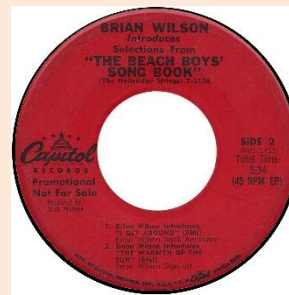
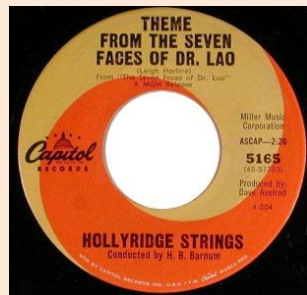
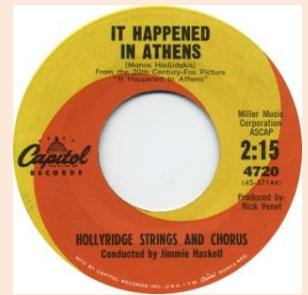
Released in November/December, 1961.

"Light in the Piazza"/"My Melancholy Baby" (both sides conducted by Perry Botkin, Jr.), Capitol 4687

Reviewed in *Cash Box*, January 27, 1962.



"It Happened in Athens"/"Song of Greece" (both sides conducted by Jimmie Haskell),
 Capitol 4720
 Released in February, 1962, the A-side received a four-star review in *Billboard*.



"The Fall of Love"/"The Seven Faces of Dr. Lao" Capitol 5165 (conducted by H.B. Barnum)
 Reviewed in *Billboard* April 11, 1964.

A promotional EP came out to coincide with the issue of the *Beach Boys Concert* album. One side of that EP featured Brian Wilson introducing two tracks from the *Beach Boys' Song Book*. It is numbered Capitol PRO-2754/5.

"L-O-V-E"/"Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer," Capitol 5432
 Issued to push the sales of the Cole album, the single failed to accomplish its task.
 Reviewed in *Billboard* May 29, 1965.



"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"/"Santa's Got a Brand New Bag," Capitol 5533
 Released in conjunction with the Christmas album, it received favorable reviews but did not chart.



Finally, there was also an LP by a Capitol group called the **Hollyridge Singers**: a cover of the soundtrack to *Skyscraper*, Capitol (S)T-2411. Sid Feller conducted the Singers.
 In conjunction with the LP, one single appeared: "The Gaiety"/"More than One Way," Capitol 5551.

This page was last updated on 19 De 22.
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