



----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



33

**“SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *WILD IN THE STREETS*) ARTIST: **MAX FROST AND THE TROOPERS** WRITER: BARRY MANN, CYNTHIA WEIL PUBLISHER: SCREEN GEMS EMI MUSIC INC. TIME: 1:57  
PRODUCER: MIKE CURB WITH HARLEY HATCHER SPECIAL THANKS: JIM NICHOLSON TOWER 419, 1968

The biggest film ever released by American International Pictures was *Wild In The Streets* (1968); Jim Nicholson, president of the company, asked Curb to produce the soundtrack. Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil wrote the songs and Curb produced them.

Curb signed Harley Hatcher, just out of the Armed Forces, to a songwriting contract, then worked with him

as a producer and as an engineer of this soundtrack; Hatcher has remained with Curb's companies since then.

Max Frost was the name of the lead character in the film; The song “Nothing Can Change The Shape Of Things To Come” reached number 22 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 in the fall of 1968.

34

**“KILLERS THREE THEME”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *KILLERS THREE*) ARTIST: **MERLE HAGGARD** WRITER: MERLE HAGGARD PUBLISHER: SONY/ATV TREE PUBLISHING TIME: 4:58 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB, HARLEY HATCHER AND JERRY STYNER SPECIAL THANKS: DICK CLARK TOWER 5141, 1968

34A

**“GONNA HAVE A GOOD TIME”** ARTIST: **KAY ADAMS** WRITER: HARLEY HATCHER PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 1:40 PRODUCER: HARLEY HATCHER FOR SIDEWALK PRODUCTIONS SPECIAL THANKS: CLIFFIE STONE AND EDDIE RAY TOWER 445

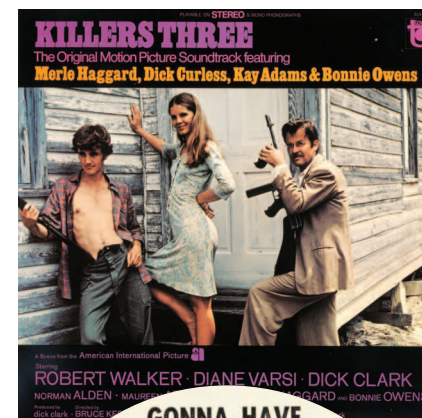
34B

**“ALL I NEED IS YOU”** (LOVE THEME FROM *KILLER'S THREE*) ARTIST: **DICK CURLESS** WRITER: HARLEY HATCHER PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:50 PRODUCER: HARLEY HATCHER FOR SIDEWALK PRODUCTIONS SPECIAL THANKS: EDDIE RAY TOWER 45-62295

*Killers Three* was released in 1968, produced by Dick Clark and featuring a soundtrack full of country songs including “Mama Tried,” which was written for the film by Merle Haggard.

Curb asked Harley Hatcher to work with Haggard on a song that could be used as a theme for the movie, and the two wrote “Killers Three.” Mike produced the sound-

track album with Jerry Styner and Hatcher. The artists featured on the soundtrack were part of Curb's early relationship with West Coast country artists like Kay Adams, Dick Curless and Don Epperson. Eddie Ray introduced Mike Curb to Cliffie Stone, who was instrumental in guiding him as he recorded his early country artists.



----- { 1967 } -----

*“The Killers Three theme was such a great example of the way movies and music worked together — Merle Haggard was starring with Dick Clark, and the soundtrack featured Merle’s hit ‘Mama Tried.’ We also worked with Merle on the theme song, along with a host of other leading artists on the soundtrack. It created cross-promotion between the music and the soundtrack that turned out to be a very successful formula for future projects.”*

—MIKE CURB





## DISCOGRAPHY

**“STORE STEALING”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *MARYJANE*, STARRING FABIAN)  
ARTIST: **THE SIDEWALK SOUNDS** WRITERS: MIKE CURB, LAWRENCE BROWN PUBLISHER: DONNA DIJON MUSIC PUBLICATIONS (BMI) TIME: 1:53 PRODUCERS: MIKE CURB AND LAWRENCE BROWN SIDEWALK DT 5911, 1967

**“HELLCATS THEME”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *HELLCATS*) ARTIST: **THE ARROWS** WRITER: HEMRIC, STYNER PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:18 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB TOWER 5124, 1967

**“THEME FROM THE HARD RIDE/SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT”**  
ARTIST: **SOUNDS OF HARLEY/BILL MEDLEY** WRITER: HARLEY HATCHER PUBLISHER: HOME GROWN MUSIC, INC. (BMI)/TOP HAT MUSIC (BMI)

**“THEME FROM THE CYCLE SAVAGES”** (STARRING BRUCE DERN) ARTIST: **THE ARROWS** WRITER: JERRY STYNER PUBLISHER: MIRBY MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:16 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB AND JERRY STYNER AIR 1033, 1969

**“HIDIN’ FROM MYSELF”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *DR. GOLDFOOT AND THE GIRL BOMBS*) ARTIST: **PAUL AND THE PACK** WRITER: HEMRIC, STYNER PUBLISHER: MIRBY MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:02 PRODUCER: SIDEWALK PRODUCTIONS

**“IT’S A BIKINI WORLD”** ARTISTS: **THE ANIMALS, THE GENTRYS, THE TOYS** WRITER: MIKE CURB, BOB SUMMERS PUBLISHER: SONY/ATV SONGS LLC O/B/O DONNA DIJON MUSIC PUBLISHING (BMI)

In the film *Maryjane*, teen idol Fabian starred as a high school teacher and football coach framed by the principal and police chief for possession of marijuana. The romance involved Fabian pursuing Diane McBain, with Kevin Coughlin featured as the star football player. Directed by Maury Dexter, the film’s soundtrack includes “Store Stealing,” co-written by Mike Curb and Lawrence Brown, who also produced the soundtrack.

“*The Hellcats Theme*,” also known as “Biker Babes,” starred Ross Hagen and Dee Duffy and was directed by Robert Slatzer. Released in 1967, the film was about a soldier coming home from war to avenge his brother’s murder. The movie included several biker scenes, and the theme, written by the team of Jerry Styner and Guy Hemric, was produced by Mike Curb. Curb’s group, The Arrows, led by Davie Allan, was the artist on the soundtrack.

The ‘60s and ‘70s saw Mike Curb composing and producing several movies. He was fortunate to have business relationships with Jerry Styner, Harley Hatcher

and other talented composers who could also supervise films. “The Theme From The Hard Ride” was composed and supervised by Harley Hatcher. “Hell’s Belles” was one of the early Les Baxter - Sidewalk soundtracks.

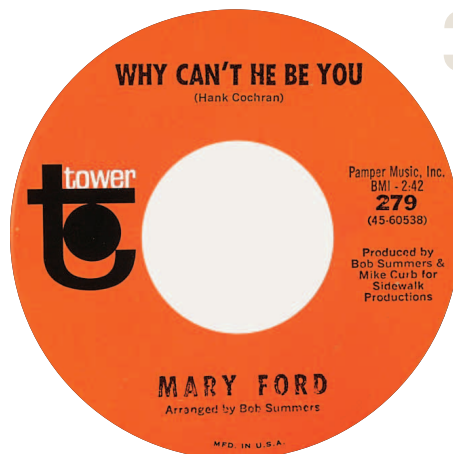
The 1969 film *Cycle Savages* starred Bruce Dern as “Keeg.” Also in the movie were Chris Robinson (who later starred in the TV soap opera *The Bold and the Beautiful*), Melody Patterson (who was on *F-Troop*) and Casey Kasem, who co-produced and played Keeg’s brother. Dern plays the leader of a biker gang who threatens to crush the hands of an artist trying to sketch him. Dern later became a major Hollywood actor. The theme from the movie was written by Jerry Styner, and the soundtrack was produced by Styner and Mike Curb.

The film *It’s a Bikini World* starred Tommy Kirk, Deborah Waller, and Bobby Boris-Pickett; Pickett was known for his recording of “The Monster Mash,” a number-one pop hit in 1962. The film featured music by The Gentrys, The Animals and The Toys; the songs were provided by





----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



36

**“WHY CAN'T HE BE YOU”** ARTIST: **MARY FORD** WRITER: HANK COCHRAN PUBLISHER: SONY/ATV TREE  
PUBLISHING TIME: 2:42 PRODUCER: BOB SUMMERS AND MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: MEL SHAUER TOWER 279, 1965

Les Paul and Mary Ford were a pop duo in the late 1940s and early 1950s whose string of hits include “Lover,” “How High The Moon,” and “Mocking Bird.” Ford’s real name was Colleen Summers and she was well known on the West Coast as a singer in groups like The Sunshine Girls before she met Paul, who encouraged her to make the name change.

“Why Can’t He Be You” was written by Hank

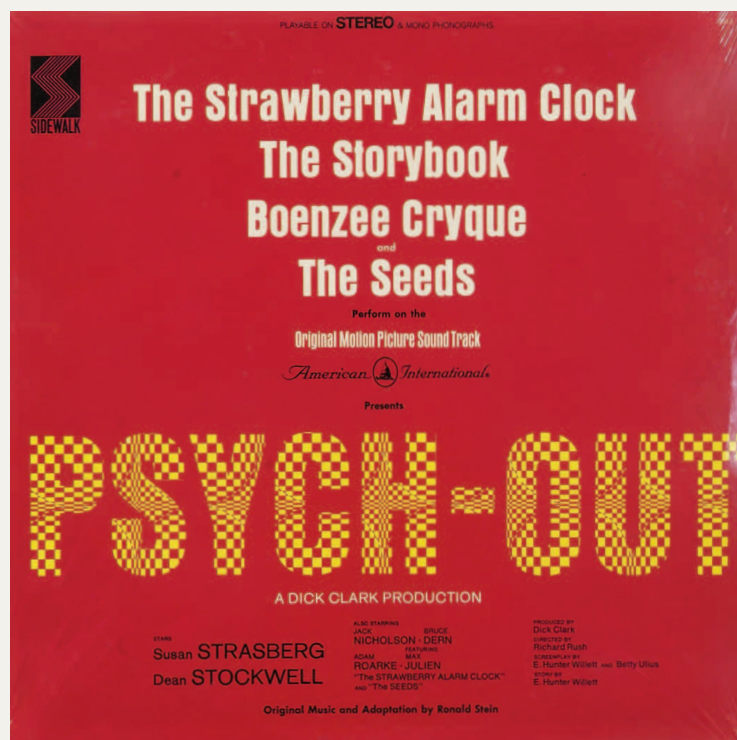
Cochran and recorded by Patsy Cline on an album. The song was a well-known one of Cline’s, but not a hit single at that time; Curb decided to make a version of the song that would appeal to the adult contemporary market. Working with Mike on this project was Bob Summers – the younger brother of Mary Ford – who was also a member of The Mike Curb Congregation. Summers was a talented guitarist who had been taught to play by Les Paul.

37

**“HAWAIIAN CIRCUS”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *GOLDEN BREED*) ARTIST: **THE RIPTIDES** WRITER: MIKE CURB  
PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 1:40 CAPITOL 2886, 1968

The 1968 film *Golden Breed* was a documentary on surfers in search of “the perfect wave.” Filmed in California, Peru, Hawaii and Mexico, the movie was pro-

duced by Dale Davis and featured Mickey Munoz, Nat Young, Davis and other young surfers.



38

**“THE WORLD IS ON FIRE”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *PSYCH-OUT*) ARTIST: **STRAWBERRY ALARM CLOCK** WRITER: S.A. CLOCK PUBLISHER: SUEDE MUSIC  
TIME: 3:31 SPECIAL THANKS: DICK CLARK SIDEWALK 5913, 1968

38A

**“TWO FINGERS POINTING AT YOU”** ARTIST: **SEEDS** WRITER: SKY SAXON  
PUBLISHER: NEIL MUSIC, INC. (BMI)

*Psych-Out* was produced by Dick Clark and released in 1968. It was directed by Richard Rush and featured Jack Nicholson, Susan Strasberg, Dean Stockwell, Bruce Dern, Adam Roarke and Garry Marshall. The story is set in San Francisco in the flower-power era, so it’s appropriate that Strawberry Alarm Clock is featured on the soundtrack. The psychedelic band was formed in 1967 in Santa Barbara, California, and that year had their biggest hit, “Incense and Peppermints.” The lead singer on that song was teenager Greg Munford – not a member of the band.

One of the other exciting bands that recorded for the *Psych Out* movie was the

West Coast rock n’ roll band known as The Seeds. They recorded the song “Two Fingers Pointing At You” for the movie *Two Fingers Pointing At You*, which was very reminiscent of their biggest hit record, “Pushin’ Too Hard.” The Seeds were one of the original garage bands from Los Angeles. Sidewalk Records released the soundtrack for this film.

Mike Curb made a number of trips to San Francisco during the 1960s and always managed to live in two worlds – he was part of “the establishment,” working with major executives in the record and movie businesses, as well as a part of the Baby Boomer generation who loved the music rooted in rock n’ roll.



## DISCOGRAPHY

39

**"EIGHT YOUNG MEN"** (FROM THE *DEVIL'S 8* SOUNDTRACK) ARTIST: **SIDEWALK SOUNDS (STARRING CHRISTOPHER GEORGE)** WRITER: MIKE CURB, GUY HEMRIC PUBLISHER: DONNA DIJON MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:34  
PRODUCER: JERRY STYNER MUSIC DIRECTION: MIKE CURB SIDEWALK 5160, 1969

In *Devil's 8*, also known as *8 Young Men*, an FBI agent helps eight men escape from prison in exchange for help bringing a moonshiner and murderer to justice. The plot is similar to the storyline from the movie *The Dirty Dozen*. The movie was directed by Burt Topper and

starred Christopher George, Fabian, Ron Rifkin and Leslie Parrish. The theme song for the movie was written by Mike Curb and Guy Hemric, with Jerry Styner producing the recording for Curb's studio group, The Sidewalk Sounds.



40

**"THE DEVIL AIN'T A LONELY WOMAN'S FRIEND"** ARTIST: **TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD** WRITER: DALLAS FRAZIER AND S. SHAFER PUBLISHER: SONY ACUFF ROSE MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:43 PRODUCER: STEVE STONE FOR CURBSTONE PRODUCTIONS SPECIAL THANKS: CLIFFIE STONE CAPITOL P-4160, 1975

Mike Curb met Cliffie Stone in the Capitol Tower through their mutual friend, Eddie Ray. Stone had at one time been head of Country A&R at Capitol, but by the 1960s, he had been replaced by Ken Nelson. His office was close to Capitol and he was primarily a publisher by 1975. "Stone was frustrated because Capitol was passing on some of his really good artists," said Curb. "So he decided to offer me the artists that Capitol wasn't inter-

ested in." That's how Curb came to work with Dick Curless, Kay Adams and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

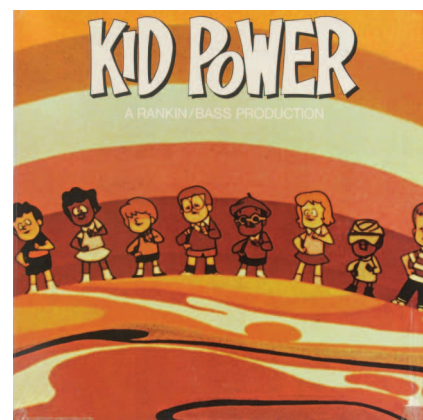
"Cliffie originally signed Tennessee Ernie Ford to Capitol," Mike said, "but he arranged for his son, Steve, and Curb Productions to produce Ford." This was particularly meaningful to Curb, because Tennessee Ernie Ford was his father's favorite artist.

41

**"A MAN HAS TO LOVE"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *IF HE HOLLERS, LET HIM GO!*) ARTIST: **BARBARA MCNAIR** WRITER: SAMMY FAIN, CHARLES MARTIN PUBLISHER: FAIN MUSIC/ CINERAMA MUSIC INC./SIDEWALK MUSIC COMPANY TIME: 3:03 EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: MIKE CURB TOWER 5152, 1969

Singer Barbara McNair starred in the 1968 film *If He Hollers, Let Him Go!* and sang the soundtrack song "A Man Has To Love," written by Sammy Fain and Charles Martin. The plot involved a black man (Raymond St. Jacques) falsely imprisoned for the murder of a white

woman who breaks out in order to clear his name. McNair later starred in her own television series and appeared in a number of television shows and movies, including Elvis Presley's last movie, *A Change Of Habit*. She also formerly recorded for Motown Records.



42

**"EVERYBODY'S GOT FINGERS"** ARTIST: **THE CURBSTONES** WRITER: MELANIE BURKE, JOHN BURKE, SOLOMON BURKE PUBLISHER: THE KIDS MUSIC, INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:03 PRODUCER: BOB SUMMERS SPECIAL THANKS: SOLOMON BURKE MGM 3846, 1969

*Kid Power* was an animated ABC-TV program in 1972. It was directed by Jules Bass and Arthur Rankin, Jr., and featured the voices of April Winchell, Donald Fullilove and Jay Silverheels, Jr. The song "Everybody's Got Fingers" was sung by The Curbstones, a group comprised of the four youngsters in The Mike Curb

Congregation who had appeared on *The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour*.

Solomon Burke, a legendary soul performer, worked on the song because the show's producers wanted an inspirational rhythm and blues sound. Later, Curb produced Solomon Burke for Chess Records.



## ----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



43

**"ANYONE FOR TENNIS"** (THEME FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *SAVAGE SEVEN*)ARTIST: **CREAM FEATURING ERIC CLAPTON** WRITER: ERIC CLAPTON, M. SHARPE

PUBLISHER: UNICHAPPELL MUSIC, INC. TIME: 2:39 PRODUCER: FELIX PAPPALARDI

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: AHMET ERTEGUN ATCO 33-245, 1969

The film *Savage Seven*, released in 1968, was directed by Richard Rush and starred Robert Walker Jr., Joanna Frank, John Garwood, Larry Bishop and Adam Roarke; legendary guitarist Duane Eddy also had a role in the movie. It featured a conflict between a group of bikers and some Native Americans and contained a great line: "If I'm going to be a bear, it might as well be a grizzly."

The West Coast biker movies had developed a cult following, which caused labels to become interested in releasing the soundtracks. Atlantic Records released this soundtrack on their Atco label, and label head Ahmet Ertegun allowed Curb to use Atlantic artists for the album.

Cream, featuring Eric Clapton, wrote and recorded "Anyone For Tennis" in San Francisco, specifically for the film. The song hit the *Billboard* chart in conjunction with the movie.



Cream featuring Eric Clapton



44

**"UNCONSCIOUS POWER"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE SAVAGE SEVEN*) ARTIST: **IRON BUTTERFLY** WRITER:

INGLE, WEISS, BUSHY PUBLISHER: WARNER-TAMERLANE PUBLISHING COMPANY (BMI) TIME: 2:30 PRODUCER: CHARLES

GREENE AND BRIAN STONE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: MIKE CURB ATCO 33-245, 1969

On the soundtrack, in addition to Cream, was Iron Butterfly, the premier hard rock act of their time. Iron Butterfly was formed in San Diego in 1966 by Doug Ingle, Ron Bushy, Jerry Penrod, Darryl DeLoach and Danny Weiss; the following year they had a recording contract with ATCO, a division of Atlantic. Iron Butterfly recorded the song "Unconscious Power" for *The Savage Seven* soundtrack.

The opportunity to work on cutting edge soundtrack albums allowed Curb to work with major rock artists, film producers, actors and actresses.



Iron Butterfly

45

**"EVERYONE SHOULD OWN A DREAM"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE SAVAGE SEVEN*) ARTIST: **JOHNNY CRAWFORD** WRITER: GUY HEMRIC/JERRY HOWARD STYNER PUBLISHER: DONNA DIJON MUSIC/MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI)

TIME: 2:14 PRODUCER: BOB SUMMERS

45A

**"ANGELICA"** ARTIST: **JOHNNY CRAWFORD** WRITER: JERRY STYNER, GUY HEMRIC PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC/DIJON MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:14 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB AND JERRY STYNER SIDEWALK RECORDS

Mike Curb and Jerry Styner produced this recording by Johnny Crawford, an original Mouseketeer on *The Mickey Mouse Club* who rose to fame as Mark McCain, son of Luke McCain (Chuck Connors) on *The Rifleman*.

Crawford was signed to Del-Fi Records and had a Top 10 hit with "Cindy's Birthday" in 1962. Crawford later

became a big band singer and led the Johnny Crawford Dance Orchestra.

His recording of "Everyone Should Own A Dream" was the vocal version of the love theme from the film *The Savage Seven*, which Mike Curb produced for the Atlantic Records soundtrack. The single was released on Curb's Sidewalk label.





## DISCOGRAPHY

**46** **“GOOD MORNING SUNRISE”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *3 IN THE ATTIC*) ARTIST: **CHAD STUART** WRITER: WAYNE IRWIN PUBLISHER: MUSHROOM MUSIC (ASCAP) TIME: 3:28  
PRODUCER: CHAD STUART EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SIDEWALK 944, 1969

Chad (David Stuart Chadwick) and Jeremy (Clyde) were a British duo best known for their Top 10 hit “A Summer Song” in 1964. They had a number of chart records in the mid-1960s but went their separate ways because Jeremy wanted to pursue acting.

This recording of “Good Morning Sunrise” came from

the 1968 film *3 In the Attic*, starring Christopher Jones, Yvette Mimieux, Judy Pace, Maggie Thrett and Nan Martin.



**47** **“ON THE MOVE WITH CHEVROLET”** (CHEVROLET THEME) ARTIST: **MIKE CURB** WRITER: MIKE CURB  
PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 1:02 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: JOHN DELOREAN AND  
PIERRE COSETTE 1969

**47A** **“MEAN LITTLE MONZA”** ARTIST: **MIKE CURB** WRITER: MIKE CURB, MARY DEAN PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB  
MUSIC (BMI)/ NICATOR MUSIC, INC. (BMI) TIME: 1:47 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB

Television producer Pierre Cosette hired Mike Curb and The Congregation to appear on a TV special sponsored by Chevrolet. After the show, Mike met Chevrolet executive John DeLorean, who invited him to write an up-tempo, rock-oriented song for a Chevy advertisement. Curb wrote “On The Move With Chevrolet,” which

became the company’s theme. GM asked Mike to come up with a commercial for the Monza, a sporty new car aimed at the youth market. “Mean Little Monza” was recorded by Curb’s studio group, The Buddies, and was on The Buddies album on Mercury.

**48** **“ONCE IN A LIFETIME”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE BIG BOUNCE*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB, GUY HEMRIC  
PUBLISHER: WARNER-TAMERLANE PUBLISHING (BMI) TIME: 2:40 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB  
SPECIAL THANKS: WILLIAM BELASCO WARNER BROS. SEVEN ARTS 1781, 1969

**48A** **“WHEN SOMEBODY CARES FOR YOU”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE BIG BOUNCE*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB AND GUY HEMRIC  
PUBLISHER: WARNER-TAMERLANE PUBLISHING (BMI) TIME: 2:40 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB  
SPECIAL THANKS: WILLIAM BELASCO WARNER BROS. SEVEN ARTS 1781, 1969

The movie *The Big Bounce* was originally released in 1969, directed by Alex March and written by Elmore Leonard, based on his novel. The movie starred Ryan O’Neal, Leigh Taylor-Young, Van Heflin, and Lee Grant and was released on Warner Brothers.

The talent agent William Belasco had met Mike Curb and offered to represent him doing music for major movies, which led to Mike scoring this film.

The soundtrack album, on which

Curb’s group recorded “When Somebody Cares For You” backed by a large orchestra, featured The Mike Curb Congregation prominently on the cover.

“This was the first time I ever scored a major film with a 60-piece orchestra,” said Curb. “This film was one of the first ones produced during the merger between Warner Brothers and Seven Arts. The soundtrack was actually released on the Warner Brothers Seven Arts label.”





## ----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



**“BIG IN VEGAS”** ARTIST: **BUCK OWENS** WRITER: BUCK OWENS, TERRY STAFFORD PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI)/ EXBROOK PUB. CO. (BMI)/ SONY/ATV TREE PUBLISHING(BMI) TIME: 3:05 CAPITOL 2646, 1969

**“BIG IN DALLAS”** ARTIST: **TERRY STAFFORD** WRITER: TERRY STAFFORD PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI)/TERRY STAFFORD MUSIC CO./EXBROOK PUB. CO. TIME: 3:38 PRODUCER: BOB SUMMER FOR SIDEWALK PRODUCTIONS WARNER-SEVEN ARTS

Buck Owens liked the song “Big In Dallas” by Terry Stafford, but changed it to “Big In Vegas,” which became the first BMI award-winning song for Curb’s music publishing company. Mike flew to Nashville to accept the award and met a number of people in the country music industry with whom he later worked.

Buck later recorded three new albums for Curb Records and also arranged for Curb to release all three volumes of his greatest hits.

**“IN MY ROOM”** ARTIST: **SAGITTARIUS** WRITER: BRIAN WILSON, GARY USHER PUBLISHER: IRVING MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:10 PRODUCER: KURT BOETTCHER, GARY USHER AND R. OLSEN SPECIAL THANKS: KURT BOETTCHER AND GARY USHER 1969

“In My Room” was the “B” side of The Beach Boys Top 10 hit “Be True To Your School” in 1963. “In My Room” also charted – reaching number 23 – a rare two-sided hit. Sagittarius was an L.A. studio group, and the recording came out on Together Records during the brief period when Transcontinental was distributing Sidewalk Records. “We were trying to create that next generation of

The Beach Boys or The Hondells,” said Curb. “We created a very colorful new label, Together Records, in order to attract special attention to this record.”

“In My Room” by Sagittarius reached the *Billboard* Hot 100 Chart in August 1969. In addition to playing guitar, Glen Campbell sang lead on Sagittarius’ first *Billboard* chart hit “My World Fell Down.” Curb Records later released two albums featuring Glen Campbell’s hits.



Jim Guercio and Mike Curb



**“QUESTIONS 67 & 68”** ARTIST: **CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY** WRITER: R. LAMM PUBLISHER: AURELIUS MUSIC/LAMMINATIONS MUSIC TIME: 4:45 PRODUCER: JAMES WILLIAM GUERCIO FOR POSEIDON PRODUCTIONS SPECIAL THANKS: JIM GUERCIO, LARRY FITZGERALD, AND DICK WHITEHOUSE COLUMBIA 4-45467, 1969

Mike Curb entered into an agreement with Transcontinental Corporation, which had purchased a number of independent distributors in order to create a national distribution network. Transcon, as it was called, was headed by Robert Lifton, who wanted to establish a label as part of this organization. Curb was in a venture with Jim Guercio at the time called Poseidon. Guercio had discovered a new band and Curb’s attorney, Dick Whitehouse, went to the Whiskey A-Go-Go on Sunset Strip in Los Angeles and signed the new group, Chicago Transit Authority, to the company. Helping negotiate the deal was the group’s manager, Larry Fitzgerald.

Guercio had made an agreement with

Columbia Records for a right of first refusal on acts produced by Guercio; Curb and Guercio wanted Chicago Transit Authority to be the first artist on their Poseidon Productions label. But Clive Davis, president of Columbia Records at the time, insisted the group be distributed by Columbia because of a prior contract with Guercio. In the end, Columbia won that battle; however, this is the recording made by Poseidon that was the beginning of the career of the group who became known simply as Chicago.

“Although Guercio and Clive Davis never really understood one another, it was incredible for me to have the opportunity to play a role in the project,” said Curb.



## DISCOGRAPHY

**52** **“EVIL WOMAN”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE SIDEHACKERS*) ARTIST: **CROW** WRITER: L. WIEGAND, R. WIEGAND, D. WAGGONER PUBLISHER: YUGGOTH MUSIC CO. TIME: 3:03 PRODUCER: BOB MONACO SPECIAL THANKS: KENNY MYERS AMARET ST 5002, 1969

Mike Curb and Kenny Myers formed a label named Ameret Records in Los Angeles. After losing Chicago to Columbia, they wanted a group with a similar sound and found it in Crow, whose record of “Evil Woman” entered the *Billboard* Hot 100 in October 1969 and stayed there for 15 weeks, reaching number 19. The group went on to have a total of five chart records.

*The Sidehackers* motion picture was released by Crown

International Pictures, which was a competitor to American International Pictures. Mike Curb and Jerry Styner created the soundtrack for the movie, which was released on Ameret Records.

Earlier in his career, Mike had reported to Kenny Myers, who was the head of Mercury Records when Curb was working with Nick Venet.



**53** **“GREAT BALLS OF FIRE”** ARTIST: **MAE WEST AND THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: OTIS BLACKWELL, JACK HAMMER PUBLISHER: UNICHAPPELL MUSIC INC./ CHAPPELL & CO., MYSTICAL LIGHT MUSIC TIME: 1:49 PRODUCER: IAN WHITCOMB SPECIAL THANKS: JERRY STYNER AND JIM AUBREY MGM 4869, 1969

**53A** **“SEVEN NIGHTS A WEEK”** ARTIST: **MAE WEST AND THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB, GUY HEMRIC PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC

Mike Curb and Jim Aubrey (former president of the CBS television network) worked together on the soundtrack for the legendary Mae West’s story. The Mike Curb Congregation recorded the songs with Mae West, and it was amazing how comfortable she was singing rock n’ roll

at 80 years old. Ironically, while they were working on the project, Aubrey became president of MGM, and during a break in the recording session, he and Mike agreed to merge Curb Records with MGM.

**54** **“ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA”** (FROM *2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY*, VOLUME 2) ARTIST: **BERLIN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** WRITER: RICHARD STRAUSS PUBLISHER: RFT MUSIC PUBLISHING CORP. (BMI)

*2001: A Space Odyssey* was a Stanley Kubrick film released in April of 1968. “*2001: A Space Odyssey*, Volume 2,” an album of classical music inspired by

the film, was Mike Curb’s first project after merging Sidewalk Records with MGM and becoming president of the label in 1969.



**55** **“WALK UNASHAMED”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *TICK, TICK, TICK*) ARTIST: **TOMPALL AND THE GLASER BROTHERS** WRITER: JAMES GLASER PUBLISHER: GLASER PUBLISHING TIME: 3:09 MUSIC SUPERVISOR: MIKE CURB AND JERRY STYNER MGM SE-4667ST, 1970

*Tick, Tick, Tick* was a movie about racism starring former football star Jim Brown, George Kennedy, Fredric March, Lynn Carlin and Don Stroud. Released in 1970, the movie’s soundtrack featured Tompall and The Glaser Brothers. Mike Curb, as president of MGM Records, was music supervisor and wrote the liner notes to the album. The album featured “Gentle On My Mind” and

“Woman, Woman” – a song written by Jim Glaser that was a hit for Gary Puckett and The Union Gap – as well as “Walk Unashamed.”

Tompall and The Glaser Brothers (Chuck and Jim) toured with Marty Robbins and Johnny Cash before signing with MGM; in 1970, they won the Top Vocal Group award from the Country Music Association.





----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



56

**“VENUS”** ARTIST: **THE SHOCKING BLUE** WRITER: ROBERT LEEUWEN PUBLISHER: DAYGLOW MUSIC, INC. C/O JULES KURZ (ASCAP) TIME: 3:05 PRODUCER: ROBBIE VAN LEEUWEN SPECIAL THANKS: JERRY ROSS COLOSSUS C-1012, 1969

Jerry Ross’s label, Heritage, was in litigation with MGM before Mike Curb arrived. Curb suggested they “settle the past,” form a new label and have it distributed by MGM.

Ross formed Colossus and released “Venus,” which had been a hit in Europe for a Dutch group. Shocking Blue was

formed in 1967 by guitarist Robbie Van Leeuwen. After some initial success, Mariska Veres was named the lead singer and, along with band members Leeuwen, bassist Klassje van der Wal and drummer Cornelius van der Beek, recorded “Venus,” which entered the *Billboard* Hot 100 in December 1969 and rose all the way to number one.

57

**“LONG LONESOME HIGHWAY”** ARTIST: **MICHAEL PARKS** WRITER: JAMES HENDRICKS PUBLISHER: JONATHAN THREE MUSIC (BMI)/ EMI SOSAHA MUSIC INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:05

Michael Parks was successful in both motion pictures and television. As an actor, his movies included *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, *Back In Town*, *Wild Seed* and *Night Must Fall*. He starred in the television series *Channing* and later starred as Jim Bronson in the series *Then Came Bronson*.

Parks introduced the song “Long Lonesome Highway” on *Then Came Bronson* and the song became a pop and country hit, reaching the Top 20 of the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart.



58

**“SO YOUNG”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *ZABRISKIE POINT*) ARTIST: **ROY ORBISON** WRITER: ROY ORBISON, ROGER CHRISTIAN, MIKE CURB PUBLISHER: EMI HASTINGS CATALOG INC./ BARBARA ORBISON MUSIC TIME: 3:26 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: BARBARA ORBISON MGM K14121, 1970

Roy Orbison was deeply in love with his future wife, Barbara, and he wrote this song with Mike Curb and Roger



Christian while Barbara was in the room. “So Young” was composed for the film *Zabriskie Point* (1970). The lyrics capture the emotion of young love: “And if you live just for today/ The day may soon be done/ But there’s a place where dreams always stay so young,” captured by that glorious, soaring voice of Roy Orbison that wraps a warmth around the listener. The song ultimately reached the *Billboard* chart.

*Roy Orbison’s wife, Barbara, Mike Curb and The Bee Gees’ Barry Gibb*



## DISCOGRAPHY



**59** **"CRUMBLING LAND"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *ZABRISKIE POINT*) ARTIST: **PINK FLOYD** WRITER: DAVID GILMOUR, NICK MASON, ROGER WATERS, RICHARD WRIGHT  
PUBLISHER: EMI FEIST CATALOG INC. (ASCAP) TIME: 4:12 SPECIAL THANKS: EDDIE RAY  
MGM SE-4668ST, 1970

**59A** **"LOVE SCENE"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *ZABRISKIE POINT*) ARTIST: **JERRY GARCIA OF THE GRATEFUL DEAD** WRITER: JERRY GARCIA PUBLISHER: MGM MUSIC  
COMPANY TIME: 7:04 MGM SE-4668ST, 1970

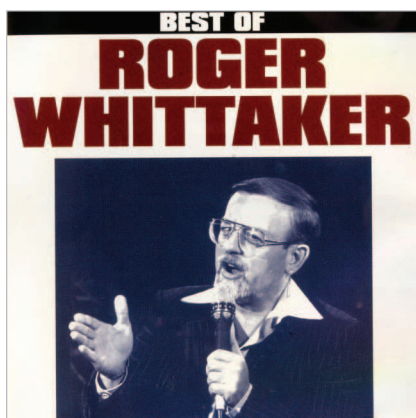
Pink Floyd was formed in 1965 by Sid Barrett, Richard Wright, Roger Waters and Nick Mason; in 1968, David Gilmour replaced Barrett. Pink Floyd was only a mildly successful rock act when they recorded on the soundtrack for *Zabriskie Point*. Their recording of "Crumbling Land" for the soundtrack came before they achieved fame with their albums *Dark Side Of The Moon* (1973) and *The Wall* (1979). Mike Curb was aware of the group because Eddie Ray had asked him to attend a mastering session for their 1967 album *The Piper At The Gates Of Dawn*.

Before he became a founding member of The Grateful Dead in 1965, Jerry Garcia had performed in folk and bluegrass bands. Mother McCree's Uptown Jug Champions, formed in 1964, evolved into The Warlocks, who then evolved into The Grateful Dead. The Dead's first major label recording contract was with MGM, but those first recordings, made in 1966, were not released until 1970 when Curb released the Vintage Dead and Historic Dead albums. Garcia's recording of "Love Scene" was featured in the film *Zabriskie Point*, and Curb served as executive producer of the soundtrack album.

## { 1970 }

*"Working with Pink Floyd early in their career was a great experience, and our collaboration with Jerry Garcia opened the door for us to release the Vintage Dead and Historic Dead albums that both hit the Billboard charts."*

—MIKE CURB



**60** **"NO BLADE OF GRASS"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *NO BLADE OF GRASS*) ARTIST: **ROGER WHITTAKER** WRITER: LOUIS NELIUS, MIKE CURB PUBLISHER: EMI-FEIST CATALOG INC. TIME: 2:48 SPECIAL THANKS: CORNEL WILDE 1970

The movie *No Blade of Grass*, based on the book by John Christopher (1956), was a film about ecology that was released on MGM in 1970. Directed by Cornel Wilde, the movie starred Jean Wallace (Wilde's wife at the time). Wilde, using the alias "Louis Nelius," and Mike Curb wrote the theme song, which was sung by

Roger Whittaker.

"Charles Curb" is listed as a songwriter, because the performing rights were controlled by ASCAP, and Mike — a BMI writer — could not use his own name. Curb used the name "Mike Stout," his mother's maiden name, when a song was registered with SESAC.





----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----



61

**“LOVING YOU WILL NEVER GROW OLD”** ARTIST: **LOIS JOHNSON** WRITER: DON SCOGGINS  
PUBLISHER: BOCEPHUS MUSIC, INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:48 PRODUCER: JIM VIENNEAU FOR CURB-VIENNEAU PRODUCTIONS

Lois Johnson had 20 chart records – four of them as duets with Hank Williams Jr., with whom she toured from 1970 to 1973. Johnson was with MGM when Mike Curb was president; later, Curb and Jim Vienneau formed

a production company and took her to 20th Century Fox Records, headed by Russ Regan, where her single “Loving You Will Never Grow Old” was a Top 10 record.

----- { 1967 } -----

*“Thank you, Mike Curb, for the spirit, the enthusiasm, and the leadership with which you inspired the MGM Records Division.”*

—FRANK ROSENFELT, PRESIDENT, MGM



62

**“GROOVE DROPS”** ARTIST: **JIMMY SMITH** WRITER: JIMMY SMITH PUBLISHER: EDMY MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.  
(BMI) TIME: 4:15 VERVE SVLP 9253, 1970

During the early 1960s, Jimmy Smith – a jazz artist who performed on the Hammond organ – signed with Verve Records, the legendary jazz label founded by Norman Grantz. “Groove Drops” was recorded for this label, which came under the MGM banner when that

label purchased Verve from Grantz.

Mike Curb became president of MGM and Verve and had the opportunity to work with Smith on his final *Billboard* chart album, *Groove Drops*.

63

**“THE DOLPHIN”** ARTIST: **THE BILL EVANS TRIO** WRITER: REUBEN FISHER, LUIS MAINZI DA CUNHA ECA  
PUBLISHER: SONGSELLERS COMPANY (ASCAP) TIME: 3:05 PRODUCER: HELEN KEANE

While there were various members of The Bill Evans Trio, many people feel The Trio’s greatest years were when Marty Morell played drums and Eddie Gomez played bass. Evans is known for having inspired many successful pianists, including Herbie Hancock.

Curb released the Bill Evans Trio album *From Left To Right*, featuring his classical interpretation of “What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life.” His ability to shift back and forth between the acoustic and electric pianos is displayed on his recording of “The Dolphin.”



## DISCOGRAPHY

64

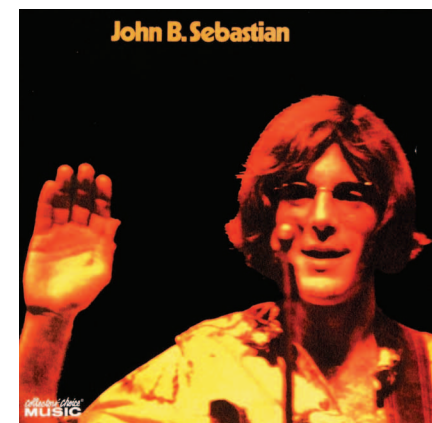
**"MOBILE LINE"** ARTIST: **JOHN SEBASTIAN** WRITER: JOHN SEBASTIAN PUBLISHER: CHICKEN FLATS MUSIC, INC. (BMI)

After Curb merged with MGM, John Sebastian – former lead singer of The Lovin' Spoonful – released two albums, *John B. Sebastian* and *John Sebastian Live* in 1970 on MGM. Sebastian had become disillusioned with the prior management of MGM and decided he wanted to be with Warner Brothers.

Mike Curb was contacted by Warner Brothers Chairman Mo Ostin, who several years earlier had signed

Curb's band to Reprise. Ostin told Mike that a new agreement had been worked out and asked that the Sebastian albums be moved to Warner Brothers, to which Curb agreed.

Four years later, with Mo Ostin's support, the Warner/Curb record label was launched, which started a distribution relationship between Warner and Curb that still exists today.



65

**"SPILL THE WINE"** ARTIST: **ERIC BURDON AND WAR** WRITER: MILLER, SCOTT, OSKAR, ALLEN, DICKERSON, JORDON, BROWN PUBLISHER: UNIVERSAL-POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING TIME: 4:51 PRODUCER: JERRY GOLDSTEIN SPECIAL THANKS: STEVE GOLD MGM K14118, 1970

Eric Burdon was the lead singer for The Animals, who debuted in 1964 during the British Invasion. The group had a number of hits before they split and Burdon moved to Los Angeles in 1967.

There, he met the African-American funk band Night Shift, who changed their name to War. Mike Curb heard them perform at the Los Angeles Palladium and signed

them to MGM.

Their first single, "Spill The Wine," entered the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart in May 1970 and rose to number three, remaining on the chart for 21 weeks; it reached number one on *CashBox*. The group released two albums and two more singles before breaking up after a European tour in 1971.

66

**"SWEET GINGERBREAD MAN"** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: ALAN BERGMAN/MARILYN BERGMAN/MICHEL JEAN LEGRAND PUBLISHER: EMI FEIST CATALOG, INC. (ASCAP) TIME: 2:31 PRODUCER: PERRY BOTKIN, JR.

66A

**"NOBODY KNOWS"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *MAGIC GARDEN OF STANLEY SWEETHEART*) ARTIST: **BILL MEDLEY** WRITER: MICHEL LEGRAND, ALAN AND MARILYN BERGMAN PUBLISHER: LEO FEIST, INC. (ASCAP) TIME: 3:01 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB MGM K14145, 1970

The Mike Curb Congregation recorded "Sweet Gingerbread Man" and Bill Medley – who was half of The Righteous Brothers duo with Bobby Hatfield – sang "Nobody Knows" for the film *The Magic Garden Of*

*Stanley Sweetheart*. The 1970 film is about a college dropout trying to find himself. The lyrics to both songs were written by Alan and Marilyn Bergman, two members of the Songwriters Hall of Fame.



67

**"MONTEGO BAY"** ARTIST: **BOBBY BLOOM** WRITER: JEFF BARRY, BOBBY BLOOM PUBLISHER: EMI UNART CATALOG INC. TIME: 2:53 PRODUCER: JEFF BARRY SPECIAL THANKS: JEFF BARRY L&R LR-157, 1970

When Mike Curb was president of MGM, Jeff Barry brought him a tape of "Montego Bay" by Bobby Bloom. Curb loved it immediately and released it to radio.

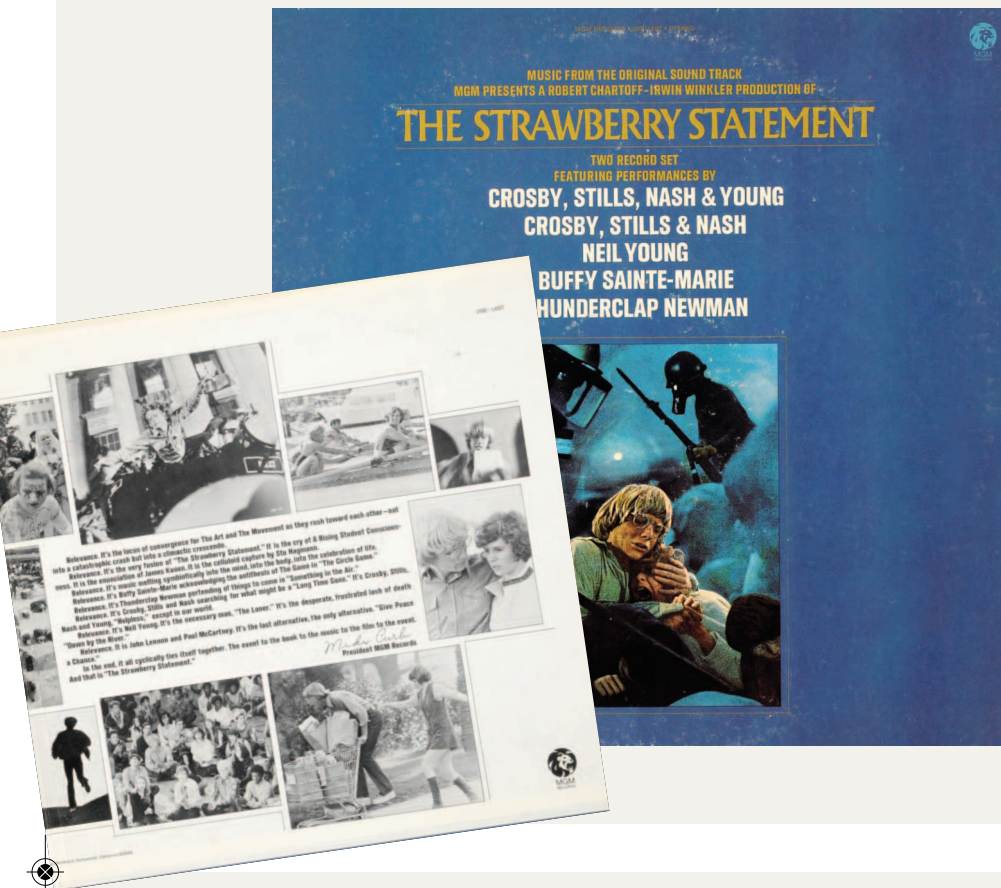
"It was very similar to 'Spill The Wine,' with a smooth Latina rock rhythm," said Curb. "Bobby Bloom was a

wonderful artist with an awesome voice – like Bill Medley – a white artist who sounded black."

The song reached number eight on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart.



{ MIKE CURB : 50 Years }



**68 "GIVE PEACE A CHANCE"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE STRAWBERRY STATEMENT*) WRITER: JOHN LENNON AND PAUL MCCARTNEY PUBLISHER: SONY/ATV TUNES LLC/EMI BLACKWOOD MUSIC COLLECTION TIME: 1:40 SPECIAL THANKS: DAVID GEFFEN MGM, 1970

**68A "LONG TIME GONE"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE STRAWBERRY STATEMENT*) ARTIST: **CROSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG** WRITER: DAVID CROSBY PUBLISHER: STAY STRAIGHT MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:46 SPECIAL THANKS: DAVID GEFFEN MGM, 1970

*The Strawberry Statement* was a movie about the student takeover at Columbia University that occurred in April of 1968.

The chorus of the Lennon-McCartney classic "Give Peace A Chance" was sung by the entire cast of the film. During the session for "Give Peace A Chance," Curb was in the studio as executive producer.

The soundtrack included some great rock acts, including Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. Although Curb did not produce any of the acts in the studio, he did have to pull the soundtrack together, which involved some difficult negotiations to obtain per-

mission for these recordings to be used.

Mike was president of MGM at the time, and Janis Ian had recorded for the label. Ian was managed by David Geffen, who wanted the masters back. Geffen called Curb to inquire about the masters and Curb told him the masters would be returned. A few months later, Geffen returned the favor by arranging permission for the Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young song to be included in the soundtrack album.

Curb wrote the liner notes on the album and was credited as Executive Producer.

**69 "EASY ON YOU"** ARTIST: **MICKY DOLENZ** WRITER: MICKY DOLENZ PUBLISHER: SCREEN GEMS EMI TIME: 1:57 PRODUCER: MICKY DOLENZ MGM K14309

Micky Dolenz went to high school with Mike Curb and recorded several songs as a solo artist for him, including the song "Easy On You." Dolenz became an original member of The Monkees, formed in 1965 in Los Angeles, and starred in the TV sitcom.

The son of an actor, Dolenz – who was the drummer for The Monkees – starred in *Circus Boy* (under the name Mickey Braddock) as a child. *The Monkees*, inspired by the Beatles film *A Hard Day's Night*, premiered in September 1966 and lasted until the end of 1968.

Michael Nesmith, another member of the group, wrote "Different Drum" for

The Stone Poneys featuring Linda Ronstadt, the first group signed by Curb to his Sidewalk label.



Michael Lloyd, Mike Curb and Mickey Dolenz



## DISCOGRAPHY

70

**“SPINNING WHEEL”** ARTIST: **CHET BAKER** WRITER: DAVID CLAYTON THOMAS PUBLISHER: EMI BLACKWOOD MUSIC, INC.

Chet Baker was one of the greatest jazz trumpet players and singers of all time, and Curb always felt fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with him. He suggested that Chet record the Blood, Sweat and Tears rock

hit “Spinning Wheel.”

“The unique thing about marrying jazz and rock is that both of these genres of music originated in America and lend themselves to creative improvisation,” Curb said.



71

**“THE NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES”** ARTIST: **STAN GETZ** WRITER: BUDDY BERNIER/JEROME BRAININ PUBLISHER: SONY/ATV/HARMONY (ASCAP)

Stan Getz was an incredible tenor saxophone player whose classic hits include “Desafinado” and “The Girl From Ipanema.”

“I had the thrill of working with Stan on his album *Didn't We*,” said Mike Curb. “The most amazing thing about him was his ability to take virtually any new or classic song and make it his own.”

Getz’s earlier successes were with the

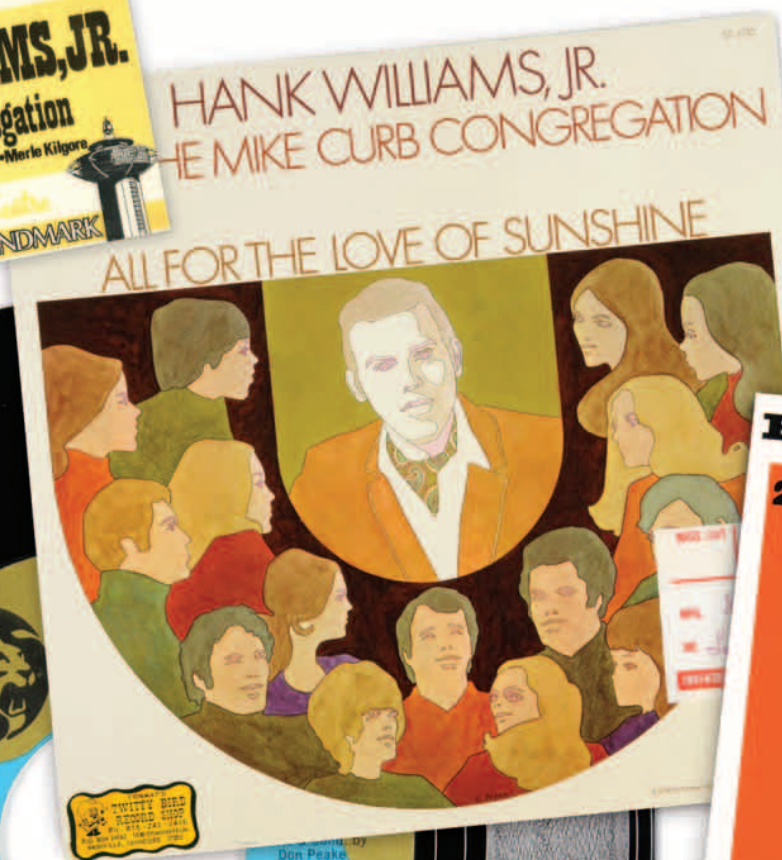
Woody Herman, Benny Goodman, Jimmy Dorsey and Stan Kenton bands, and he was able to make the transition into contemporary jazz music and succeed on the pop rock music charts, which enabled him to reach a whole new generation. “The Night Has A Thousand Eyes” was a Top Five pop hit for Bobby Vee in 1963. Getz recorded the song and made it “his own,” as he always did.

----- { **1970** } -----

*Stan Getz had the talent as a musician to play anything on the tenor saxophone. He was able to use that talent to cross over into new genres with hit songs.”*

—MIKE CURB





Mike Curb, Chill Wills and Hank Williams Jr. in 1969 receiving the BMI Award for their first number-one song "All for the Love of Sunshine"



Hank Williams Jr., Mike Curb and Buddy Lee. Buddy Lee was the booking agent for Hank Williams Jr. and the Mike Curb Congregation and along with Dick Frank helped bring Hank Jr. into the Curb/MGM relationship, which resulted in Hank's first #1 record "All For the Love Of Sunshine" that was co-written by Curb.

**72 "ALL FOR THE LOVE OF SUNSHINE"** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *KELLY'S HEROES*) ARTIST: **HANK WILLIAMS JR. WITH THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: HARLEY HATCHER, LALO SCHIFRIN AND MIKE CURB PUBLISHER: EMI HASTINGS CATALOG INC. (BMI) TIME: 3:52 PRODUCER: JIM VIENNEAU AND MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: MERLE KILGORE AND BUDDY LEE MGM K-14152, 1970

**72A "RAININ' IN MY HEART"** ARTIST: **HANK WILLIAMS JR. WITH THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: JAMES MOORE/JERRY WEST PUBLISHER: EXCELLOREC MUSIC (A DIVISION OF AVI MUSIC PUB. GROUP, INC.) (BMI) TIME: 2:53

**72B "AIN'T THAT A SHAME"** ARTIST: **HANK WILLIAMS JR. WITH THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: ANTOINE DOMINO/DAVE BARTHOLOMEW PUBLISHER: EMI UNART CATALOG INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:19

"All For The Love Of Sunshine" was released in 1970 when Hank Williams Jr. was 21 years old. It was his first number one record. Mike Curb was head of MGM at that time, and while Hank had recorded for the label he did not have an exclusive contract with them. Curb wanted to sign him to an exclusive artist's contract.

Mike met Hank Jr. through the artist's booking agent, Buddy Lee, who agreed that Hank would appear at the Landmark Hotel in Las Vegas with The Mike Curb Congregation as the opening act. Curb played the song "All For The Love Of Sunshine" – which he had written with Harley Hatcher for the movie *Kelly's Heroes* – for Hank, who agreed to record it.

This was the beginning of a long association between Mike Curb and Hank Williams Jr. The relationship grew in Las Vegas when Curb heard Hank playing old rhythm and blues songs like "Ain't That A Shame" and "Rainin' In My Heart" in between shows. Mike encouraged him to include those songs in his show and record them for the country market, backed by The Mike Curb Congregation. "Rainin' In My Heart" was Top Five on the Country chart and crossed over to the Hot 100 chart in 1971; "Ain't That A Shame" was a Top Ten record on the Country chart in 1972.





## DISCOGRAPHY

**“YOU AND YOUR BABY BLUES”** ARTIST: **SOLOMON BURKE** WRITER: BARRY WHITE, TONY SEPE, MARTY BROOKS PUBLISHER: SA-VETTE MUSIC CO./JANUARY MUSIC CORP. (BMI) TIME: 5:42 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB, HERMAN RUSH AND JERRY STYNER SPECIAL THANKS: JERRY STYNER

**“ALL FOR THE LOVE OF SUNSHINE”** ARTIST: **SOLOMON BURKE** WRITER: LALO SCHIFRIN, MIKE CURB, HARLEY HATCHER PUBLISHER: HASTINGS MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:53 SPECIAL THANKS: HARLEY HATCHER **MGM K14185**

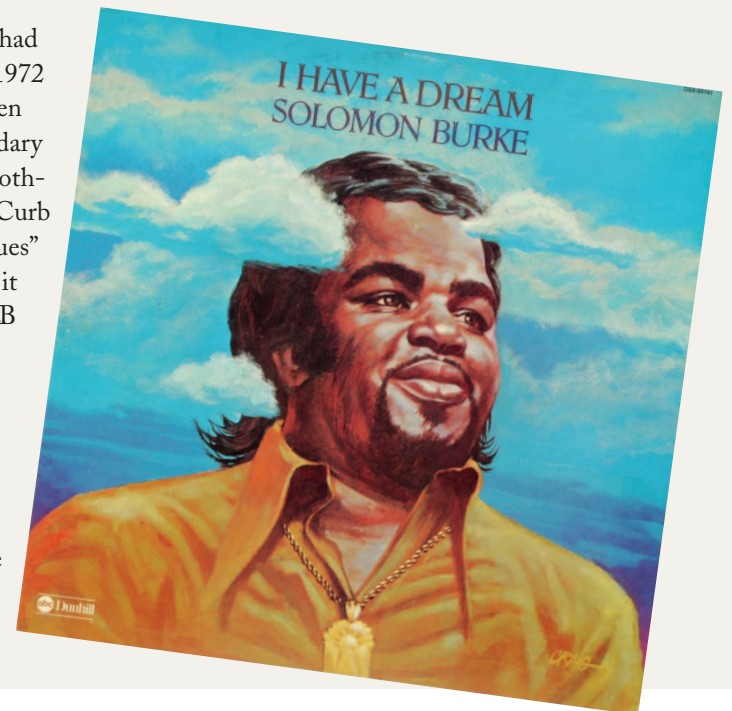
**“LOVE STREET AND FOOLS ROAD”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *COOL BREEZE*) ARTIST: **SOLOMON BURKE** WRITER: SOLOMON BURKE, SR. PUBLISHER: KIDS MUSIC, INC. (BMI) SPECIAL THANKS: HERMAN RUSH

Solomon Burke’s career started in 1954, when he first recorded for Apollo; he had his first chart record, “Just Out Of Reach (Of My Two Open Arms),” on Atlantic in 1971.

Curb signed Burke to MGM and had several chart recordings in 1971 and 1972 while Mike was head of the label. Then Curb placed him on Chess, the legendary Chicago label started by the Chess brothers (Leonard and Phil) in the 1940s. Curb co-produced “You And Your Baby Blues” with Herman Rush and Jerry Styner; it reached the Top 20 on *Billboard*’s R&B Chart in 1975. This was Burke’s final *Billboard* Hot 100 chart record.

Solomon Burke recorded an R&B version of “All For The Love Of Sunshine” and “I Got You.” Both songs were co-written by Mike Curb. Curb also produced Solomon’s tribute

to Martin Luther King which also featured The Mike Curb Congregation. The song “I Have A Dream” contains King’s actual voice.



**“MOTHERLY LOVE”** ARTIST: **THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION** WRITER: FRANK ZAPPA PUBLISHER: MUNCHKIN MUSIC CO. (ASCAP) PRODUCER: FRANK ZAPPA TIME: 2:45 SPECIAL THANKS: FRANK ZAPPA

The Mothers Of Invention was formed by the greatest rock satirist of our time, Frank Zappa. At the time of Curb’s involvement the new band was just being formed. The band later included Mark Volman, Bob Harris, Howard Kaylan, George Duke, Jim Pons, John Guerin and Jeff Simmons. While the band was being formed, Curb wanted to release an album containing the best music of the Mothers of Invention. Bill Graham had previously introduced Curb to Zappa and suggested that Curb call

Zappa to discuss the contents of “The Best Of” album. At first Zappa was opposed to the idea but he later changed his mind and contacted Curb. He told Curb “I’ve got good news and bad news. The good news is I will approve the line up of the album, but the bad news is that I want to refer to the album as *The Worst Of The Mothers Of Invention*”. The album subsequently hit the *Billboard* charts and Curb, to this day, has positive memories of his experience with Frank Zappa and The Mothers Of Invention.



{ MIKE CURB : 50 Years }





# DISCOGRAPHY



Right: President Richard Nixon and the Shah of Iran with The Mike Curb Congregation shortly after they performed at The White House





----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----

**“BURNING BRIDGES”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *KELLY’S HEROES*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: LALO SCHIFRIN, MIKE CURB PUBLISHER: EMI HASTINGS CATALOG, INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:43 PRODUCER: PERRY BOTKIN JR. AND MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: CLINT EASTWOOD MGM SE-4761, 1970

**“I SAW THE LIGHT”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: HANK WILLIAMS PUBLISHER: ACUFF-ROSE PRODUCER: JIM VIENNEAU AND MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: JARRELL MCCrackEN

**“SOFTLY WHISPERING I LOVE YOU”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: ROGER COOK/ROGER GREENAWAY PUBLISHER: UNIVERSAL POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL (ASCAP) TIME: 2:35

**“IT’S A SMALL WORLD”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: RICHARD SHERMAN, ROBERT SHERMAN PUBLISHER: WONDERLAND MUSIC CO., INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:58 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB AND DON COSTA MGM K 14494 1973

**“JUST ONE THING”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *CITY SLICKERS*)/“BONANZA” ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MARC SHAIMAN, MIKE CURB, MICHAEL LLOYD/LIVINGSTONE EVANS PUBLISHER: 1991 CASTLE ROCK ENT., HAZEN MUSIC (ASCAP) /J. LIVINGSTONE MUSIC/ST. ANGELO MUSIC (ASCAP) PRODUCER: MIKE CURB AND MICHAEL LLOYD

**“SKYHAWK THEME”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB AND KENNETH SNYDER PRODUCER: MIKE CURB

**“TOGETHER, A NEW BEGINNING”** (RONALD REAGAN’S THEME) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:57 PRODUCER: MICHAEL LLOYD AND MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: RONALD REAGAN

**“RIGHT OR WRONG”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *BUNNY O’HARE*) ARTIST: **MIKE CURB** WRITER: MIKE CURB AND MACK DAVID PUBLISHER: DONNA DIJON MUSIC PUBLICATIONS/MIKE CURB MUSIC TIME: 2:07 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: BETTE DAVIS AIR A-1041 1971

**“DIRTY DINGUS MAGEE”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *DIRTY DINGUS MAGEE*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: JEFF ALEXANDER/MIKE CURB/MACK DAVID PUBLISHER: EMI-FEIST TIME: 2:35 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB SPECIAL THANKS: FRANK SINATRA

**“YOU WERE THERE BUT WHERE WAS I?”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *DEADLY PAST*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MACK DAVID PUBLISHER: POLYGRAM PRODUCER: MIKE CURB

**“I WAS BORN IN LOVE WITH YOU”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *WUTHERING HEIGHTS*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: ALAN AND MARILYN BERGMAN/MICHEL LEGRAND PUBLISHER: DONNA DIJON MUSIC PUBLICATIONS (BMI)

**“THEME FROM YOUNG DANIEL BOONE”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: EARLE HAGAN/LAURENCE WEISS PUBLISHER: WB MUSIC CORP (ASCAP)

**“BANJO SONG”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *THE MAGIC OF LASSIE*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: RICHARD SHERMAN, ROBERT SHERMAN PUBLISHER: GOLDEN BOOKS MUSIC (BMI) PRODUCER: BOB SUMMERS AND MIKE CURB TIME: 2:18 SPECIAL THANKS: JACK AND BONITA WRATHER 1978

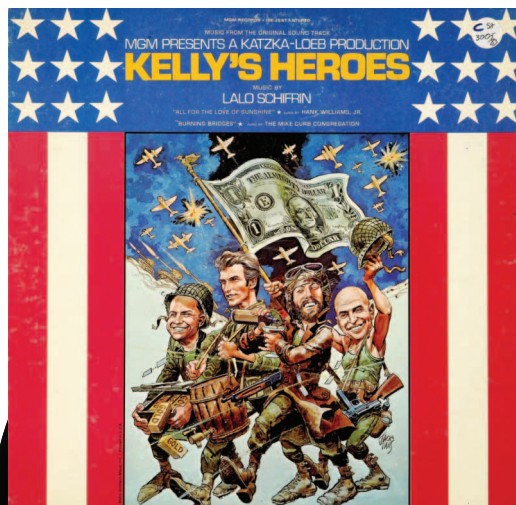
**“WHERE WAS I WHEN THE PARADE WENT BY?”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *RYAN’S DAUGHTER*) ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: MIKE CURB, MACK DAVID, MAURICE JARRE PUBLISHER: EMI HASTINGS CATALOG, INC. (BMI)

**“DO YOU WANNA DANCE”** ARTIST: **THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION** WRITER: BOBBY FREEMAN PUBLISHER: CLOCKUS MUSIC, INC. (BMI) TIME: 3:11 PRODUCER: MIKE CURB, MICHAEL LLOYD





## DISCOGRAPHY



*Kelly's Heroes* was a comedy film about a group of military misfits released in 1970, starring Clint Eastwood, Telly Savalas, Donald Sutherland and Don Rickles. Eastwood, who produced the movie for MGM, fell in love with “Burning Bridges” when Curb played him the song. He made it the movie’s theme song and even recorded a version of the song himself. It was written by Curb and Lalo Schifrin, a well-known Hollywood composer of motion picture scores.

This recording by The Mike Curb Congregation was released at the end of 1970 and rose to number one on the International chart and hit the Top 40 on the Hot 100 charts of *Billboard*, staying on the charts during early 1971 for 17 weeks. It was their biggest hit as a solo act.

Their *Billboard* chart album, *The Congregation Sings Their Hits From The Glen Campbell Show* – which debuted on *The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour* on CBS – featured the song “Softly Whispering I Love You.” The Congregation appeared each week on the show. Curb said “it would not have been possible without Nick Savano and the incredible choreography of Kevin Carlisle.”

The group’s recording of “It’s A Small World” came after Curb was approached by the Disney organization to record songs from their movies to create hit singles. The Mike Curb Congregation was signed as the official group for Disney, performing at the Disney parks and recording two albums of Walt Disney’s Greatest Hits. The group recorded “It’s A Small World” while singing the chorus in a pop/rock melodic fashion. The song made the Top Ten on the *Billboard* Adult Contemporary chart in 1973 and became an international hit. It was also played more than a quarter million times each year at Disney’s theme parks, making it the most performed composition in the world.

The 1991 film *City Slickers*, starring Billy Crystal and Jack Palance – who won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor – featured “Just One Thing” on the soundtrack. That song was written by Marc Shaiman, Mike Curb, Michael Lloyd and Livingstone Evans and was produced by Curb and Lloyd.

The Mike Curb Congregation performed “Skyhawk Theme” for the TV show *Skyhawk*; Mike Curb composed the music for that show.

“Together, A New Beginning” was written by Curb after Ronald Reagan asked him to write a theme for

the 1980 Republican Convention in Detroit, where Reagan accepted the party’s nomination for President of the United States. Curb – who was serving as acting governor of California at the time – enlisted the support of Donny and Marie Osmond and a number of other acts on his label to sing the song on stage at the convention. Every state in the country is named in this song and the words were projected on a screen so attendees could sing along.

The opportunity for Mike to work with Bette Davis came when Don Owens – who compiled the *Billboard* pop chart for a number of years – invited Curb to meet Bette Davis, who was looking for a theme song for her movie *Bunny O'Hare*. Curb had a melody that he “always wanted to put in a picture but could not find the right one” that he played for Davis. She loved it and asked him to play the song for the movie. “That was quite an experience,” said Curb. “I can still see her face as she was conducting the piece.” Later, she requested a vocal version for the end of the movie, which The Mike Curb Congregation recorded. “It doesn’t get any better than working with Mae West or Bette Davis,” he said. The movie *Bunny O'Hare* was released in 1971.

The theme song for the film *Dirty Dingus Magee* was written by Mike Curb and Mack David. Frank Sinatra had heard the *Kelly's Heroes* theme “Burning Bridges” and asked for Mike to be involved. “Playing a song for Frank Sinatra in person that I had co-written for him is definitely something I will never forget,” said Curb.

The Mike Curb Congregation recorded songs for several other movies – “You Were There But Where Was I?” for *Deadly Past*; “I Was Born In Love With You” for *Wuthering Heights* and “Theme From *Young Daniel Boone*” for that film. In the Disney movie *The Magic Of Lassie*, starring Jimmy Stewart and Mickey Rooney, The Mike Curb Congregation performed “The Banjo Song” live. While Mike no longer performed with the group, he did produce the soundtrack, which also featured a song by Pat Boone and three by Debby Boone.

Dance music has always been an important part of Curb Records. Mike Curb was involved in some of the earliest dance hits, including “Never Can Say Goodbye” by Gloria Gaynor, “Swearing To God” by Frankie Valli, and “I Wanna Dance Wit’ Choo” by Disco Tex and The Sex-O-Lettes. Because of Curb’s success in the dance marketplace, Capitol Records signed the Mike Curb Congregation to help launch their Capitol Disco Dance label.



## ----- { MIKE CURB : 50 Years } -----

**“ONE BAD APPLE”** ARTIST: **THE OSMONDS** WRITER: GEORGE JACKSON  
PUBLISHER: SCREEN GEMS-EMI MUSIC INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:44 PRODUCER: RICK HALL  
SPECIAL THANKS: OLIVE OSMOND MGM K-14193, 1971

**“I GOT YOU”** ARTIST: **THE OSMONDS** WRITER: MIKE CURB, JACK WHITE, MARK SPIRO PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI)/CAREERS-BMG MUSIC PUBLISHING, INC. (BMI)/EDITION SUNRISE PUBLISHING (BMI)/YOUNG MUSIKVERLAG GMBH. ALL RIGHTS ON BEHALF OF EDITION SUNRISE PUBLISHING VIA YOUNG MUSIKVERLAG (GMBH) ADMINISTERED IN THE U.S. BY CAREERS-BMG MUSIC PUBLISHING, INC. (BMI) TIME: 3:18

**“CHILLY WINDS”** (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE *PRETTY MAIDS ALL IN A ROW*) ARTIST: **THE OSMONDS** WRITER: MIKE CURB, LALO SCHIFRIN PUBLISHER: EMI HASTINGS CATALOG, INC. (BMI) TIME: 2:58

**“DOWN BY THE LAZY RIVER”** ARTIST: **THE OSMONDS** WRITER: ALAN OSMOND, WAYNE OSMOND, MERRILL OSMOND PUBLISHER: MIKE CURB MUSIC (BMI) TIME: 2:37 PRODUCER: ALAN OSMOND AND MICHAEL LLOYD SPECIAL THANKS: MICHAEL LLOYD MGM K-14324, 1971

Curb had originally signed The Osmonds to his Sidewalk label, but everyone thought of them as a barbershop quartet. Curb decided to create a “white Jackson 5,” adding Donny to the line-up and changing their name to The Osmonds. “One Bad Apple” was written by studio musician George Jackson. Curb released the record, listing “Jackson” as the writer, and a number of radio stations believed the group was The Jackson 5. It landed on the Rhythm and Blues chart and reached the Top Ten before people discovered the group was white.

“One Bad Apple” was a number-one song for The Osmonds for five weeks in

1971 – the first of a string of hits that included seven Top 10 singles and 24 chart records by the group, in addition to the chart recordings by Donny and Marie Osmond as a duet and solos.

The Osmonds became one of the best-selling acts in the world. “I Got You” featured the lead vocal of Merrill Osmond, and the group also recorded motion picture tracks. “Chilly Winds” was the first; the film was *Pretty Maids All In A Row*. Both songs were co-written by Mike Curb.

“Down By The Lazy River” reached number four on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and was one of The Osmonds’ 23 chart records with Curb.



Mike Curb presenting the Osmond Brothers with their first Gold record for their #1 single “One Bad Apple.”

## ----- { 1993 } -----

*“If it hadn’t been for Mike, there wouldn’t be an ‘Osmonds’—we’d still be a barbershop quartet.”*

—MERRILL OSMOND (LEAD SINGER OF THE OSMONDS)

## ----- { 1979 } -----

*“Mike’s become more than a producer to us; he’s a wonderful friend, as well.”*

—OLIVE OSMOND (MOTHER OF THE OSMONDS)

## DISCOGRAPHY



77

**"HERE COMES THE SUN"** ARTIST: **RICHIE HAVENS** WRITER: GEORGE

HARRISON PUBLISHER: RUMINATING MUSIC (ASCAP) C/O WAXEN MUSIC PUBLISHING

TIME: 3:43 PRODUCER: RICHIE HAVENS AND MARK ROTH STORMY FOREST ST 656, 1971

Richie Havens, an African-American folk singer born and raised in Brooklyn, became part of the group of folk singers centered in Greenwich Village during the 1960s. Havens toured clubs and festivals, including the Newport Folk Festival, the Isle of Wight Festival and Woodstock. He recorded two albums for MGM's Verve-Folkways label before forming his

own label, Stormy Forest, which Curb agreed to distribute. Havens recorded a live album called *Alarm Clock* that featured the artist's only hit single, "Here Comes The Sun," which reached the Top 20 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 in 1971. The song was written by George Harrison and originally released on The Beatles' *Abbey Road* album.

78

**"SIGNS"** ARTIST: **FIVE MAN ELECTRICAL BAND** WRITER: LES EMERSON PUBLISHER:

SONY/ATV ACUFF ROSE MUSIC/ UNICHAPPELL MUSIC INC. TIME: 4:02 PRODUCER: DALLAS

SMITH SPECIAL THANKS: CLIVE FOX AND BOB WEBB LIONEL L-3213, 1971

Bob Webb – father of noted songwriter Jimmy Webb ("By The Time I Get To Phoenix") – and Clive Fox – son of Harry Fox, founder of the Harry Fox Agency – brought the Canadian group Five Man Electrical Band to Mike Curb when he was president of MGM. The song "Signs,"

written by lead singer Les Emmerson, was released on Lionel Records and distributed by MGM. It rose to number three on the *Billboard* Hot 100 in 1971. In 1991, "Signs" was covered by Tesla and became a Top Ten pop hit again.

