two later, they capture

they are from a year or

for this album, and while

of those great out-takes

sense that we use some

on Elektra. It only made

earlier with The Shoes

photograph sessions

and The Heartbreakers,

Bourgoise had

St. Micholas,

taken by

desert, I guess to see if we could rekindle the magic," and rode his motorcycle out to my place in the high 'Live' album. He was looking for the next 'Runaway' getting together shortly after we had finished up his home studio in California. "I remember Del and myself keep current and survive. He tried reinventing himself album was an amazing 'apprenticeship' for any young earlier by Shannon and Jeff Lynne, but reimagined here "Raylene," another pretty name, was attempted

drummer Kevin Connolly, and lead guitarist Michael 'Amanda' in my front room playing an acoustic guitar included keyboardist Barry Walker, bassist Trevor Hilton, recalled "Amanda" being written in England. "Del wrote Del Shannon. Smackee hailed from Coventry, and One of Shannon's avid British fans, Ken Hibbs, Percy Sledge, Ann Peebles, PJ Proby and, of course, well."

such as Bobby Vee, Johnny Tillotson, The Marvellettes, and showcases Del's songwriting skills fantastically who came over to the UK to tour. They backed artists 'stand out' recording. I think the arrangement is huge to an agency in London to support American artists would be 'Another Lonely Night" which, for me, is the 1977, the group Smackee were hired (among others) on this album, but if I had to pick one as my favorite, it and Frank Esler-Smith (later of Air Supply). In 1976 and Smitham explained, "the ballads are equally wonderful collaborated with Jeff Lynne of ELO, Dave Edmunds, and "One Track Mind" were written on tour. "For me," out his musical compass and the right sound. He "Best Days of My Life," "Another Lonely Night," The mid-70's found Shannon attempting to search conductor.

was owned by Philip Green, who was a composer and Smackee, which brings us to this album here that you console. Opened in September 1976, Dublin Sound like John Mac's Flare Band, The Impalas, and later, Dolby capabilities and a state of the art Neve mixing too, using backing bands that were locally established, all the latest equipment and hardware, including full the United Artists imprint alone. He ensured great tours Dublin Sound Studio was a new 24-track studio with pushed a new single; three of them in as many years on what happened," Smitham added.

had something to say. With each British tour, Shannon the day, and do the shows at night, which is exactly remember when he first played me this song," Shannon's continue recording new material and prove that he still decided that we could record the album in Dublin during something that seemed totally out of Del's repertoire. "I still had the itch to Fiesta Club on Talbot Road in Dublin, Ireland. "Del then author's favorite of the bunch on this album, and yet worldly fans, Shannon added in Scotland, followed by a week booked at the well accepted by his long, but during the course of the tour, a week was laughter!"

excitement. While the why Del honored us by asking us to record with him."

he recorded a live for the 'after hours' fun.

nostalgia packaged tours became a rave in the early there! Anyways, it was the following year, resulting in another Top 5. When in Brighouse. It's still that same success in Brian Hyland with "Gypsy Woman" The Black Horse Inn cover of "Baby It's You" going Top 5. He soon repeated places in Yorkshire, Carver in '66 and a group called Smith in '69, with their at one of his favorite acts. Shannon helped to launch the careers of Johnny remember staying tried his hand at producing others and discovering new second tour, I fondly When Shannon and his fans began to move apart, he spring of 1977, for our Westover," which still stands the test of time as a great check on stage. He his real name in "The Further Adventures of Charles au and gave us a name far to record and release a pop-psyche album under and Delalways included Stones producer Andrew Oldham. He even went so were always a pleasure Leon Russell, Tommy Boyce and Bobby Hart, and the remember the shows try out new sounds, namely working with Snuff Garrett, learn their 'chops!' I

on several occasions, putting his hit formula aside to musician wanting to ever changing musical landscape, Shannon managed to an easy smile! Backing him on tour and playing on his many of his contemporaries who couldn't adapt to the easy-going man with an infectious sense of humor and it sounds great!" "Stranger In Town." When the British invasion quelled ease within minutes of first having met him. He was an manager) were there. I still have a copy of the demo and "Little Town Flirt," "Handy Man," "Keep Searchin," and a wide shouldered, open-faced American, who put us at home. His wife, Shirley, and Phil Luderman (Del's road Larry," "Hey! Little Girl," "Swiss Maid," West Midlands. This was for our first tour. We saw Del as paper, and said he would add more lyrics when he got chart run with songs like "Hats Off To at the Ryton Hotel in my hometown of Coventry in the out came 'There was fire in her eyes...' Del put pen to

in the early 1960s. Beginning with a #1 recording of the album:

written by Shannon structure in a song complicated chord You" contains the most to play it, "Till I Found any musician wanting oT "leno that bevol taul But my daughters and I were always about a pecause his songs of set the song aside, for him, and he sort was maybe too positive

until "Callin' Out My

him, I think he realized it What was odd though was as soon as I had said that to former wife Shirley recalled. "I thought it was so lovely. "Till I Found You" was a positive love song, this

album proved to be The '77 tour was supposed to be just five weeks arms around at us whilst singing, making us howl with head. Del would have an idea and frantically wave his lots of energy and with Del's very distinct lead vocal, and this is probably (in the studio) was getting onto tape what was in Del's performance with good vocally. I think the blend of voices we had fitted it and of course it worked! The only struggle we had his masterful live we had become a very tight band and were also very heard it, we tried to talk Del out of it, but we went with the LP showcased we (Smackee) had worked with a lot of differing artists, Smitham remembered about this song, "When we first titled "Live In England," it, he had enough material to record an album. Because up. Slow. Fast. Like two songs coming together." summer of '73 and weeks long and by the time we got towards the end of (like a soul searching ballad) and then the pace picks hits. Released in the writing songs as we travelled. The tour was seven and the 'G,' the same as in 'Runaway,' and starts slow album of his old "Del was constantly scribbling ideas down and Don't Come Easy, which starts out with the 'A Minor' that theory out, and Del and I came up with 'Love, It December 1972, Orbison was in the same hotel but he didn't come down trying to come together here. Well, we decided to try the old hits. In card game which included Del and Bobby Vee! Roy this song is that it sounds like there's two or three songs flowing in by singing artists liked to stay there. I recall there was a very long to record it, having told us, 'You know the trouble with to keep some cash many a 'session' after the show. Quite a lot of touring and how when he first heard 'Runaway' before deciding his contemporaries the rest of us, enjoyed a drinkie or two, and I can recall Town.' We laughed about our old producer, Harry Balk, 70's, Shannon jumped on board that train along with a pub room with annex type rooms attached. He, like successful for him in 'Keep Searchin' and 'Stranger In the song, the 'A Minor' and the 'G', which had also been to talking about 'Runaway' and the chord structure of keyboards behind him. Just a demo, you know? We got or less with Del playing his acoustic and I played some later change, but we recorded it on my equipment, more sort of rough form. Some of the lines in the song would already had 'Till I Found You' written, at least in some Crook explained. "He came with his guitar and he and "Love, It Don't Come Easy" began in Max Crook's Gees were putting out at the time. "Till I Found You" for this session, sounding in tune with what the Bee

smash in "Runaway," he continued the "We met for our very first rehearsal in October 1976, were some chords being strummed, and moments later looked up, spoke to her, and the next thing you heard el Spannon was a consistent nit maker Smitham. Smitham recalled the tours leading up to the My daugnter sat in an arm chair opposite him. He

by one of the great Rock 'n Rollers? How can it fail?! for 40 years? Well-crafted songs with heartfelt vocals fan! Unheard tracks which had lain on a shelf somewhere creative side never paled. He loved to rock! ove it! I think this album is a must for any Del Shannon available for the first time anywhere, knowing that his years later after having recorded it, Smitham replied, "I hearing some of his great material here, all of which is thought of this album today, after hearing it nearly 40 always writing and recording. We trust you will enjoy to get down what he wanted." When asked what he during the 1970's. Shannon never was away, he was "Del did like my lead guitar work and I spent ages trying 🛾 album here that helps bridge a gap seen in his career

> Smitham noted that his twin lead guitar work on music, and finishes out the album. to Shannon's roots and love for Country and Western You Again" is an old Merle Haggard song, going back heard in this arrangement. "Today, I Started Loving of the Lynard Skynard sound (i.e. "That Smell") can be themselves there had inspired Shannon, and a little bit Studio in August of '76. The 'Swampers' as they called with the song at a recording session in Muscle Shoals Before recording it here at Dublin, Shannon had fiddled arrangement for this song to really make it his own. Elvis for one having recorded it, but Shannon had a new

"Love Letters" had seen many covers over the years,

I feel privileged to have worked with him and to have

were in "Black Is Black," "Pretty Woman," and "(I Can't The 60's," that the greatest rock beats, in his opinion, later said on a British radio show in the 80's, "Sound of act that always went over well with his fans. Shannon Woman" as it was another number he used in his live photo shoot was never set up either, so there weren't outcome. He desperately wanted to re-record "Pretty referred to as "The Dublin Sessions." A professional much input on the arrangement and never liked its final under any title by Del or his management, but always in 1966 while at Liberty Records, but he wasn't given Scared." Shannon had recorded "Oh, Pretty Woman" into the rear-view mirror." his songs in the past to include "Crying" and "Running started writing again. The Dublin material just sort of fell also a big fan of Roy Orbison, having recorded a few of slimmed down, got a new wardrobe and attitude, and virtually spot-on to his live performances. Shannon was a new creative jaunt in 'Drop Down and Get Me.' He into his live sets. "Black Is Black," on this album, is time is when Del hooked up with Tom Petty and began to take on this number, which he did, incorporating it of rehab, he was like a changed man. Right about this close friend, Stephen Monahan, first suggested to him eating healthy, and was exercising. When Del got out



Mashville in 1973 at the same session that yielded his own trajectory going forward, and what did he do instead? Bravos hit, which Shannon first attempted to record in to try and release it? And how did this affect his career Shannon's seven originals. "Black Is Black" is the Los years? What happened when Del came back to America Four covers are featured on this album to compliment

(Merle Haggard & Bonnie Owens) - Sony/ATV Tree Publishing 11. Today, I Started Loving You Again -Appoline Avenue Music, Belton Street Music (Del Shannon / Max Crook) - Mole Hole Music, 10. Love, It Don't Come Easy its time and what Del was wanting and had imagined. for this album. All in all, Del Shannon left us with a great Mole Hole Music, Appoline Avenue Music, Belton Street Music these recordings may sound a little dated now, but is of need to explain the reasoning behind the photos used 9. Amanda - (Del Shannon / Stuart Cowell) -

8. Another Lonely Night - (Del Shannon) -Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Publishing - (Roy Orbison / William Dees) - T. Oh, Pretty Woman - (Roy Orbison / William Dees) 6. Black Is Black - (Steve Wadey / Tony Hayes / Michelle Grainger) Mole Hole Music, Appoline Avenue Music, Belton Street Music

Mole Hole Music, Appoline Avenue Music, Belton Street Music Randee 3. Till I Found You - (Del Shannon) -

he had some great 2. Love Letters - (Edward Heyman / Voctor Young) -Mole Hole Music, Appoline Avenue Music, Belton Street Music 1. Best Days of My Life - (Del Shannon) -



