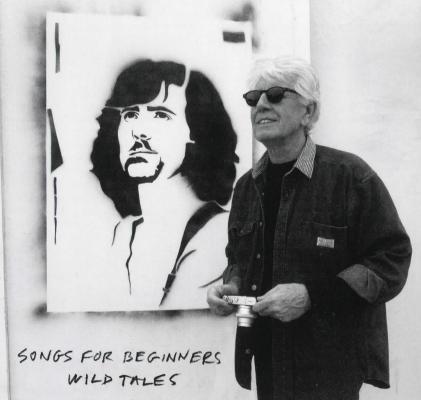


GRAHAM NASH: LIVE



SONGS OF INNOCENCE AND EXPERIENCE

Many years ago I was buying several classic books on Tibet at a little travel bookstore across from the British Museum. As the elderly proprietor wrapped them for me he sighed wistfully, "Oh how I wish I were reading these again for the first time." That pretty much sums up how I feel about anyone lucky enough to encounter these two albums anew. But I also know the pleasure the rest of us will have in rediscovering these enduring musical masterpieces—and that is what they are.

In 2019 Graham Nash took to the road to perform his first two solo records in their entirety: Songs for Beginners (1971) and Wild Tales (1973, released 1974). It was a program his fans had been requesting for many years. The evening was divided into two sets, separated by an intermission, with extended encores featuring songs from other periods in his career. The original song sequences were respected,

as were the arrangements and instrumentation (including pedal steel and vintage Wurlitzer electric piano). Surprisingly, many of these songs he had rarely performed live, and some not at all.

Graham Nash was the last member of CSNY to record and release a solo album, and by then the bar had been set very high. To follow albums like If I Could Only Remember My Name, or Stephen Stills, or After the Goldrush, and not come up wanting, is in itself an achievement, and truly no further praise is needed. Today one is struck not only by how prolific these musicians were, but how individual. Indeed, what makes a musical group great is not their similarities but their differences-and therein lies the rub. Ever the faithful group player, one finally saw Nash alone, and for who he truly was: the compassionate student of human nature, and the consummate songsmith. When it appeared in 1971, Songs for Beginners was such a tastefully understated work it took several listenings to realize just what an important (and virtuosic) work it was.

Amongst his musical compatriots, I have always felt the true standard for Nash in these albums was Joni Mitchell. The two had shared their life and work together for nearly two years prior to the release of *Songs for Beginners*. "Simple Man" was written in dejection at their parting, and sets the emotional tone for the album: in art as in love, one is always a beginner.

If Songs for Beginners is an expression of the communalism of the 1960s, Wild Tales is most decidedly an expression of the 1970s, when things begin to get dark and desperate—a stark account of life being lived on the razor's edge. The Joel Bernstein photograph of Nash that adorned the cover shows an artist drawn and wearied, older than his years. Wild Tales was a side of Nash that many did not wish to see, including his record company who delayed the release for almost a year, more or less hoping it would go away. It was a work of brutal honesty.

As much as one may enjoy this retrospective view of a remarkable

few years in an artist's career, the purpose of this recording is not revisiting an historical moment. In fact that is precisely why Nash avoided this project for so many years. The point of this record is the recognition of the many ways every one of these songs remains a relevant commentary on the human condition and political predicament of the present moment: prison reform, social injustice, war crimes, plutocracy and greed, the tyranny of the military industrial establishment, and more than one prophetic warning about computers and automation gradually eroding our shared humanity. You will also find lyric joy, a capacity for love and candor, caring and openness. These songs embodied the best aspirations of that exciting time and encouraged countless listeners to break free of conformity and societal pressure. They continue to embody a higher consciousness expressed through the ancient and primal act of song that just might one day be equal to the evil machines.

Raymond Foye August 2020, Woodstock, NY

MILITARY MADNESS

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - acoustic guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

BETTER DAYS

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/tenor saxophone/vocal Thad DeBrock - acoustic guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums/vocal Celisse Henderson - organ/vocal

WOUNDED BIRD

Grace Stumberg - vocal

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - acoustic guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - vocal Thad DeBrock - baritone acoustic guitar/vocal Toby Caldwell - vocal

I USED TO BE A KING

Graham Nash - lead vocal/electric guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums

BE YOURSELF

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - acoustic guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal Thad DeBrock - acoustic guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

SIMPLE MAN

Graham Nash - lead vocal/piano/harmonica Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal Thad DeBrock - vocal Toby Caldwell - yocal

MAN IN THE MIRROR

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - acoustic guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

THERE'S ONLY ONE

Graham Nash - lead vocal Shane Fontayne - organ Todd Caldwell - piano/tenor saxophone/vocal Thad DeBrock - acoustic guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal Don Caldwell - alto saxophone

SLEEP SONG

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal Thad DeBrock - vocal Toby Caldwell - vocal

CHICAGO/WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

Graham Nash - lead vocal/piano Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal Thad DeBrock - acoustic guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal/tambourine Grace Stumberg - vocal

WILD TALES

Graham Nash - lead vocal/electric guitar Shane Fontayne - lap steel guitar Todd Caldwell - wurlitzer piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - electric guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

HEY YOU

Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar/ harmonica Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums PRISON SONG
Graham Nash - lead vocal/wurlitzer
piano/harmonica
Shane Fontayne - irish bouzouki/vocal
Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal
Thad DeBrock - mandolin
Andy Hess - bass guitar
Toby Caldwell - drums
Celisse Henderson - vocal
Grace Stumberg - vocal

YOU'LL NEVER BE THE SAME Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums

AND SO IT GOES

Graham Nash - lead vocal/electric guitar Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - wurlitzer piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

GRAVE CONCERN

Graham Nash - lead vocal/electric guitar Shane Fontayne - lap steel guitar Todd Caldwell - wurlitzer piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - electric guitar/vocal Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal/tambourine Grace Stumberg - vocal

OH! CAMIL Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar/ harmonica Shane Fontayne - acoustic guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar

I MISS YOU Graham Nash - lead vocal/piano Andy Hess - bass guitar

ON THE LINE Graham Nash - lead vocal/acoustic guitar/ harmonica Shane Fontayne - electric guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - piano/vocal Thad DeBrock - pedal steel guitar Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums

ANOTHER SLEEP SONG Graham Nash - lead vocal/wurlitzer piano Shane Fontayne - acoustic guitar/vocal Todd Caldwell - organ/vocal Thad DeBrock - dobro Andy Hess - bass guitar Toby Caldwell - drums Celisse Henderson - vocal Grace Stumberg - vocal

All songs by Graham Nash, except "Be Yourself" by Graham Nash and Terry Reid. All songs published by Nash Notes, administered by Spirit One Music, except "Be Yourself", published by Nash Notes, administered by Spirit One Music, and Music by Tafari Inc.

Produced by Graham Nash, Shane Fontayne and Todd Caldwell

Live recording by Oz Bagnall Mixed by Kevin Killen Mastered by Bob Ludwig, Gateway Mastering

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Tour personnel: Crook Stewart,
Rance Caldwell, John Gonzales,
Oz Bagnall, Mike Murphy and
Kevin Barber.
Cover Photograph: Amy Grantham
Video Stills: Hunter Zimney
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Dedicated to the memory of my dear friend, Cass Elliot

I'm proud to be able to share this music with you after all these years. The band only had 3 days of rehearsals and even though I'd never played with most of them they did a fabulous job. We played 4 shows and chose the best performances. I particularly enjoyed the sax interplay between Todd and his father on "There's Only One". Apart from two small mistakes by me, there are no overdubs on these tracks. Enjoy.



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