

JESSE LÉGE, JOEL SAVOY AND THE CAJUN COUNTRY REVIVAL THE RIGHT COMBINATION

LINER NOTES FEATURING COMMENTARY
BY JOEL SAVOY



NEXT

For a full interactive experience, including the ability to play video and music clips, please click the icon to download the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader:



I feel that the best music is made by friends- people making music together because they want to be together and they want to share the experience of creating something unique and spontaneous, something that will never be done exactly the same way again. As I sit here in my little studio out in the country finishing up these mixes I'm thinking to myself that we did a darn good job of capturing that spirit. We went into this with no pre-conceived ideas. About half the songs didn't even get a full run through before we hit record! It's honest and pure. We tracked this the week before the Red Stick Ramblers' Black Pot Festival and it seems that the excitement that was in the air made its way into the mics. I hope that you put this record on and just smile. That's all I want, just smile and be happy and know that this record was made the same way. We had so much fun making it and we're proud to share it with you. I hope you can feel that as you listen to it. Turn it up and let it all hang out- as far as I can tell, that's what it's all about.

JOEL SAVOY

JANUARY 31, 2011

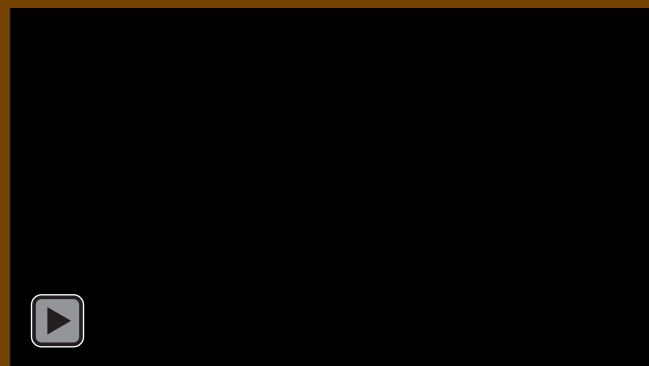
THE SONGS

1

OUVRE LA PORTE | OPEN THE DOOR | - ADAM HEBERT/FLAT TOWN MUSIC

Adam Hebert's music was one of Jesse's biggest influences. When he was a kid he'd sit in front of his family's transistor radio every morning before school listening to KJEF and KROF hearing the Cajun greats like Lawrence Walker, Nathan Abshire, and Adam Hebert. We got invited on Greg Vandy's Roadhouse radio show on KEXP in Seattle last Spring and this was one of the two songs we did. Our entire sound kinda developed that day in the studio and this became a favorite.

Ouvre la Porte performed by Jesse Lége and Joel Savoy



Check out Greg Vandy's projects here: americanstandardtime.com

LYRICS:

Oh ouvre la porte et rentre icite je veux t'agonizer
Je vous ai pris heir au soir après se carresser
En arrière de la porte de l'hangar toi et cousin Lezay
Ouvre la porte et rentre icite mon je veux t'empoisonner
A grand Mamou, à 'tit Mamou, là-bas à Grand Prairie
Toi et cousin Lezay croyaient pas je vous aurais pris
A grand Abbeville, à grand Basile, là-bas à lanse chaouis
Toi étais tout le temps après faire la chatte à l'anse aux pailles

◀ **BACK**

NEXT ▶

THE SONGS [CONTINUED]

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Open the door and come in here, I'm gonna set you straight
I caught y'all last night making out behind the barn door- you and cousin Lazay
Open the door and come in here, I'm gonna poison you!
In big Mamou, Iota and over there in Grand Prairie
You and cousin Lazey didn't think I'd catch you
In big Abbeville, big Basile and over there in L'anse Chaouis
You've been cattin' around in L'anse aux Pailles

2

WONDERING - JAY WERNER/UNICHAPPELL MUSIC, INC

Jesse thought of this one for a good crossover tune that he and Caleb could sing together in French and English. Cajun and Country music have a long history of sharing songs, and this is a perfect example of a common one in both genres. Caleb remembers hearing this as a kid at parties.

JESSE SINGS:

Jongler, jongler qui c'est qui te tient près
Jongler, ouais jongler si toi tu jongles aussi
Tous les heures de la journée depuis t'es quittée
J'après jongler ouais jongler si toi tu jongles aussi

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Wondering, wondering who is holding you close
Wondering, yes wondering if you're wondering, too
Every hour of the day, since you went away
I'm wondering, wondering if you're wondering, too

3

COURVILLE'S FETISH - DENNIS MCGEE/FLAT TOWN MUSIC

There are several things that led up to this track being on the record. Jesse and I were out on the West coast last fall and while we were staying at Suzy and Eric Thompson's house in Berkeley, I had a fiddle workshop to teach. Well the morning of the workshop I woke up and this tune was in my head, and I knew I had been hearing David Greely play it, so I texted him and asked him to email it to me because I wanted to learn it and teach it that day. BUT by the time I got it, I had already rebuilt it from memory and although it wasn't exactly like Dennis played it, I taught it anyway. While I was teaching it that evening, Sammy and Nadine showed up and then after the workshop we played it some together with Suzy and Eric and everyone and we just fell in love with it. Paul and Ned came up with the sweet surf rock rhythm two minutes before we recorded it, and Chas Justus from the Red Stick Ramblers had been calling the real one, Courville's Favorite, Courville's Fetish. I could play this song for a year and not get tired of it, so it seems appropriate to call it that here! Here's Dennis and Sady Courville playing the original:

Courville's Favorite performed by Dennis McGee and Sady Courville



THE SONGS [CONTINUED]

4

TIPPY TOEING - BOBBY HARDEN/UNIVERSAL MUSIC-CAREERS

Nadine got this from Loretta Lynn and they did on their duo record which I recorded here last February. While they were tracking it I was thinking what a good Cajun song it would make. Nadine says, “Country music has such heavy messages filled with heartbreak and cheating and drinking. When we found this song about parents tippy toeing to not wake up the baby, we were compelled by its happiness and originality. Dedicated to all the parents out there!”

Tippy Toeing by Sammy Lind and Nadine Landry



You can check out Sammy and Nadine's duo album here:
cdbaby.com/cd/landrylind

5

DEBOUT DANS LA PORTE | STANDING IN YOUR DOOR | - TRADITIONAL, ARR. CAJUN COUNTRY REVIVAL/TASSO LOOP MUSIC

Jesse learned this from Huey Meaux's dad, 'Tetan' with Rodney LeJeune singing it. I have a scrap of paper I keep in my fiddle case and every time Jesse pulls out a killer like this one I write it down so I don't forget it. This was on there more than once! The way he sings this one just blows me away and I love the imagery set by the title and the power behind the lyrics.

LYRICS:

Oh 'tit monde, quoi faire toi t'es comme ça
Mon j'suis là dans la porte, dedans la porte de ta maison
Oh bébé, c'est de te voir malheureuse
C'est de te voir 'près espérer dedans la porte de ta maison

Oh 'tit fille tous les jours moi je m'ennui
Mon je suis là moi tout seule 'près espérer dans ma maison
Oh 'tit monde moi je voudras tu t'en viens
Moi je va's m'ennuyer j'suis dans la porte de ma maison

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Baby why are you being like this
I'm standing here in front of your house
It hurts me to see you
To see you standing in your door

Oh little girl I'm lonesome every day
All alone just waiting in my house
I wish you'd come, dear
I'm gonna be lonesome here as I stand in my doorway

THE SONGS [CONTINUED]



LES POULES NE PONDENT PAS [THE HENS AREN'T LAYING] - TRADITIONAL, ARR. CAJUN COUNTRY REVIVAL/TASSO LOOP MUSIC

I never liked this song until I heard Jesse's version. My sister Sarah says the same thing. Now it's one of my favorites! That guy is having some tough luck with his proposal! First it's because there's no eggs, then the girl doesn't want to. Then the girl wants to, but her folks won't let her. In the end, when everyone is all for it, once again the hens aren't laying! It's hard enough without bringing chickens into the mix if you ask me!

LYRICS:

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais les poules ne pondent pas

C'est dur à voir 'tit coeur

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais les poules ne pondent pas

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais la belle veut pas moi je viens autour tout le temps

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier je voudrais me
marier mais la belle veut pas

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais les vieux veulent pas moi je viens autour de toi

Mais la belle veut, la belle veut, la belle veut mais les vieux
veulent pas

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais les vieux veulent pas

Je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me marier, je voudrais me
marier mais les poules ne pondent pas

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

I want to get married but the hens aren't laying. It's tough to handle.

I want to get married but my baby doesn't want me to come around all the time.

I want to get married but my baby don't want.

I want to get married but the old folks don't want me coming around you

My baby wants to now, but the old folks won't let.

I want to get married but the old folks won't let.

I want to get married but the hens aren't laying.



LA VALSE D'EVANGELINE [THE EVANGELINE WALTZ] - LAWRENCE WALKER/ FORT KNOX MUSIC, TRIO MUSIC CO.

We got this from Lawrence Walker who was a famous musician/band leader in Southwest Louisiana. He wrote a ton of great songs and he was revered by his fellow musicians for his talent and his band. They say he always sounded perfect onstage and had all the top local musicians in his band. I've been wanting to record this with Jesse because he sings it like he wrote it.

LYRICS:

Assis dans la porte de ma maison après pleurer

Après jongler quoi faire tu m'as quitté

Oui toi bébé t'as parti de ma maison

Toi tu m'as dit tu pouvais plus m'aimer

Oh bébé, mon chère 'tit bebe

'y a plus personne à la maison pour m'aimer

THE SONGS (CONTINUED)

‘tit fille c’est de te voir t’es tout le temps dans misères
Tout le temps icite ‘près pleurer pour tu t’en viens
C’est de me voir aujourd’hui j’ai plus personne pour m’aimer
J’ai plus personne à la maison pour me soigner

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Sitting in my doorway crying
Wondering why you left me
Oh, baby, you left our house and said you couldn’t love me anymore
My dear baby, there’s no one left to love me.

Girl it’s hard to see you always in misery
I’m always here crying for you to return
To see myself today. There’s no one left to love me.
I’ve got no one left at the house to take care of me



THE RIGHT COMBINATION - TPORTER WAGONER/VELVET APPLE MUSIC

We ended a tour last summer in Vancouver when we were first getting this band together. After our last set we all went backstage and Caleb picked up a guitar and started singing this one. I really feel that way about this band, I think we do have the ‘right combination,’ and I was moved to hear him sing it right before we all went our separate ways. Caleb says, “I think its pretty rare to find happy love songs in the Country and Cajun traditions and this one stuck out as the king of em all.”



S’EN ALLER SUR L’COURTABLEAU [LET’S GO TO BAYOU COURTABLEAU] - NATHAN ABSHIRE/FLAT TOWN MUSIC

I consider this my theme song, or as Jesse would say, the ‘team’ song. The melody is so happy sounding, and the lyrics sum up some of my favorite things in life. Not a dance goes by when I don’t ask Jesse to play this one!

LYRICS:

S’en aller sur l’courtableau bébé pour ramasser des écopeaux, ye yaille

Pour faire un feu bébé, pour manger des écrevisses

S’en aller sur l’courtableau ‘tit monde pour ramasser des écopeaux, ye yaille

Pour faire du feu bébé, pour manger des cocodrilles

S’en aller sur l’courtableau bébé pour ramasser des écopeaux, ye yaille

Pour faire du feu bébé, pour manger des écrevisses

S’en aller sur l’courtableau ‘tit monde pour ramasser des écopeaux, ye yaille

Pour faire un feu bébé, pour manger des tourloulous

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Let’s go to to bayou Courtableau, baby

To gather firewood and make a fire to eat crawfish

Let’s go to to bayou Courtableau, baby

To gather firewood and make a fire to eat alligator

Let’s go to to bayou Courtableau, baby

To gather firewood and make a fire to eat crawfish

Let’s go to to bayou Courtableau, baby

To gather firewood and make a fire to eat fiddler crabs

THE SONGS [CONTINUED]

10

'TIT MONDE [MY DEAR LITTLE ONE] - TRADITIONAL,
ARR. CAJUN COUNTRY REVIVAL/TASSO LOOP MUSIC

This originally came from Amédé Ardoïn as far as we can tell. Jesse learned this from listening to the great Iry LeJeune, and just about every Saturday morning my dad asks my mom to sing this at the Savoy Music Center jam session.

LYRICS:

Oh, quoi faire t'es comme ça

J'espérais pour toi les jours et nuits

Pour toi, tu me fait des misères 'tit monde

Les misères que je mérite pas

Hey, bébé le jour va venir

Tu vas voir, catin, t'étais en erreur

Tu voudras, 'tite fille t'en revenir 'tit monde

Gardes-donc comment moi je m'ennui plus d'toi

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Why are you being like this?

I waited for you every day and night

You make me miserable

Misery I don't deserve

Baby, the day is gonna come

When you see your mistake

You'll want to come back then

But I won't be lonesome for you anymore

11

CORINA - TRADITIONAL, ARR. CAJUN COUNTRY REVIVAL/TASSO LOOP MUSIC

This one kinda came out of nowhere. It was the last night of the session and we had just had this great dinner on the screen porch after a full day in the studio and the photo shoot with Allison and Rachel. We were feeling pretty loose by the time we went back out into the studio after dinner and we started playing this old favorite. Down here we play it as Alberta, Alberta (see attached clip of Lawrence Walker's version), but Caleb started singing it and Jesse just jumped in on it. Caleb says, "It's a classic that keeps coming up over and over again in all kinds of music: Cajun, Blues, Country, Western Swing and even Rock. I like that it is such a cross cultural standard, and it's a great dance tune."

Alberta performed by Lawrence Walker



LYRICS:

Corina Corina ayoù t'étais si longue

Quittée de moi chère ayoù t'étais si long

J'ai plus personne ye yaille mais pour m'aimer

Donc les soirs moi j'suis là tout seul

'près m'ennuyer chère après souffert

Corina Corina viens donc me rejoindre

Gardez-donc chère, t'as passé la nuit

dedans le chemins ma chère chérie

Corina Corina viens donc me rejoindre

THE SONGS (CONTINUED)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Corina Corina, where've you been so long
You left me, where you been so long
I have no one else here to love me
So each night I'm here all alone
Lonesome and suffering
Corina Corina come back to me
Look here, dear, you spent the night in the streets
Corina Corina come back to me.

THE MUSICIANS

JESSE LEGE ACCORDION AND VOCALS

JOEL SAVOY FIDDLE

CALEB KLAUDER VOCALS, GUITAR AND TRIANGLE

STEPHEN "SAMMY" LIND GUITAR, FIDDLE AND VOCALS

NADINE LANDRY BASS AND VOCALS

PAUL BRAINARD ELECTRIC GUITAR AND STEEL GUITAR

NED FOLKERTH DRUMS

ERIC FREY BASS ON CORINA

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Recorded, mixed and mastered by Joel Savoy at Studio SavoyFaire in Eunice, LA, on October 26 and 27

Cover photo by Allison Bohl

Design by Phillip LaFargue II

For more information including booking inquiries, please visit jesseandjoel.com

To hear more of Caleb, Sammy and Nadine, check out foghornstringband.com

You can find out about other Valcour Records releases at valcourrecords.com or connect to Valcour on [facebook](#) or [twitter](#)

Thanks to Wes Dooley at AEA for the two beautiful R84s used on this recording!



◀ **BACK**

START OVER