

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

MANFRED JUNKER
PLAYS THE MUSIC OF PAUL SIMON

tracklist

01	50 Ways to Leave Your Lover	4:52
02	Still Crazy After All These Years	3:38
03	Another Galaxy	5:28
04	Under African Skies	4:03
05	Bridge over Troubled Water	5:21
06	You're Kind	3:29
07	Old Friends	3:28
08	You Can Call Me Al	5:11
09	Kodachrome	3:57
10	Nobody	3:39
11	That's Why God Made the Movies	3:41
12	Congratulations	3:44
Total playing time		50:36

Manfred Junker, solo guitar

All compositions written by Paul Simon
and published by Paul Simon Music (except „Congratulations“ by Charing Cross Music)

liner notes

Guitarist Manfred Junker has decades of experience as a jazz guitarist and teacher, and has honed his craft as an arranger for small ensembles as well. He has a warm traditional jazz sound on his custom archtop electric instruments and is a melodic improviser who swings and comps with real authority.

For this Paul Simon tribute CD, Manfred has created some through-composed arrangements. Fans of the original songs will recognize the Simon melodies. Manfred has taken some liberties to make the tunes his own. Some of the keys have been changed to accommodate open string voicings; tempos and feels have been altered, creating fresh moods and new perspectives. Manfred employs some beautiful inner voice movements with his chords that draw on both jazz and classical sensibilities. The results are accessible, and flow in an organic way that are very satisfying to listen to.

Manfred has been performing some of his Simon repertoire live and getting a positive response. I hope that this CD will bring a wider audience to appreciate his skills as a guitarist and arranger.

Full disclosure: I have had the pleasure of playing a number of duo concerts with Manfred, and have enjoyed both his composing and playing. It's been fun to hear our musical conversation evolve, and I look forward to hearing where our journey will take us in the future. It's great to hear Manfred's skills as an arranger/interpreter displayed to such good advantage on this excellent CD.

John Stowell, October 2015



Manfred Junker about this recording

It all started around 1982 for me. My guitar teacher was opening up my musical mind dramatically, introducing me to many jazz records but also to Paul Simon's album of 1972, entitled simply after his name: „Paul Simon“.

I was literally haunted by songs such as *Run That Body Down* (including the - at that time for me - totally cool Wah-Wah guitar solo), *Paranoia Blues* and *Congratulations*. Thus driven to discover more and more Simon records, I ended up in virtually becoming an addict to *Still Crazy After All These Years* and, of course, to *Graceland*.

Being fascinated by his ability to tell complete stories and express true emotions with just a few lines, I was wondering: „How does this artist manage to maintain his unique and authentic sound throughout his whole career, despite of manifold musical trends and influences passing by?“.

The depth of his lyrics still makes me shiver today, radiating gloom and wistfulness but also a subtle sense of humor every once in a while: „May twelve angels guard you while you sleep. Maybe that's a waste of angels, I don't know.“ (*You're the One*, 2000).

Having grown quite disconnected from many of my 80s and 90s musical favorites (which sometimes seem stale and simply boring to me now), the music of Paul Simon remains fresh and ageless to me - his early *Simon and Garfunkel* masterpieces just as well as his recent releases.

So what could have been more consistent than to pitch into a solo album with Paul Simon's tunes? With songs that really mean a lot to me and that challenge me as an arranger as well as a performer?

Now, after about five years of work on this project and relentless practicing, I'm still enthusiastic about this idea. And an even bigger admirer of Paul Simon than ever.

production details

Recorded July 2-4, 2015 by Patrick Tompert at Rossinistudios, Stuttgart

Mixed by Patrick Tompert & Manfred Junker

Mastered by Patrick Tompert

Liner notes by John Stowell

Layout by Patrick Tompert & Arno Haas

Cover Photography Artwork by Christa Schweizer

Portrait Photo by Stephan Postius

Studio Photo by Patrick Tompert

Guitar by Joe Striebel

Amp by Matthias Günthart (Blackholeamp)

Guitar is tuned a whole step lower than usual (DGCFAD),
on „Nobody“ and „Under African Skies“ the lowest string is tuned down to C.

Produced 2015 by Manfred Junker & Patrick Tompert

Thanks from Manfred Junker to:

Paul Simon for his music,
John Stowell for a wonderful musical friendship,
Patrick Tompert for his help,
Margit & Rahel for their patience.

Artist's contact & website:

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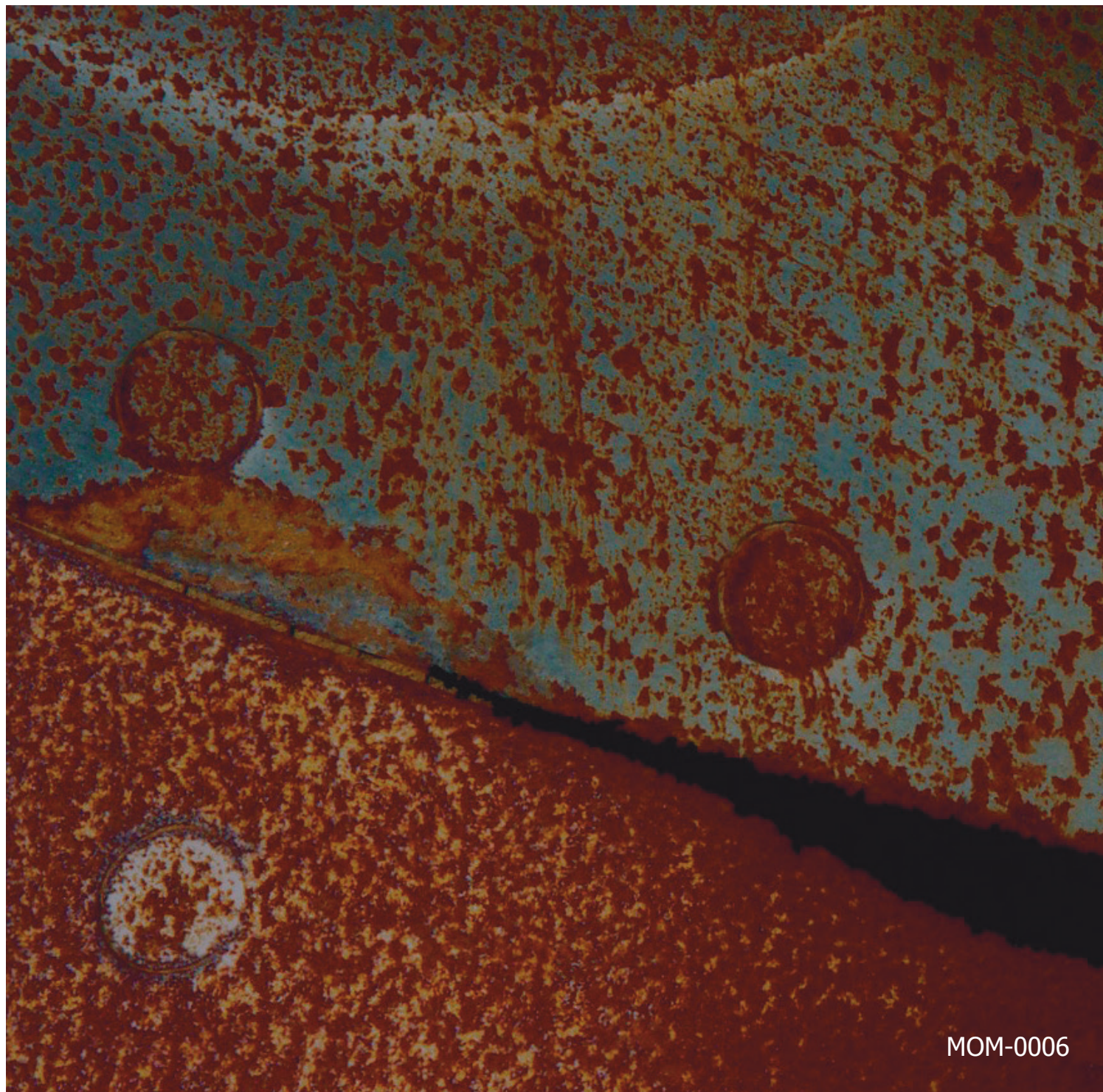
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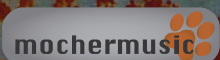
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Manfred Junker, solo guitar

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