Joan Baez - Folksingers Round Harvard Square (1959)

A1 –Joan Baez On The Banks Of The Ohio A2 –Joan Baez O What A Beautiful City A3 –Joan Baez Sail Away Ladies A4 –Joan Baez Black Is The Color A5 –Joan Baez Lowlands A6 –Joan Baez What You Gonna Call Your Pretty Little Baby A7 –Joan Baez & Bill Wood Kitty A8 –Joan Baez & Bill Wood So Soon In The Morning A9 –Joan Baez & Bill Wood Careless Love B1 –Bill Wood Le Cheval Dans La Beignoire B2 –Bill Wood John Henry B3 –Bill Wood Travelin' Shoes B4 –Bill Wood The Bold Soldier B5 –Ted Alevizos Walie Walie B6 –Ted Alevizos Rejected Lover B7 –Ted Alevizos Astrapsen B8 –Ted Alevizos Lass From The Low Country B9 –Joan Baez & Bill Wood & Ted Alevizos Don't Weep After Me

Recorded in a basement with Bill Wood and Ted Alevizos, Folksingers Round Harvard Square is technically the first album Joan Baez recorded. Although not a major success at the time of release (although it would chart four years later when re-released illegally) , it proved crucial in enabling Joan to get a major label deal with Vanguard. Hallmark. ---Editorial Reviews, amazon.com

In the late '50s, prior to signing with Vanguard, Joan Baez recorded this album in a basement, sometimes performing with Bill Wood and Ted Alevizos. It wasn't wholly Baez' album, as only six of the 13 tracks were Baez solo performances. On two she performed with Wood, and on one she performed with Wood and Alevizos; two of the tracks featured Wood solo, and two Alevizos solo. Baez was already handling traditional material such as "Black Is the Color," and her voice was a little less strident than it would become when she rose to national visibility. It's a basic recording that is primarily of historical interest, although -- as those things go -- it has definite value. In 1963, it was issued by Squire Records as The Best of Joan Baez, but was

withdrawn after it had made the Top 50, when Baez took legal action against it. --- Richie Unterberger, AllMusic Review

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