

## Joan Baez - Folksingers Round Harvard Square (1959)

Written by bluelover

Thursday, 23 February 2017 16:18 -

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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

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withdrawn after it had made the Top 50, when Baez took legal action against it.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

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