

Donovan – Mellow Yellow (1967)

Written by bluelover

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01. *Mellow Yellow* – 3:39 02. *Writer In The Sun* – 4:27 03. *Sand And Foam* – 3:17 04. *The Observation* – 2:20 05. *Bleak City Woman* – 2:23 [play](#) 06. *House Of Jansch* – 2:42 07. *Young Girl Blues* – 3:45 08. *Museum* – 2:55 09. *Hampstead Incident* – 4:40 10. *Sunny South Kensington* – 3:48 [play](#) Personnel:
- Donovan - Guitar, Harmonica, Vocals - John Cameron - Keyboards - John Paul Jones – Keyboards

Mellow Yellow is the fourth album from Scottish singer-songwriter Donovan. It was released in the United States in March 1967. The songs on *Mellow Yellow* represent a transition in Donovan's writing. Donovan's songs had previously illustrated his infatuation with an ability to define the mid-sixties pop music scene. On *Mellow Yellow* this is still evident in "Sunny South Kensington", "Museum" (originally recorded for the *Sunshine Superman* album and rerecorded for *Mellow Yellow*) and the title track, but is also tempered with world-weary observations of that scene ("Young Girl Blues"). The contractual problems that prevented the release of Donovan's music in the UK led him to write such songs as the resigned "Writer in the Sun", where he contemplates the possibility of his own forced retirement from the music business at age 20.

Mickie Most's production and the arrangements of John Paul Jones accommodate these two divergent traits of Donovan's songwriting throughout *Mellow Yellow*. The peppier songs feature a diverse selection of instruments similar to *Sunshine Superman* and helped make a top 10 hit out of the title track on both sides of the Atlantic. The introspective ruminations feature sparse instrumentation that highlights Donovan's guitar playing, singing, and lyrics.

On *Mellow Yellow*, Donovan gave a nod to his friend Bert Jansch on "House of Jansch", marking the third Donovan album in a row that paid tribute to the British folk personage.

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It has been rumored that Donovan's friend Paul McCartney whispers the "quite rightly" part of "Mellow Yellow", but this is actually whispered by Donovan.

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