Paul McCartney & The Wings - All The Best (1987)



1 —Paul McCartney & Wings Jet 4:06 2 —Paul McCartney & Wings Band On The Run 5:10 3 —Paul McCartney Coming Up 3:50 4 —Paul McCartney With Stevie Wonder Ebony And Ivory 3:44 5 —Wings Listen To What The Man Said 3:54 6 —Paul McCartney No More Lonely Nights 4:39 7 —Wings Silly Love Songs 5:52 8 —Wings Let 'Em In 5:08 9 —Wings C Moon 4:33 10 —Paul McCartney Pipes Of Peace 3:24 11 —Wings Live And Let Die 3:10 12 —Paul McCartney Another Day 3:41 13 —Paul McCartney Once Upon A Long Ago 4:06 14 —Michael Jackson & Paul McCartney Say Say Say 3:54 15 —Paul McCartney & Wings My Love 4:08 16 —Paul McCartney & The Frog Chorus We All Stand Together 4:23 17 —Wings Mull Of Kintyre 4:43 Wings: Paul McCartney (vocals, guitar, violin, recorder, keyboards, bass, drums, percussion, flageolet); Denny Laine (vocals, guitar, recorder, bass, flageolet, percussion); Joe English (vocals, harmonica, drums, percussion); Linda McCartney (vocals, keyboards, percussion); Jimmy McCulloch (guitar, percussion).

Technically, All the Best was the first compilation of McCartney's solo material, since Wings Greatest covered songs released under the Wings aegis. Well, there is considerable overlap between the two records -- no less than ten of that album's 12 songs are here, yet only the hard-rocking "Hi Hi Hi" is truly missed -- although the seven new songs do give this album a different character, for better or worse. With the U.S. version of All the Best, which has four different songs than its British counterpart, the balance shifts toward the positive, since it simply boasts a better selection of songs. Yes, "Once Upon a Long Ago," the single offered as bait on the British All the Best, isn't here, but it's not missed since two of the four songs exclusive to the American version are among McCartney's best solo singles ("Junior's Farm," "Uncle Albert/Admiral Halsey") and the other two are good adult contemporary easy listening (the previously non-LP "Goodnight Tonight," "With a Little Luck"). These songs add to the retrospective, although it's still not perfect -- such highlights as "Maybe I'm Amazed" and "Take It Away" really should have been included. However, as a cross section of McCartney's solo singles, this is very, very good. It may be a little heavy on the schmaltz at times, yet this is still mainstream pop craft of the highest order. ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, AllMusic Review

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