

First Love

A Historic Gathering of Jesus Music Pioneers



Reel Productions
www.reelproductions.net



dan collins
productions

FIRST LOVE - A Historic Gathering of Artists from the Jesus Movement © MCMXCVIII Collins Greisen, LLC
Package Design ©MMIV Reel Productions, LLC

First Love

A Historic Gathering of Jesus Music Pioneers



2nd Chapter of Acts

Jamie Owens Collins

Barry McGuire

Love Song

Terry Clark

Darrell Mansfield

Randy Stonehill

Matthew Ward

Randy Matthews

John Fischer

Chuck Girard

Paul Clark

Honeytree

Annie Herring

Andraé Crouch

Keith Green Tribute

2nd Chapter of Acts

This sibling vocal trio was one of Christian music's greatest treasures—a group with a completely unique sound, strong songwriting, and tight harmonies. Their story would make an incredible sequel to *The Sound of Music!*

Nelly and Matthew Ward (14 and 12 years old) went to live with their older sister Annie and her husband following the successive deaths of their mother and father. They would join Annie after school in spontaneous musical expression that began to solidify them musically and spiritually as their voices blended together in smooth harmonies, so tightly, so naturally. Friends heard them sing, and soon there were requests to sing at churches, Christian coffeehouses, and such. One song caught the ear of Pat Boone, who arranged a contract with MGM records, and *2nd Chapter of Acts* was born.

Several concerts into their first tour, someone approached Annie and said, "We're really sorry we didn't applaud, but we've never heard music like that before!" As Nelly reflects: "One of the reasons people didn't applaud was because we weren't singing songs *about* Jesus, we were singing *to* Him. When people recognized that, they sensed His Spirit. They could see Jesus, and they fell in love with Him."

Their first hit, "Easter Song" (included in this program), caught on almost immediately as the "Hallelujah Chorus" of a generation who found in Jesus the answer to their search for peace and love. By 1973, they had entered the music ministry full-time.

The group released 16 albums and, after 16 years of touring and more than 1600 concerts, *2nd Chapter of Acts* prayerfully retired in 1988. They were the youngest group ever to be inducted into the Gospel Music Association's Hall of Fame (1999).



Jamie Owens Collins

Jamie Owens Collins

Recording and traveling internationally as a songwriter/artist at the age of 17, Jamie Owens was an adolescent who was "turned on to Jesus" and actively sharing her faith. At 18 years old, Jamie Owens became the youngest female solo recording artist for Light Records. and her first recording *Laughter In Your Soul*, recorded in 1973, (which included the popular "May I Introduce You to a Friend") became the best-selling Contemporary Christian album in Great Britain.

A native of Oakland, California, Jamie evolved from an early Joni Mitchell-style singer/songwriter to an adult songstress with a strong worship orientation as she traveled around the world, singing to hundreds of thousands of people. Her popularity grew as she focused the body of Christ on the spiritual battle we face in this life as reflected in her song, "The Battle Belongs to the Lord". As a result, Jamie (now Owens Collins) has gained a long-standing reputation for music of great depth and spiritual integrity. As a songwriter she has also penned classic songs like "You Have Broken The Chains" and "The Victor" (featured on this program).

During the '90s she and her husband Dan were original members of the Maranatha! Praise Band and she was a featured soloist during the first seven years of the Harvest Crusades with Greg Laurie and also with the Franklin Graham Crusades. Jamie continues to minister with music and teaching at women's seminars, retreats and conferences.

The many aspects of Jamie's life as an artist, songwriter, teacher, wife and mother have developed her message into a ministry of encouragement. She has matured as the seasons of her own life have deepened her awareness of God's grace, greatness and compassion, so beautifully expressed in her song "Seasons of the Soul", (also featured on this program).



Barry McGuire

Born in Oklahoma City, Barry bought his first guitar in 1960 and started singing, never dreaming that anyone would actually pay him to do it. But he soon joined the New Christy Minstrels in 1963 and co-wrote the group's first and greatest hit single: "Green, Green." It remained on the charts for 77 weeks and became a gold record.

1964 was the year that the Beatles hit the American music scene, turning the music business and the world itself on their respective heads. The folkie, innocent sound and image of the Christys was now considered outdated. And that paved the way for Barry's hit, "Eve of Destruction", which soared to #1 on both the Cash Box and Billboard charts. He was in the original cast of the Broadway musical, *Hair*. But Barry was at an all-time low in his personal life. "I was beyond the beyond. My life was in a total self-destruct mode."

"I wrestled with it for nearly a year. Then it happened in 1971. I fell on my face on the floor and said, 'God, I don't know why, how; if I wake up alive tomorrow I'll follow You wherever You lead me.' And within a week I was on a Greyhound bus out of Hollywood."

Barry would soon unleash his powerful voice and presence on the Christian music scene, releasing *Seeds*, *Lighten Up* and other albums. Ironically, he had his biggest hit ever in 1978 with the title song from a children's musical, *Bullfrogs and Butterflies*, which sold over three million copies... more copies than "Eve of Destruction". Recently, Barry joined other folk musicians to film "American Soundtrack: This Land Is Your Land," a special for PBS.



Barry (left) with The Beatles



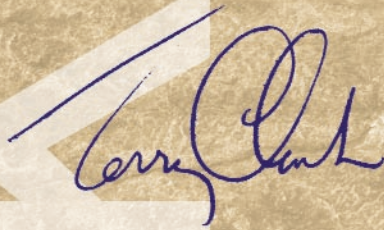
Love Song

When Chuck Girard, Tommy Coomes, Jay Truax and Fred Field first stepped out onto the Calvary Chapel stage one evening back in 1970, it was to little fanfare. With long hair, full beards and faded jeans, they played soothing, intensely personal music that spoke to the heart and echoed the timeless themes of God's love. At the same time, it sounded very much like the music the professional rock and folk-rock groups were playing... music that had formerly been reserved for the pop airwaves but shunned by churches and "decent folk". But here was this group, weaving a tapestry of close harmonies, pulsating rhythms and intricate guitar patterns—all tied together with an undeniably clear gospel message.

It's unlikely that the few hundred people gathered there had any idea they were witnessing the birth of probably the most important Christian rock band of all time. Guitarist Bob Wall replaced Fred Field within the first year, rounding out the roster which would go on to record their legendary album, "Love Song". Two years later, sales of that album would catapult the record to the top, the best-selling Christian album in the nation, where it would remain for more than a year. The title cut was a #1 hit in the Philippines and prompted a five-night concert for over 250,000 people. Hundreds of thousands of people around the world have witnessed the group's incredible live performances.

The individual band members have continued in their callings... as a worship leader, solo artist, vocal group leader, computer geek, session musician, music industry exec, and even an architectural design consultant. Their lives are testaments to the trials and triumphs of the Christian experience. And now they reunite for a loving look back at that hallmark first night... not for the fanfare, but for the moment that was Love Song.





Terry Clark

What is it like to be burned out, to push away from reality, humiliated to be a human being? Terry knows. And in that condition, hearing many different voices, only one was familiar. It was his childhood friend, Jesus. And it was the only one strong enough to save him.

A bluesy vocalist from the Texas hill country, Terry Clark's spiritual roots run deep in the Gospel message and its music. But he went through a period of experimenting with his life in many destructive ways, and it pushed him past the breaking point.

But the love of Jesus transformed Terry. He was restored to health and wellness as his dependencies shifted to the One who had answered the question: Is there a reason for this life? A life of intimacy with his "Big Brother" began and Terry's songs are simply windows through which one can see and participate in that private relationship. Terry's songs, recorded on the albums *Living Worship* and *Let's Worship*, have paved the way for that same intimacy for many believers.

He played with different bands, including Children of Faith and Liberation Suite, before starting his solo career in the late '70s. Terry's first two recordings, *Welcome* and *Melodies*, contained several Christian radio hits, including "Let's Have a Good Time" (featured in this program) and "Ugadano Thawanu Maija". Say it out loud, quickly.

His voice is recognizable as a regular vocalist with The Maranatha! Singers, including seven years of Promise Keepers projects, and on the Maranatha *Praise* albums since the 70's.

Terry and his wife, Nancy, who was also a member of Children of Faith, continue to tour, record, and encourage believers through worship to go deeper in their intimacy with Christ.



Psalm 150
Darrell Mansfield

Darrell Mansfield

Darrell Mansfield has become the world's best-known Christian blues singer, but he hides it well. Not too many people expect a blond-haired, blue-eyed, '70s rocker to be the king of this pretty small genre. But with his gravelly voice and stellar harmonica playing, he reminds his audiences that "the blues" originated within the church and has close ties to gospel music and spirituals.

Totally immersed in the counter-culture of the early '70s, he learned to play guitar but his chief interest was in singing. He got his first gig as a lead vocalist in a local band when he was overheard singing aloud while he washed dishes in the college cafeteria. And it was then that his life started to fall apart.

Darrell's parents divorced. Then his girlfriend deserted him. One by one, the foundation stones of his life were falling away, leaving behind a crumbling and fragile spirit. He attempted suicide by slitting his wrists on the altar of a church, where he was found and rushed to a hospital. Once recovered, he attended a series of Bible studies and read a book about Jerome Hines, a famous opera singer who had found a personal relationship with God. A friend's mother assured him that a personal relationship with God was a real thing, and Darrell chose to follow their example.

In 1974, he joined the band Gentle Faith and two years later they released their first album. In 1977 he formed the Darrell Mansfield Band, which released four albums. Over the years Darrell has performed on so many projects that he himself finds it hard to count them all as he continues to tour the U.S., Europe, Israel, Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.



Randy Stonehill



Randy Stonehill

Picture a long-and-curly-haired, bespectacled, torn jeans-and-t-shirt-wearing hippie freak. Got it? That's how Randy looked when he began his musical journey in 1970, melding his honest lyrics of faith, struggle, and hope with rootsy folk-rock music. A year later, he released his first album, *Born Twice*, setting the stage for an historic career.

Alongside a small cadre of Christian artists considered too "Christian" for the mainstream and too "rock-and-roll" for the church, Stonehill blazed trails that are now easily traveled by Christian musicians, influencing countless young fans and future artists along the way. Rock fans loved his commitment to guitars, lyrical hooks, classic sounds, and subversive humor. Christian radio embraced his ballads and pop ditties for their spiritual meat and their irresistible tunefulness. Live audiences packed into churches, schools and theaters where the songsmith would leave them laughing, thinking and humming all at once, night after night.

Randy says it's "very gratifying" to be considered one of the elder statesmen of contemporary Christian music, while he maintains a constant concert schedule, criss-crossing the globe and performing his classics, like "Shut De Do," "King Of Hearts," "Great Big Stupid World" and "American Fast Food"—still pointing to the next world and offering guidance, hope and consolation to those struggling to get there.

And, compellingly, Randy doesn't really long for a return to those "halcyon days" of the early Jesus Music movement. "I can look back with fondness and appreciate those early times for this genre of music," he muses. "But I don't hunger to go back at all. When your precious days are in the hands of God, anything can happen. I have a continuing sense of delight and wonder at just watching this whole thing unfold."



Matthew Ward

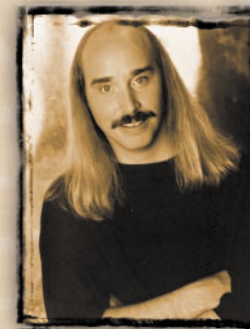


Matthew Ward

Matthew Ward is a study in contrasts. He is intense, yet lighthearted; intellectual, but not pretentious. Best known as one-third of the musical trio of siblings known as 2nd Chapter of Acts, he loves the outdoors, but he also travels deep into his own soul to search for the music that God has placed there. As for his own remarkable gift, Matthew acknowledges that he has always known where his talent comes from. "When it's all said and done," he says, "I don't want people to remember me for my ability to sing, but that I always turned their eyes to Jesus."

And he did just that with three solo albums, in addition to his work with "Acts". But in January of 1994, Matthew was diagnosed with not one, but three types of cancer. The word had become all too familiar to him many years before: by age 12, Matthew had lost his mother to a brain tumor and his father to leukemia. For two frightening and uncertain years, Matthew battled the disease, ultimately experiencing full remission, and is now considered "cancer-free." He performs hundreds of live concerts and appearances each year at churches and events across the country—a man who has faced death and now savors every moment of life that God grants him.

In the past few years, crisscrossing the country and visiting hundreds of churches, Matthew has been dismayed by what seems to be a trend of replacing the traditional cross in the sanctuary with other symbols of worship. His goal is to bring our attention back to the cross and what it means for every believer.





Randy Matthews

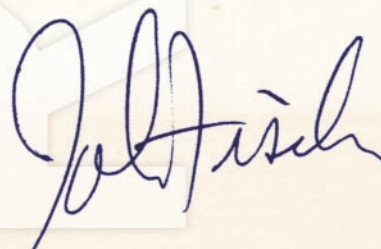
Known for his affinity for Native American wardrobe and accoutrements, Randy Matthews qualifies as a true Jesus music “pioneer.” With leather fringe jacket, moccasin boots, long red hair, and dangly earrings in place, he is always ready with a song, a story, or a joke... the consummate entertainer.

Unlike many of the Jesus people, converted from paganism or mainline religions, Randy was raised with revival-oriented gospel music (his father, Monty, was an original member of The Jordanaires) and attended Ozark Bible College. His first album, *I Wish We'd All Been Ready*, was the first nontraditional gospel record to be issued on any gospel label. Dubbed as the “head Jesus freak,” he had the outward appearance of a hippie, but knew the language of the conservative church.

That made the fiasco at the Jesus '74 festival all the more hurtful. The concert organizers pulled the plug in the middle of the third song of his band's electric set, having decided it was “demon music.” Randy would not recover, and his career would never be the same.

Son of Dust is the album that insures Randy's place in the Jesus music Hall of Fame. The classic song “Didn't He” (featured on this program) was covered by many other artists in the '70s and '80s. A later song, “Ti Chapé” (also featured), offers a touching picture of his work with relief organization Compassion International.

“What I feel best about doing is entertaining both Christians and non-Christians alike. The way I stay on track is to constantly picture Jesus sitting in the front row.” He now does exactly that as Redbeard the Pirate in his shows on Palm Island in Englewood, Florida.



John Fisher

The undisputed senior statesman of contemporary Christian music, John Fischer is the master that has not only “been there, done that” but is also able to reflect on his more than thirty years in ministry and the industry with unusual candor and insight. His reflective music is a challenge to think, and a celebration of the presence of God in the midst of our ordinary lives.

In the late 60's, John recorded “The Cold Cathedral”, an album of folk songs that was a part of an American spiritual renewal. Not only was John forging a new expression of Christianity, he was also writing songs that youth groups and Young Life clubs across the nation would later sing over and over again; most notably, “The All Day Song” (“Love him in the morning...”).

Now, twelve albums and eleven books later, John still has the same objective. He is an artist driven by the desire to use his creative talents to stir us to a new understanding of our faith and how we live it out in our culture. His multi-faceted talents of songwriting, singing, authoring and lecturing reflect the many angles by which John continues to carry on a spiritual dialogue with real life and real people.

Though John is knowledgeable in biblical truth, art, philosophy, and popular culture, his insights come from that human, vulnerable place where we can recognize them as being true because they match the common experience of us all. You can sample the heart of this artist in his award-winning monthly column in Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) magazine, which continues to be a tribute to his staying power and his importance as a trusted voice within contemporary Christianity.



Chuck Girard



Chuck Girard

Chuck Girard is one of the most important artists in the history of contemporary Christian music. He began playing music at an early age in Southern California, forming his first singing group in his early teens. This early experience led to a successful career as a studio singer and musician during the “surf” and “hot rod” era of popular music on the West Coast. He eventually recorded with the Hondells, (working alongside such luminaries as Brian Wilson, Glen Campbell, and Gary Usher), singing lead on their biggest song, “Little Honda”—a number nine hit in 1964.

Soon after this, Chuck began to realize his need for God. He rejected his nominal Christian upbringing and tried psychedelic drugs, eastern religions, and vegetarianism as he pursued a “hippie” lifestyle in the ‘60’s. After two arrests for drug possession, his search ended at Costa Mesa’s Calvary Chapel (a young church reaching out to lost youth from the counter culture), where Chuck found true spiritual reality through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

After his new birth in 1970, he and four friends formed the seminal group Love Song—probably the most seminal Christian rock band of all time. When the group disbanded in 1973, Chuck continued as a solo artist, writing songs like “Rock-n-Roll Preacher” and the classic, “Sometimes Alleluia”, which is featured on this program in a worshipful, intimate setting.

Chuck and his wife, Karen, now live in Nashville. One of his four daughters, Alisa, is also now in full time music, as a part of the CCM group ZOEGirl. In addition to his concert ministry, Chuck enjoys teaching from scripture as he mentors young musicians and holds worship seminars for conferences and churches. He continues to produce and record new worship and evangelism projects.



Paul Clark



Paul Clark

Paul was born in Kansas City, where his father had front row season tickets at the Kansas City A’s baseball stadium. “In that same stadium, I sat nearly that close to the Beatles when they came to town. They were so vibrant and joyful. I thought to myself, “I want to be happy like that... so I started a band with a couple of friends called the Kommotions.”

Unfortunately, commotion was the path of his mid-teens. The whirlpool of drugs and social rebellion nearly drowned him. In 1970, Paul moved to a primitive log cabin in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. “I was an 18 year-old hippie, trying to find God,” he remembers. “I received a box of books from my grandmother and read one from cover to cover in one day. At the end of the book I prayed a prayer to follow Jesus as his disciple. By the next morning something had drastically changed. I felt deeply loved, so new, so clean. Concurrently, songs began to pour out of me like the water in the river next to my cabin.”

Paul felt an immediate call on his life to sing to the ends of the earth, so he started at the Narrow Gate Coffeehouse in Denver. His local following thrust him into the now historical Jesus Movement which, in turn, led to national and international performances.

Paul has continued proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ. Even though he has completed 17 solo recording projects, written over 400 songs, produced records for several artists, served as worship leader/pastor, as well as being an author and published photographer, Paul’s voyage presses on. He has traveled hundreds of thousands of miles on several continents, still fueled by the joy of the Lord.



Nancy Honeytree



Nancy Honeytree

One of the few female solo artists to emerge from the Jesus Movement, Nancy Honeytree's sensitive songs once earned her the nickname The First Lady of Jesus Music. "Many people tell me they were fans of Judy Collins or Joni Mitchell or Carole King, but felt they had to give up listening to the music they liked when they became born again Christians," she remembers. "Wow! What a blessing it was to discover that somebody was singing their favorite style of music for Jesus!"

She was born Nancy Henigbaum (German for "Honeytree") and raised with classical and folk music. She became a quiet, thoughtful young person who battled a sense of rejection from the "straight" high school kids. With her long, dark hair parted down the middle, Nancy was drawn to the "hippie" kids and became involved in drug abuse during her high school years. But in the spring of 1970, she became a born again Christian, abandoned drugs, and began to write songs that reflected her personal relationship with Jesus.

Nancy made her first album in 1973. The bossa-nova styled "Clean Before My Lord" and the rocking "Rattle Me, Shake Me" became theme songs to young Christians in the turbulent 70's, and she toured with some of the legendary figures of the Jesus Movement, including guitarist Phil Keaggy.

Today Honeytree continues to play unplugged original music, with the added passion of singing her songs in a variety of languages - Spanish, Urdu (official language of Pakistan), Sinhalese and Tamil (of Sri Lanka.) Grateful to have been part of the Jesus Movement, Honeytree challenges today's pioneers of the faith to press beyond cultural and language barriers until everyone hears the song of Jesus in his own language.



Annie Herring



Annie Herring

If Randy Stonehill is an elder statesman of Contemporary Christian music, then Annie Herring is its *grand dame*. She distinguished herself early on with her brother and sister in 2nd Chapter of Acts, and was named by *Record World* as the "Top New Gospel Female Vocalist" in 1977. The bubbly one... the one with the contagious smile... and a slugger that could belt a song out of the park every time she got up to bat. But it wasn't as easy as she made it seem.

She began singing at the age of five with her older sisters in rural North Dakota, performing at country church picnics and farm co-op meetings, but it was the Catholic Church that made the biggest impact on her musical development. "I loved the church," says Annie. "I loved to sing in the choir and to sing those Latin masses. It filled me with a tremendous sense of awe."

Her family moved to California when Annie was a teenager. After a brief relationship with songwriter Jimmy Webb, she married studio engineer Buck Herring in 1969 and began learning to play piano and write songs of her own, listening to the Lord for inspiration. "Acts" was born when Nelly and Matthew came to live with Annie and Buck following the untimely deaths of both parents. 16 albums... more than 1600 concerts... and thousands of people naming Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. The rest is well-documented CCM history.

Annie continues to delight, inspire, and challenge concert audiences as she tours the nation. She and her husband now make their home in southwestern Colorado.



Andrae Crouch

Andrae Crouch

Beginning his musical career in his father's Los Angeles church, Andrae began playing the piano and writing music at the age of eleven with no formal musical training. "I had never sat at a piano before in my life, but (my father) said to play, and I just started playing," Andrae recalls. And to this day, he is unable to read music. "Every time I get on the piano, God gives me something... I just hear the song in my head."

By 1965, he had formed his own group, Andrae Crouch and the Disciples, which established a reputation for electrifying live performances that spanned the globe. Consistently selling out concerts throughout Europe, Africa, the Far East and the Americas, his music has been translated into 21 languages.

With nine Grammy awards and an Academy Award nomination, Andrae's brilliant talent extends from such timeless gospel classics as "My Tribute (To God Be The Glory)" and "The Blood Will Never Lose its Power," to film score contributions to *The Lion King*, *Free Willy* and others.

Along the way he has collaborated closely with artists ranging from Elvis Presley to Quincy Jones to Madonna and beyond. By combining such classic gospel music elements as call-and-response and choir, along with pop songwriting techniques and production, Crouch's style has influenced countless other artists. "Andrae's music has had by far the most impact on me and my family," says vocal artist CeCe Winans, "and that impact has probably grown over the years because his music is still the greatest."

Andrae has recorded 14 albums of his own, selling in multimillion realms, and was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1998.



A Special Tribute

Keith Green

Keith Green

Keith Green was 15 the first time he ran away from home. He had a Jewish background, but he grew up reading the New Testament—an odd combination that left him deeply dissatisfied, and his journey led him into drugs and eastern mysticism. When he was 21, Keith found the truth he was looking for and never looked back. He proudly told the world, "I'm a Jewish Christian," as he and his wife Melody opened their home to anyone with a need, or who wanted to kick drugs. Of course, the sheltered always heard plenty about Jesus.

Not only did Keith's life take a radical turn but, as an accomplished musician and songwriter, so did his music. Although once hailed by *Time* magazine as "a prepubescent dreamboat" for his adolescent crooning, his songs now reflected the absolute thrill of finding Jesus (not to mention his raucous personality). Somewhat reluctantly, Keith was thrust into a John the Baptist-type ministry—one artist referred to him as "abrasive, but anointed"—calling believers to wake up, repent, and live a life that looked like what they said they believed.

In seven short years of knowing Jesus, Keith went from concert crowds of 20 or less to stadiums of 12,000 people who came to hear only him. His recordings were chart-topping and when he began to give his albums away for whatever people could afford, some misunderstood. His views were often controversial but never boring. On July 28, 1982, Keith was killed in a tragic plane crash along with eleven others, including two of his children. His life and ministry, however, are still making a huge impact around the world, as his songs and writings are translated into many different languages.



From the producers

Behind the scenes and the making of **First Love**

...and the wind blew

Stanley Lodge was a massive old log home with 9 bedrooms located in California's San Bernardino Mountains. Its imposing log structure and rugged rustic charm made it a perfect location for our gathering... but there was some work to be done. This turn-of-the-century home had a dubious history... even once reported to be a house of 'ill-repute' for Hollywood celebrities. Now it was being redeemed, about to be invaded by a unique group of musical artists: pioneers and founders of what is now known as Contemporary Christian music.

The lodge had recently been acquired by a Christian camp called Forest Home...and it didn't pass our notice that this little piece of mountain real estate was the very place where Billy Graham knelt under God's hand and was called into ministry (a plaque now marks the spot). **First Love** seemed all the more a fitting title.

January in the mountains is cold, even in California, and Stanley Lodge desperately needed restoration. It had no heat and only a couple of lights, so we would have to bring in a large gasoline generator that could provide the massive amount of electricity that would be required for this project.

Our executive assistant introduced us to a very talented interior designer who just happened to know the owners of a large furniture company called Homestead House. When they got wind of what we were doing they jumped right in and offered to provide us a truck full of beautiful carpets, couches, lamps, and comfy chairs. The setting would look great.

Our anticipation of recording 40-plus songs in four days was ambitious. Each day the artists would rehearse with the band, record video interviews with Steve, and then prepare for the evening recording sessions. Dan rented just about every large audio console available that weekend in L.A. They would take-up three walls of one room and a tangled web of cable would run throughout the entire lodge.

He and his crew would have to figure out how to create enough sound in the room so the songs could be enjoyed by all participants and, at the same time, mic each artist for their

individual recorded performances. They also needed to memorialize all the spontaneous dialogue, group sing-along, and worship that might ensue. All of it had to be recorded onto 32-48 digital tracks and controlled for mixing into a cohesive project.

Steve's video system, brought in by truck from Colorado, would completely take over the other large room downstairs. To hang lights and run cable, his crew would have to design and weld a huge grid into the ceiling of the Lodge's grand room. This room was surrounded by dozens of long glass windows that would have to be masked off for lighting purposes. Camera positions were set as Steve and his crew prepared to roll tape on more than 16 hours of artist performances and conversation in the lodge in the evenings. During the days the video crew would spend all day doing interviews with each of the artists. The arduous task of post-production would require over 2000 hours, as hundreds of photos and hours of video would have to be sifted through.

With all the preparations complete, we were ready for what might happen. We only had four days to accomplish a gargantuan task and had no idea what the outcome might be. We had set the table, but it would require heaven to now serve the meal. But we'd been in this position before.

...rooted in friendship

Over the past fifteen years, we have had the privilege of pioneering projects that have developed out of prayer in hopes that we would challenge the body of Christ to get serious about their faith.

In 1985, we were partners in a recording and video called **Fight the Fight**, an early pro-life message centered on the song of the same title written by Annie Herring. We gathered 100 Christian artists in three separate cities to sing about the



battle that rages over our unborn children in America and to awaken the church to our responsibility as Christians to become involved in these issues that so radically affect the future of our nation. **Fight the Fight** became part of an effort that delivered almost three million signature petitions to President Ronald Reagan in Washington D.C.

Both of us began a committed walk with Christ during the Jesus Movement years. We both met our musical wives, best friends Jamie Owens Collins and Nelly Greisen (2nd Chapter of Acts), and remember with great affection our involvement in early Jesus Music and this special move of God on our culture.

An idea blew in...

A while back, we spent time discussing the state of today's contemporary Christian music industry and how it had changed from the late 60's and early 70's when it was simply called "Jesus Music". The decade of the 60's, which started with optimism, shifted into cultural darkness that began with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Bobby Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King. The Vietnam War was raging, and so was the anti-war movement. The cold war had begun in earnest and, for the first time, we had to live with the new and unsettling feeling that a sudden nuclear exchange could annihilate our world completely. At times, it felt like the very fabric of our nation might tear apart.

The era's hopelessness birthed tremendous upheaval in our culture creating the largest generation gap in history and our generation's rock music screamed the struggle as the hippie generation abandoned the values of their parents, turned to drugs and away from materialism, and went on a search for love and peace. To these young people "the establishment," including the church, seemed irrelevant and out of touch.

Looking back on this tumultuous era we remembered that young, musical voices began to surface. These newly converted



musicians began singing about the new hope they had found through Jesus Christ. Most of them, without a church background, were radically saved, finding Jesus Christ as the answer to their search for love and peace. It was as if God touched this early group of musicians almost all at the same time and raised them up as prophets to our youth culture. They became the minstrels of a new revival called the "Jesus Movement" that swept hundreds of thousands into God's kingdom. The work of God during these days was so special, so powerful; we often struggled trying to fully describe it. Our pastor, Jack Hayford, called this work of the Spirit "a holy explosion..as refreshing a thing as has happened in the 20th century."

The songs of these artists became anthems to eager new believers who found a relevant, contemporary expression of their faith. Looking back, this movement was spontaneous, not organized by any man or church... it seemed to be God's work alone. Christian record labels were almost non-existent. There were no Christian radio stations playing contemporary music, no sales or airplay charts, and no Christian music industry to control it. It was just musicians with a simple faith and a simple message. As Chuck Girard put it, "We didn't know very much, we were naïve.. all we knew was - I once was blind but now I see!" These artists became the pied pipers to their generations, leading thousands to the answer they had discovered in Jesus Christ. He offered forgiveness, hope for the future, and a way to begin life again.

These became the pioneers of "Jesus Music". Who could have known that their ministries would become the foundation on which a large musical industry would be built... an industry now larger than Jazz, Blues or Classical? For us, these pioneers are also our dear friends and contemporaries. We have watched their lives during the past 25 years and have seen their ups and downs, but each still serves



the Lord with a steady commitment to their First Love.

Several ideas came as we prayed about bring these artists together. Tommy Coomes of **Love Song** reminded us that many in our baby boomer generation had lost their “first love.” We were fully aware of our own kids’ search for God and believed it was essential for them to really see how God influenced us and revealed Himself to us back in the late 60s early 70s. “Wouldn’t it be great to assemble this group of artists together and capture the music, motives and values that drove them all these years? Let’s pass forward the lessons of the Jesus Movement for future generations,” we thought. Many of these artist/songwriters have not given up their calling to minister through music. They have endured through considerable pain and struggle, including the lack of acceptance from the industry that swarmed and flourished around their artistry and songs.

Thousands of people knew the music of these performers, but most had never heard the stories of what God was doing behind the scenes in their lives: their individual journeys of faith and the intimate details and drama behind their personal transformations. These became the lessons and spiritual values reflected in the Jesus Movement that we wanted to pass on to everyone we came in contact with so they would never be forgotten. The idea percolated and resonated. We had to do it. With our collective experience in recording and video production, we undertook the **First Love** project. It would be expensive and risky and offered no guarantees, but we had to try.

Wind that shook a city...

The day the artists were to arrive, a historic windstorm slammed Los Angeles on a scale the city had never seen. The destruction was massive. Winds up to 100 miles per hour in some areas made eighteen-wheelers blow over like toy trucks. Trees were down everywhere. Planes could not land and the airport



where most of the artists would arrive was closed and its flights diverted.

We quickly responded by arranging travel by shuttle and buses, sending drivers to pickup artists wherever they could land. This was wreaking havoc with our already tight schedule. Huge sections of the city were left without power. The mountainous canyon where Stanley Lodge was located lost power completely. Downed trees had fallen across the only road leading to Stanley lodge, delaying artists further until chainsaw crews could re-open the roads. We wondered what this meant and if this was a sign of the ‘wind of the Spirit’ to come.

When all of the artists finally arrived, we ate, prayed, and lifted our efforts together as an offering to God. We asked two friends and colleagues (John Dawson, the President of Youth With A Mission and Ed Rea, Pastor of Calvary Chapel in Redlands, CA) to speak to the group. Both are respected Christian leaders and both have a love for these artists, a passion for music, and a historical grasp of the Jesus Movement. John and Ed affirmed to the artists the unique gift and call on their lives, and the artists were deeply encouraged as we began.



Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven and filled the house where they were sitting... (Acts 2:2)

As we started recording the music and life stories of each of these singer/songwriters, it became apparent we were hearing more than some fun nostalgic songs and fond memories. With child-like anticipation, we listened as each musician put into their own words nuggets of wisdom from lessons learned. Something special was happening! The wind of the Spirit was blowing.

These artists were the musical pioneers of a revival that swept this nation and as they each performed their historic songs the room radiated with respect and love for each other. Never

before had this group of people all been in a room together at the same time and each felt honored to have the opportunity to minister to his or her peers. Each still burned with a passion for Jesus, and it became apparent that none of these artists had lost their **First Love**. God was still using them to speak to us today, and I don't think any of us will ever forget the love and friendship that we all experienced during those four days. The days flew by and before we knew it, it was time to say goodbye. The fellowship had been healing and friendships enriching. Embracing with warm hugs and tears we knew that we had experienced the wonder of God's love. He had touched us all.

For the next fifteen months, we worked very hard to finish all of the post-production on the audio and video. We traveled to several locations across the country interviewing many of the people who had a significant influence on the people and the times: Jack Hayford, Chuck Smith, Michael and Stormie Omartian, Jimmy and Carol Owens, Ralph Carmichael, Pat Boone, and many others. We sifted through thousands of old photos, movie clips and hours of interviews. We finally finished putting together the entire experience.

We now offer you **First Love** – a historic gathering of Jesus Music pioneers. We have had the pleasure to watch the reactions

of people who have experienced **First Love** and their reactions are all the same: most weep through the whole event as God uses these stories to touch them deeply... and they tell us they will never be the same again.

In many ways our generation, known as the Baby Boomers, has become dry, overworked and burdened with the cares of life. We are in desperate need of a fresh look at our **First Love** with Jesus. The generations that follow ours can also learn something of their roots through the experiences of these artists and be encouraged that God will use young people to radically transform their generation, too.

Thousands of you have seen or heard about this project. We hope that you will take the opportunity to share this incredible story and show it in your home, church or school. Remember your **First Love** with friends who were instrumental in helping you when you first walked with God. Our prayer is that you will fall in love with Him all over again.

Your brothers,

Dan Collins & Steve Greisen
Producers



Dan Collins



Steve Greisen

Executive Producers

Dan Collins and Steve Greisen

Participating Music Artists

Love Song
Jamie Owens Collins
2nd Chapter of Acts
Terry Clark
Chuck Girard
Barry McGuire
Annie Herring
Melody Green
Keith Green
Randy Stonehill
Matthew Ward
John Fischer
Randy Matthews
Darrell Mansfield
Paul Clark
Honeytree
Andrae Crouch

Guest Interviews

Pastor Chuck Smith
Pastor Jack Hayford
Pat Boone
Phil Keaggy
Billy Ray Hearn
Jimmy & Carol Owens
Ralph Carmichael
Michael & Stormie Omartian
Norman Miller
Marty McCall
Bonnie Keen
John Styll
Peter York

Musicians

Drums & Percussion
Jack Kelly

Bass
Steve Wilkenson

Electric & Acoustic Guitars
Bob Somma

Keyboards
John Andrew Schreiner

Artist's Songs Arranged by
John Andrew Schreiner
Steve Wilkenson

Live Event Gathering

Produced by
Steve Greisen and Dan Collins

Production Coordinator
Carol DeGraff

Furniture Provided by
Homestead House
www.homesteadhouse.com

Filed & Recorded Live at
Stanley Collins Lodge
Forest Home Christian
Conference Center
Forest Falls, California

Forest Home Coordinator
Anne Durning

Video Production

Produced & Directed by
Steve Greisen

Camera Operators
Bryan Boorujy
David Stotts
Jon Matas
Paul Ripley

Lighting Director & Grip
Dave Thomas

Technical Director
Dave Thomas

**Engineering & Construction
Supervisor**
Larry Wright

Makeup
Sue Cary Mayer

Set Decoration
Marie Waisner
Tracy McKee

Field Production Video

Videography and Audio
Steve Greisen
Bryan Boorujy
David Stotts

Interviewers
Steve Greisen
Dan Collins

Video Post Production

Script
Steve Greisen
John Fischer

Post Production Editors
Bryan Boorujy
David Stotts

Production Assistant
Zarette Beard

Video Audio Mix
Steve Greisen
Bryan Boorujy
David Stotts

Music Mixes
Dan Collins

Post Production Facility
Reel Productions, LLC
Monument, Colorado
www.reelproductions.net

Music Production

Music Produced by
Dan Collins

Sound Engineers
Jim Scheffler
Steve Hallmark

Audio Recording
Live Equipment Supplied by
Power Audio
Riverside, California

Sound Technicians
Rob Smooth
Dan Williams
William Standish

Music Post Production

Music Mixed at
Hallmarks
Newbury Park, California

Songs Mixed by
Jim Scheffler

Sound Editor
Steve Hallmark

Additional Recording & Mixing
Dan Collins

Additional Background Vocals
Jamie Owens Collins
Nelly Greisen
Robin Fishette
Dan Collins

Additional Keyboards on 'Born Again'
Tom Beard

Pictures & Footage Supplied by
All Participating Artists
CCM Magazine
Tom Granger
Steve Greisen
Kathryn Lawrence
Leonard & Pauline Stonehill
Dave Hollandsworth
www.oneway.simplenet.com
United States National Archives
Arrowhead Productions
Calvary Chapel
Costa Mesa, California

Cover Art & Package Design
Haas & Jaycox Design

Booklet Editor
Dr. Tom Beard

Thanks to
John Dawson
Ed, Raelynn & Wendy Rea
The Macedonia Church
of God in Christ
Val Verde, California
John Suggs (*Andrae Crouch as a boy*)
Jean Fowke
Dr. Paul Reisser
Dan Miller
Mike Jones
Andy Elm
Procla Media Productions

Special Thanks
Sandy & Diana Wheeler

Exclusive Worldwide Distribution
Exploration Films
explorationfilms.com

Songs

Love Song
"Welcome Back"
Words & Music by Chuck Girard
©1971 Dunamis Music BMI

"Two Hands"
Words & Music by Charles Butler & Tommy Coomes
©1971 Dunamis Music BMI

Barry McGuire
"Happy Road"
Words & Music by Barry McGuire
©1973 Dayspring Music/Shanda Music BMI

"Seeds of Love"
Words & Music by Barry McGuire & Mark Royce
©1991 Shaunda Music ASCAP
All rights administered by Fairhill Music

Jamie Owens Collins
"The Victor"
Words & Music by Jamie Owens Collins
©1974 Bud John Songs, Inc. ASCAP
All rights administered by EMI
Christian Music Publishing

"Seasons of the Soul"
Words & Music by Jamie Owens Collins
©1996 Fairhill Music ASCAP

2nd Chapter of Acts

"Easter Song"
Words & Music by Anne Herring
©1974 Latter Rain Music ASCAP.
All rights administered by EMI
Christian Music Publishing

"Which Way the Wind Blows"
Words by Nelly Greisen, Music by Anne Herring
©1974 Bud John Songs, Inc. ASCAP.
All rights administered by EMI
Christian Music Publishing

Terry Clark

"Let's Have A Good Time"
Words & Music by Terry Clark
©1978 Dunamis Music BMI

"Jesus Mighty Fortress"
Words by Terry Clark
Music by Roby Duke & Nick Manson
©1993 Clark Brothers Keepers BMI

Chuck Girard

"Sometimes Alleluia"
Words & Music by Chuck Girard
©1974 Dunamis Music BMI

Annie Herring

"My Redeemer"
Words & Music by Anne Herring
©1996 Latter Rain Music ASCAP.
All rights administered by EMI
Christian Music Publishing

Keith Green

"There Is A Redeemer"
Words & Music by Melody Green
©1982 Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane Music
Publishing Co., Inc. ASCAP

"Oh Lord, You're Beautiful"
Words & Music by Keith Green
©1980 Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane Music
Publishing Co., Inc. ASCAP

"Born Again"
Words & Music by Keith & Melody Green
©1977 EMI April Music, Inc. ASCAP

Randy Stonehill

"King of Hearts"
Words & Music by Randy Stonehill
©1976 King of Hearts Publishing BMI

"Abandon Your Heart"
Words & Music by Randy Stonehill
©1996 Stonehillian Music ASCAP

Darrell Mansfield

"Million Dollar Feeling"
Words & Music by Darrell Mansfield & James Felix
©Summer Grace BMI

"Stand By Me"
Words & Music by Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller,
Ben E. King
©1961 (Renewed) Jerry Leiber Music, Mike Stoller
Music ASCAP/Unichappell Music BMI

John Fischer

"All Day Song"
Words & Music by John Fischer
©1973 Bud John Songs, Inc. ASCAP. All rights
administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing

"Jesus Loves Even Me"
Words & Music by Philip P. Bliss
Public Domain

Randy Matthews

"Didn't He"
Words & Music by Randy Matthews
©1972 Word Music, Inc. ASCAP

"Ti Chape"
Words & Music by Billy Smiley, Randy Matthews,
John Thompson, Greg Tomquist
©1996 Stowaway Music BMI/Birdwing/Kid
& Squid Music ASCAP

Matthew Ward

"To the King"
Words & Music by Matthew Ward & Anne Herring
©1996 Megin's College Fund Music ASCAP/Latter
Rain Music ASCAP (Latter Rain administered by
EMI Christian Music Publishing)

Paul Clark

"Abide"
Words & Music by Paul Clark
©1974 Minstrel's Voyage Publishing Music ASCAP
"Where Did I Fall Down?"
Words & Music by Paul Clark
©1992 Minstrel's Voyage Publishing Music ASCAP

Honeytree

"Clean Before My Lord"
Words & Music by Nancy Honeytree
©1973 Word Music, Inc. ASCAP

"Pioneer"

Words & Music by Nancy Honeytree
©1990 Oak Table Publishing, Inc. ASCAP

Andrae Crouch

"I Don't Know Why (Jesus Loved Me)"
Words & Music by Andrae Crouch
©1971 Bud John Songs, Inc. ASCAP. All rights
administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing

"I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes"
Words & Music by Andrae Crouch
©1997 Vaughn Street Music ASCAP. All rights
administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing

"Bless His Holy Name"
Words & Music by Andrae Crouch
©1973 Bud John Songs, Inc. ASCAP. All rights
administered by EMI Christian Music Publishing