

FEELIN' BETTER LINER NOTES

Travis Edward Pike
Otherworld Cottage Industries



Travis with his Taylor guitar



Guest artist Jon DeFresne

01. "Cold, Cold Morning," a soulful, jazzy piece from 1967, with all new lyrics tells a country-western story, new this year. (Travis bought his Taylor guitar in 1974 and still has it.)

02. "Things Aren't Always What They Seem" was once a dance number played on the Charles River Esplanade in *FEELIN' GOOD*.

03. "Don't Hurt Me Again" is little changed since it was first heard in the movie, *FEELIN' GOOD*, but the arrangement is different.

04. "Trophy Woman," although it evolved from "Wicked Woman," a song featured in the film, is really an entirely new piece.

05. "Foolin' Around" was a dance number played at "Ted's" welcome home party in the movie.

06. "The Way That I Need You" was also performed on the Esplanade.

07. "It Can't Be Right" was in the movie, but this arrangement is more Five Beats than *FEELIN' GOOD*.

08. "I Beg Your Pardon" was beautifully staged on a Swan Boat in Boston's Public Gardens.

09. "Feelin' Better" was originally composed some time after Travis stopped performing live, but never before recorded and only finished when he renamed it and made it the title song for this album.

10. "Rock N Roll" was written in 1965 for The Five Beats in the American rock style then popular in Germany. It was never before performed or recorded, making it one of the "newest old songs" in the album.

11. "End Of Summer (2014)." An instrumental version was the theme for the 1975 Golden Globe nominated film, *THE SECOND GUN*. Written for Travis' German fans, with verses in German and English, the song was first released on the 2013 *Odd Tales and Wonders Stories in Song CD*. This bonus cut features a lovely string section.

These arrangements were all inspired by The Five Beats, the German-Italian group assembled in 1964 to showcase Travis in live performances while he was there. In those days, Travis sang songs made popular by such recording artists as Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, The Everly Brothers, Ray Charles, The Clovers, The Coasters and Jerry Lee Lewis, but an auto accident put an end to his off-duty music hall career as "Teddy, die Twistsensation aus USA."

Back in the States, recovering from reconstructive surgery, Travis composed songs for The Five Beats in anticipation of a return to Germany. That return was never to be, but Travis did perform seven of those songs in the 1966 movie, *FEELIN' GOOD*. Over the years, some song titles, lyrics, and arrangements changed dramatically, but for this album, with the help of special guest artists Christopher Woodcock (saxophone), and Jon DuFresne (lead guitarist on "Rock N Roll" and "Cold, Cold Morning"), Travis and his superbly talented younger brother, Adam, were able to recapture the authentic sound of a half century ago for today's sophisticated music collectors.

The album opener, "Cold, Cold Morning," is a more recent work, featuring the sound palette of that earlier era. The next seven are all evolved from songs featured in *FEELIN' GOOD*, but Travis wrote that film's title song for the Montclairs, and since this is not a soundtrack album, he composed a new title song, "Feelin' Better," for this trip down memory lane. The last two songs, "Rock N Roll," and "End of Summer," were composed for the Five Beats, but they never heard them.

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Guest artist Chris Woodcock



Years ago, Travis gave Adam his old Gibson guitar, and Adam played it on most of these songs.

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