



The Hi-Fi Hillbillies

Released August 22, 2022

The release of *Modern Sounds in Vintage Rock and Roll Music* by The Hi-Fi Hillbillies of Tulsa is a compilation of some of the most beloved tunes spanning over half a century. This album is a joy; it is fun; and if there is a slither of rhythm in your bones, you'll be dancing to a band who makes 11 cover songs their own.

For example, guitarist Neil Dirickson has the coolest opening one can imagine on Robert Johnson's *Crossroads* and Neil's slide is captivating throughout this classic.

With Bo Diddley's *Before You Accuse Me*, lead vocalist Jeff Graham plays lead guitar with an old time feel I love. Jeff's guitar body was built by a friend in high school (Joplin, MO) in 1979. Tulsan Brad James put a Yamaha neck (from a guitar Jeff bought in Nashville in 1995) and body together in 2009. While Eric Clapton and others have covered this tune, Jeff's version is one of my favorites.

On the 1956 release *Seven Nights to Rock*, this Rockabilly tune has been covered by Bruce Springsteen and others, but I'll once again take Jeff vocals and guitar.

Keyboardist Peter De Les Dernier formed the Hi-Fi Hillbillies in 2016 and handles most of the vocals. While some of us remember him performing as Sneaky Pete in the Blues Society's solo/duo *Blues Challenge*, he's the glue to this group. His keyboard stands out on the album from the start with *It's All Over Now* (Bobby

A fine tribute to Carl Perkins is found in Honey Don't, which was the B side of Perkin's original hit Blue Suede Shoes.

Then there is a rousing version of the early Beatles, I Saw Her Standing There (Lennon/McCartney), which closes out the album.

I'd be remiss not to mention guitarist Hayden Burlingame (lead and backing vocals) and drummer EJ Rossman powering the rhythm section, along with Peter who not only plays all the keyboards, but adds a left handed keyboard bass.

This record was recorded February through June of 2022 in Peter's basement studio on ProTools. The tracks were recorded live to tape, three piece, with minimum overdubs. Peter engineered and mixed the tracks.

The Hi-Fi Hillbillies play once or twice a week, almost every week of the year. They perform at private parties, charity and corporate events, hot rod shows, cruise nights and casinos in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado.

Available at: CD Baby on over 20 streaming platforms, including Apple Music, Spotify and Dweezer.

--Billy Austin Martin