

Bucky Pizzarelli: April Kisses • Solo 7-string Acoustic Guitar

ARCD 19227



1. **Helena** (Carl Kress) (2:56)
2. **April Kisses** (Eddie Lang) (3:32)
3. **Afterthoughts, Part 1** (Carl Kress) (2:05)
4. **Afterthoughts, Part 2** (Carl Kress) (1:08)
5. **Afterthoughts, Part 3** (Carl Kress) (1:07)
6. **The End of a Love Affair** (Edward Redding) (3:01)
7. **Slow Burning** (George M. Smith) (3:35)
8. **Tears** (Django Reinhardt) (3:20)
9. **Love Song** (Carl Kress) (3:12)
10. **It Must be True** (Gus Arnheim, Harry Barris, Gordon Clifford) (2:38)
11. **Indy Annie** (Bucky Pizzarelli) (1:46)
12. **Sutton Mutton (Taking it on the Lamb)** (Carl Kress) (3:04)
13. **Come Sunday** (Duke Ellington) (2:58)
14. **Squattin' at the Grotto** (George Van Eps) (2:45)
15. **Please** (Leo Robin, Ralph Rainger) (2:18)
16. **Smoke C** (Jerome F)

ADD

CD Jazz

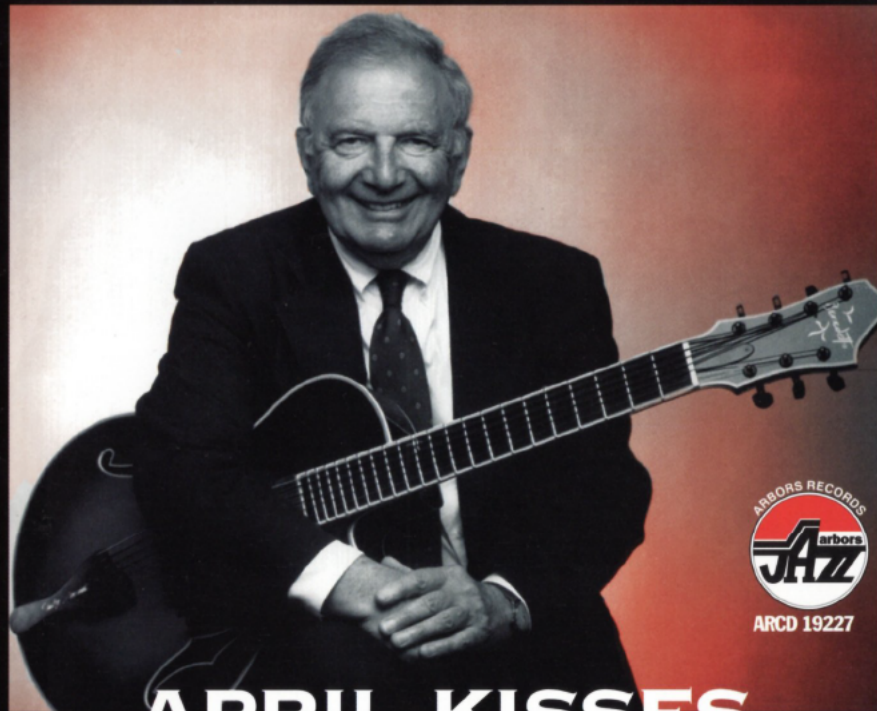
Pizzarelli, Bucky.

April kisses

Bucky Pizzarelli: Solo

Produced by: ARBORS RECC
© 1999 Arbors Records, Inc.
Unauthorized duplication is a

BUCKY PIZZARELLI



ARCD 19227

APRIL KISSES
SOLO 7-STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR



BUCKY PIZZARELLI: APRIL KISSES SOLO 7-STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR

Sometimes it is strange the way things happen. In January of this year (1999), I reached my friend Bucky in London for an interview. Shortly after we exchanged greetings he began to play for me some compositions by Eddie Lang and Carl Kress on his new Benedetto 7-string guitar. I knew the original recordings, but while he was playing I had a very clear feeling. I was listening to the most important heir of a tradition that we could define as "archtop guitar music." A tradition founded by Lang and Kress and then continued by artists like George Van Eps, George W. Smith and Bucky himself, but which has been kept in the shadows for too long. This unique blending of classical harmony and jazz language is the real American answer to European classical guitar. On this precious recording, Maestro Bucky Pizzarelli plays wonderfully some of the best of these compositions. Listening to them, many people will want to know why such beautiful music has been, until today, so overlooked. It seemed quite obvious to suggest to Bucky the idea of recording this material alone, on the acoustic archtop. When I told him, he had a sparkle in his eyes. As a guitar player and jazz lover I now thank him for realizing it. – Michele Ariodante, jazz guitarist and regular contributor to Axe magazine. Rome, Italy, March, 1999

Some Comments by Bucky On The Music He Selected

****Helena**, written by Carl Kress. Carl was married to Helen Carol who sang with Perry Como and the Merry Macs.

****April Kisses**, written by Eddie Lang. This is a great example of Eddie Lang's guitar rhythm and solo playing. I first heard Don Arnone and Tony Mottola play parts of this song during breaks at the NBC studios.

****Afterthoughts (parts 1, 2, 3)**, written by Carl Kress in three sections, in memory of Dick McDonough.

End of a Love Affair, written by Edward Redding. This is one of the first songs I played on a 7 string guitar.

****Slow Burning**, written by George M. Smith. I hold George M. Smith in the highest regard. He can be heard on many Shirley Temple and Fed Astaire movie musicals.

Tears, written by Django Reinhardt, one of the greatest guitarists in the world who has influenced many generations of musicians. I played often with Stephane Grappelli, who played with Django in the 1920's and 1930's.

****Love Song**, written by Carl Kress. A beautiful example of Carl Kress' writing, it begins with a frisky section, goes into a romantic section and has a pretty ending.

It Must Be True, written by Harry Barris who was a member of the Rhythm Boys. This song was performed by Bing Crosby and Eddie Lang. Les Paul played it for me one night at the Iridium, a New York City club where he works every Monday.

Indy Annie, which I wrote as a tribute to *Back Home in Indiana* and its composer, Jerome Kern. The song was also influenced by George Van Eps.

****Sutton Mutton (Taking it on the Lamb)**, another energetic endeavor by Carl Kress

Come Sunday, written by Duke Ellington. This is to celebrate Duke's 100th birthday. I have always been impressed by Billy Strayhorn and the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

****Squattin' at the Grotto**, a lovely guitar solo written by George Van Eps which uti-

lizes 4 string block chords. I met George Van Eps in New York in 1969. The next day, after hearing George play a Gretsch 7 string guitar, I went to Manny's Music Store in Manhattan and purchased my own George Van Eps model Gretsch guitar. Originally, George played a 6 string Epiphone but he made it sound like a 7 string.

Please, written by Ralph Rainger and Leo Robin, is one of Bing Crosby's most famous recordings. It has a great single-string backing by Eddie Lang on it. Here I play my own single-string introduction with Eddie Lang in mind.

****Smoke Gets in Your Eyes**, written by Jerome Kern. This CD would not be complete without a classic plectrum style song like this. It has a very tender, beautiful release in the style of George Van Eps.

Slamerino, was written by me for Slam Stewart. Slam and I performed together many times with Benny Goodman.

****Peg Leg Shuffle**, written by Carl Kress, is a very perky and upbeat tune that demands your attention.

Stompin' for Boz, was written by me for my friend Bob Bozzo. Bob has a packaging store in Waldwick, New Jersey, where I like to hang out and jam with my guitar buddy.

Silk City Blues, was written by me as a salute to Paterson, New Jersey, the silk city of the world in the 1930's and 1940's. I was born and raised there and prepared for a musical career by my uncles, Bobby and Peter Domenick.

**** Music can be found in *Masters of the Plectrum Guitar*, published by Mel Bay.**

Producer's Note By T. J. McGann

April Kisses is the title of Bucky Pizzarelli's latest CD. In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the plectrum guitar, Bucky is proud to dedicate this CD to all the great musicians who have performed and composed on the plectrum guitar, such as Eddie Lang, Carl Kress and Dick McDonough.

The plectrum guitar is an acoustic archtop that possesses some type of F-hole. The size, shape, and location of the F-hole may vary, but the sound created by the guitar is forced out through this hole. It was made popular in the 1920's and 1930's by the Gibson and Epiphone Guitar Companies. In 1923, Gibson began producing its L-5 model, designed by Lloyd Loar, and it was originally called THE MASTER LINE GUITAR, L-5 MODEL. In mid-1931, Epiphone officially announced its already established line of Masterbilt guitars. Since the beginning of the century, the L-5 design has inspired numerous luthiers - Gretsch, D'Angelico, Stromberg, D'Aquisto and Benedetto. Bucky has enjoyed the individual unique sounds produced by each guitar, but favors his custom 7-string Benedetto. Bucky's 7-string guitar was recorded with a set of LaBella acoustic guitar strings on an analog tape machine utilizing 2 microphones, a Sennheiser 421 and an AKG 414. The CD was then mastered on a digital audio tape (DAT) machine and edited on a computer.

Bucky would like to acknowledge those band leaders, including Skitch Henderson and Benny Goodman, as well as Frank Sinatra, who insisted he use the plectrum guitar. Producing this body of guitar music has not only been very gratifying to Bucky, but it has also realized his life long dream to commit it to record. He hopes that you get as much enjoyment listening to this CD as he did making it.

Bucky has had an extremely satisfying musical career and would like to thank all the people he has met through music. He would also like to thank his lovely wife Ruth, his children Anne, Mary, John and Martin, and all of his fans around the world who have been so supportive. — **T. J. McGann**, March, 1999

THE CREDITS

Produced by:	Bucky Pizzarelli and T. J. McGann
Executive Producers:	Rachel and Mat Domber for Arbors Records, Inc.
Recorded:	March 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 1999 at Mac Music Productions, Inc., Paramus, New Jersey
Recorded by:	Mario Costibile
Mastered by:	Larry Gates
Cover Photograph:	Kreigsmann
Other Photographs:	T. J. McGann
Design:	Victor DeRobertis/Down Under Design

Bucky Pizzarelli plays a Benedetto 7-string guitar.

SEE ARBORS RECORDS CATALOG FOR LISTING OF THE 17 ALBUMS IN WHICH BUCKY PIZZARELLI APPEARS, INCLUDING HIS DUET ALBUM WITH JOHN PIZZARELLI:

The Pizzarellis, Bucky and John: Contrasts ARCD 19209

NEW FROM ARBORS RECORDS

John Sheridan Solo Piano: They Can't Take That Away From Me ARCD 19214

Kenny Davern: Smiles ARCD 19207

Ruby Braff: Born to Play ARCD 19203

Bob Wilber & International March of Jazz All-Stars: Everywhere You Go There's Jazz ARCD 19202

Tommy Newsom and Ken Peplowski: The Feeling of Jazz ARCD 19195

Dick (Hyman) and Derek (Smith) at the Movies ARCD 19197

The Johnny Varro Swing 7: Afterglow ARCD 19198

Irvin Stokes: Just Friends ARCD 19199

Ray Sherman: Piano Chicago Style ARCD 19186

WRITE ARBORS RECORDS FOR A COMPLETE CATALOG

New address and phone effective 4/1/99: Arbors Records, Inc., 2189 Cleveland Street, Suite 225, Clearwater, FL 33765 • Phone: (727) 466-0571 Fax: (727) 466-0432 Toll free: (800) 299-1930

E-mail: mrd@gate.net Internet address: <http://www.arborsjazz.com>

Bucky Pizzarelli: April Kisses

Solo 7-string Acoustic Guitar

1. Helena (2:56)
2. April Kisses (3:32)
3. Afterthoughts, Part 1 (2:05)
4. Afterthoughts, Part 2 (1:08)
5. Afterthoughts, Part 3 (1:07)
6. The End of a Love Affair (3:01)
7. Slow Burning (3:35)
8. Tears (3:20)
9. Love Song (3:12)
10. It Must be True (2:38)
11. Indy Annie (1:46)

12. Sutton Mutton (Taking it on the Lamb) (3:04)
13. Come Sunday (2:58)
14. Squattin' at the Grotto (2:45)
15. Please (2:18)
16. Smoke Gets in Your Eyes (3:38)
17. Slamerino (2:25)
18. Peg Leg Shuffle (2:20)
19. Stompin' for Boz (2:13)
20. Silk City Blues (5:24)

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO



A D D

ARCD 19227

© 1999 ARBORS RECORDS, INC.

Unauthorized reproduction of this recording is a violation of applicable laws. Made in USA