

THE FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS MASTERS/SESSIONS 1953 TO 1974

Introduction

This archive listing covers recordings by Frankie Valli and the various artists/groups he performed with up to the formation/naming of the Four Seasons in 1962 and subsequently on projects under other pseudonyms where known or rumoured. The listing covers a long period and the degree of record keeping and preserved paper records appears limited by some of the record companies. Information is taken from 45s (and their release date is from trade papers or published data) in the absence of official recording session/release date information. Sometimes session dates/release dates are suggested or established as a 'best guess'. Conflicts may occur with other discographies and it is an on-going task to resolve these with verified data. Unreleased recordings are noted where known. They may no longer exist. New 'finds' are occurring over time and will be added as 'discovered'. Some data is anecdotal but included until verified as an historic 'possibility'

Checking of versions is a major problem and if identified from issued recordings is noted as we receive research data. The 'master' information compiled here identifies information about the vinyl issues from the records and CD project research by others compiled into a master set of information in chronological order as far as can be done for the USA vinyl releases. Where differences are known these are sometimes stated (eg with 'overdub' vocal) additional information as relevant is added in notes in 'red'

The master listing is based on work by Tom Cramlington, based on original work by Edward R. Engel. Contributors include : Ray Nichol, Michael J. Sweeney. Russ McClelland. Ken Charmer. George Ingram, Mike Miller, Stefan Wriedt and Paul Urbahms. Acknowledgements go to Bob Hyde & Steve Kolanjian for the sleeve notes on ACE CDs 507,538,554,582,596,615,620,628,635 & 642. (The FOUR LOVERS R.C.A. information is taken from Bear Family CD BCD 15424).

These notes represent (we believe) all the information available from the records that the Four Seasons Partnership appear to have of the sessions, masters and recording/release dates. If more information exists it is within the Partnerships/record companies records and the employed compilers and researchers listed above have not uncovered it. The order of recording at sessions is not known so the listing follows the master/matrix number. Known unreleased tracks do exist of late sessions at Philips circa 1970 and at Motown from 1972 to 1974 and some information has been included re these until more can be discovered. It remains a 'Work In Progress'

The record is compiled in five sections :-

1. Early recording up to and including The Four Lovers 1958
2. The Four Seasons Recordings 1961 to 1963 (Gone and Vee Jay)
3. Recordings under other names and backing work to others. 1958 to 1963
4. The Philips Era 1964 to 1970 and pre-joining Motown
5. The Mowest/Motown Recordings 1971 to 1974 (as an excel spreadsheet due to available and complex information re the tape index and artists cards)

The format for the Word based documents converted to pdf is firstly the artist session name, performers, year and place. Then the tabulated information lists in columns across the page.

[Session Nr] (Matrix or Master No)	[Time (on record)]	[Title] (Writers)	[Record release No]	[Date Issued]
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NOTE: All release dates refer to vinyl issues and not to subsequent issue on CD