

CHIP TAYLOR

*Can I
Offer You
A Song*

September Sessions

A

1	CAN I OFFER YOU A SONG
2	GO
3	I HOPE YOU SPEAK A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE
4	I JUST CAME BACK
5	THE YEAR OF ME AND YOU

B

1	IT'S A LONG WAY FROM HERE
2	NO BIGGER THAN MY SHOES
3	HEY JOE
4	HOLD YOURSELF IN YOUR OWN LIGHT
5	LITTLE VISITOR

December Sessions

A

1	THE COLOR OF YOUR THOUGHTS
2	LOST BIRDS
3	MIDNIGHT BAR
4	GOOD GOOD LANDING
5	NINE OLD FRIENDS

B

1	TONS OF GOLD
2	YOU FLEW IN AND OUT OF ME
3	LITTLE SONGS
4	COME BACK AND SING IT WITH ME
5	HERE'S TO YOU CAMILLE

CREDITS

THOUGHTS FROM GORAN GRINI

CREDITS

Arrangements by Goran Grini

Recorded at:

Train Wreck Studios, Mamaroneck, NY
Joan's Living room, Hartsdale, NY
Goran's home studio, Skien, Norway

Engineered by Milt Costakis
Mastered by Reuben Cohen
Produced by Goran Grini and Chip Taylor

Recorded by Tony Mercadante, Goran Grini,
Chip Taylor

John Platania's guitar overdubs recorded at 3
bays recording Studio, Galatin, NY
John endorses Duesenberg Guitars and Labella
Strings

"Here's To You Camille" is dedicated to my late
friend, with love to her & her husband ...my
lifetime friend, Al Gorgoni.

THOUGHTS FROM GORAN GRINI

I am writing this from a hotel room in Bergen, Norway, while listening to the final master of this album. Just played a show with Paal Flaata, our first show in four months due to the pandemic. Once again, because of the circumstances, these songs traveled from New York to Norway and back. And every now and then via upstate New York, where John Platania added his magic.

It has been a long time since the three of us played together. The last time was our UK tour in November 2019. I can't wait to meet up with Chip and John and record together again, whether it is in New York or Halden, Norway.

But listening to this album tonight, I know we've captured something special in "our way" – Chip singing and playing by himself in his living room. John, in his own workspace, playing along as if he was right there in the room with Chip. And me, whether I was working from my home studio, or from my parents' cabin up in the mountains, letting my spirit get lost in Chip's words and performance.

For now I can just sit here and relax and enjoy what this process has given us. It's a nice way to spend the night.

CAN I OFFER YOU A SONG

can I offer you a song
one that we can sing together
old friend i miss you since i've gone
can't wait to get back there

the deep forest near Coleraine
the gated hill's of Derry
then off to Dublin on the way
to Kilkenny on a rainy afternoon

chorus

instrumental

the mean bastard in Kiruna
he could not hold that sunshine down
a song for prisoners in Norrtälje
then back to the heart of Hakan's Malmö town

and Ian McNeish .. my Scottish policeman friend
lost your email .. but I loved your book
and my Roos of Arnhem town
big love to you and mom and dad

chorus

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Mellotron / Bass
Nylon Guitar

GO

Go.. go away
don't come back until you do
i love you

Go.. don't look back
keep your heart straight and true
i love you

it's a long way .. to nowhere
where the roof tops .. don't hide the trees
and the lamb chops .. are smokin' under
in cracklin' silence .. you feel the breeze

Go.. go away
don't come back until you do
i love you

instrumental

and i'll be waitin'.. by the doorstep
with my bags packed .. in the car
just to hear you want some company
underneath the stars

Go.. go away
don't come back until you do
i love you

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Mellotron / Bass / Pump Organ

I HOPE YOU SPEAK A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE

I hope you speak a different language
and that's not a bad thing to say
my heart's been feelin' these beautiful feelings
and i don't want words in the way

I hope you speak a different language
so i'll just offer my hand
we'll spin around and around and around
and around this dance floor again

I hope you speak a different language
and i'll just look in your eyes
and when you're ready.. i'll kiss your lips
and that will be no big surprise

and I hope you speak a different language
so i'll just offer my hand
and we'll spin around and around and around
around this dance floor again

Instrumental

your boat just landed... welcome to New York
these are my friends you see around
they're nice like you

and I hope you speak a different language
and that's not a bad thing to say
my heart's been feelin' these beautiful feelings
and i don't want words in the way

I hope you speak a different language
so i'll just offer my hand
and we'll spin around and around and around
around this dance floor again

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Accordion / Bass / Optigan / Samples
Nylon Guitar

I JUST CAME BACK

I just came back to say goodnight... again
I went downstairs to write a song
and catch some words from heaven
but the song just never appeared
but your smile kept sneakin' in
I just came back to say goodnight.. again

i just came back to kiss your lips .. again
you were halfway sleeping .. my angel
my best friend

and the song that never appeared
lives in the touch of your soft hand
I just came back to say goodnight... again

instrumental

but the song that never appeared
lives in the touch of your soft hand
I just came back to say goodnight... again

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Piano / Mellotron / Bass
Nylon Guitar

THE YEAR OF ME AND YOU

give me your promise .. speak from your own heart
don't let some smart words slip through
i fell in love here .. it's been a good year
the year of me and you

give me your promise .. touch with your own hand
take off your glove when we meet
i wanna feel you .. i want the real you
the no one but you for me
no no no no .. whatever you do
don't ever doubt my love for you

instrumental

i fell in love here .. it's been a good year
the year of me and you

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Mellotron / Bass
Nylon Guitar

IT'S A LONG WAY FROM HERE

It's a long way from here .. any time I'm away
even if you're just around the corner
it's a long way from here .. until i'm holding
your hand
the sun won't be shinin' until then

behind these four walls
... playin this guitar
tryin to write a song that finds you with me
some words come along ... and i'm almost there
But at the end of the song i'm still lonely

but sometimes i dream .. a vision of you
like the sun on a rose.. kissing the dew .. in the
early morning
but wakin' is hard.. 'cause wakin' is real
and i'd rather dream that dream .. until..
this time is over

it's a long way from here.. anytime i'm away
and on the wings of some bird.. I'd like to get home
it's a long way from here.. until i'm holding
your hand
and the sun won't be shinin' until then

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Acoustic Guitar / Harmonica / Pump Organ / Bass / Tambourine / Broom

NO BIGGER THAN MY SHOES

i've got kids to keep me straight
and grandkids at the starting gate
i am so proud of them all
i've got a wife to keep me tall .. yet small
no bigger than my shoes

most times i walk i walk with friends
they make me better than i am
or would be .. without their kindness i recall
i've got a wife to keep me tall .. yet small
no bigger than my shoes

i bought a new pair of shoes today
and i noticed one thing
i wore a bigger size .. then i did years ago
but they feel about the same

and i've got kids to keep me straight
and grandkids at the starting gate
i am so proud of them all
i've got a wife to keep me tall .. yet small
no bigger than my shoes

instrumental

Kelly and Frank and Kris and Anna
and Riley Jo and Kate the great and Samantha
and Jackson and Benjamin .. so proud of you all
and i've got Joan to keep me tall .. yet small
no bigger than my shoes

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Mellotron / Bass
Nylon Guitar

HEY JOE

hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the rain
hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the rain
it's mostly rainin' outside your window
it's always rainin' in your heart

hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the sky
hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the sky
the clouds moved over .. for the stars on high
what a pretty sight to see

instrumental

hey Joe hey Joe .. do you like watermelon
hey Joe hey Joe .. do you like watermelon
i put a watermelon near your front door
I hope you find it later on

hey Joe hey Joe .. could we be friends
hey Joe hey Joe .. could we be friends
i live down the street .. near the dead end
i'll come by to see you when I can

hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the rain
hey Joe hey Joe .. why you watchin' the rain
it's mostly rainin' outside your window
it's always rainin' in your heart

it's mostly rainin' outside your window
it's always rainin' in your heart

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Bass / Harmonica / Mellotron / Drum Programming / Percussion

HOLD YOURSELF IN YOUR OWN LIGHT

hold yourself in your own light .. don't let the light
get dimmer
because of weakness that you have control of
don't let him fall in love with you .. in your dimmer
light

hold yourself in your own light .. just let the light
shine bright
as it can be .. as you can be .. as you are .. you are
free
in your better light .. the one that's shining now

you have seen the darkness coming ..
and you have prayed to chase the rain
but the rain seems never ending .. and here it comes
again

don't be afraid .. you have your prayers .. and your
better light

instrumental

hold yourself in your own light .. don't let the light
get dimmer
he will only raise his hand and shy away ..
if he is not the one for you
and if he is ... serve him dinner .. near the river
.. 'neath your roses

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Mellotron / Optigan

LITTLE VISITOR

I have this little visitor that flies
'round my house .. every now and
then
he sits on the desk when i'm through
workin'.. at days end
and he never tells me nothin' .. 'bout
how things should or shouldn't have
been

I've got this little visitor that flies
'round my house every now and then

and he never interferes if I'm writin' a
song .. he just flies on by
as he swoops overhead I just .. give
him a little bit of a wink of the eye
and when i'm finished writin'... he
listens with me on my shoulder again
my little visitor .. that flies 'round my
house every now and then

instrumental

and when I tell past truths and I sneak
in a few .. little lies
well he pecks my neck and he
screeches .. he wants no alibis
and if i drift back to past days and tell
him bout some bad ways .. i have been
he just rubs up against me to let me
know .. i'm ok with him

cause the truth is the truth to my fine
feathered friend

what you are now is worth more ..
than you have ever been
and he never tells me nothin' 'bout ..
how things should or shouldn't have
been

i've got little visitor... that flies 'round
my house every now and then

most times when I first see him .. i
just opened a bottle some western Isle
stuff

and he nudges me when i have had too
little .. not just when i've had enough
oh lucky me .. I got this all weather,
fine feathered friend

I got my little visitor that flies 'round
my house .. every now and then

oh lucky me .. I got this all weather,
fine feathered friend

I got my little visitor that flies 'round
my house .. every now and then

Chip Taylor

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmonica

THE COLOR OF YOUR THOUGHTS

how a day can change the color of your thoughts
and some nights are never ending
and the wishes for the flowers that you brought
can be so interchanging
oh no .. good bye .. so long
welcome home

how a blink can change the smile upon her face
and a word can make it brighter
and a tone can bring a tear to replace
a heart that traveled lighter
oh no .. good bye .. so long
welcome home

instrumental

good bye .. so long
welcome home

so much we take for granted .. like the closing of a
door
inside a .. “don’t come back again” or “at least give
me some time”

how a day can change the color of your thoughts
and some nights are never ending
and the wishes for the flowers that you brought
can be so interchanging
oh no .. good bye .. so long
welcome home

good bye .. so long
welcome home

good bye .. so long
welcome home

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Piano / Mellotron / Bass / Vibraphone / Glockenspiel / Organ

LOST BIRDS

somehow .. some day
lost birds seem to find their way
just as i .. will find my way ..
back home to you

day breaks .. sun shines
some wings never change their minds
just as i .. will find my way ..
back home to you

roll on .. roll on .. through the sky
live to learn .. to laugh and love .. learn to fly

some hearts .. just dream
some fish .. don't they swim upstream
just as i .. will find my way ..
back home to you

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Una Corda / Mellotron / Bass / Vibraphone / Pump Organ

MIDNIGHT BAR

now i'm sure of what i always
knew
that one and one was me and you
and i know two and two is for
the nights .. we never closed the
door

and we stopped by the Midnight
Bar
to hear folks say just who they are
or wanna be inside their dreams
don't humans say the darndest
things

as they wish upon some star
we clearly see just who they are
we nod our heads and ride their
car
and we're all happy

and now i'm sure of what i always
knew
that one and one was me and you
and i know two and two is for
the times .. we never closed .. that
door

Instrumental

and we'll stop by the Midnight Bar
where sisters cry but soon they
are
just laughing at their silly tears
they've had each other .. all these
years

and oh my goodness thanks a lot
see you in that TV plot
they look like us .. they just forgot
things can sometimes work out ..

oh .. but it's all right to feel that
way
'cause truth can get us through
the day
and tears can sometimes wash
away .. the lies we try to feel

and now i'm sure that i always
knew
that one and one was me and you
and i know two and two is for
the nights .. we never closed .. that
door

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Una Corda / Mellotron / Bass / Samples

GOOD GOOD LANDING

here's one for the little bit .. o' the little girl in you
one for the new little lady
one for life's ups and the downs that you do

and here's one for the boys .. who caught your eye
and one for that one in a million
one for that angel who sent him to you
and one for the good good landing

and you can't .. know nothin' .. with both feet on the
ground
look ma .. no hands .. just heart .. look what i found

here's one for the time.. that you feel that inside
and one for the friends who went along for the ride
and one for a good good landing
and one for life's ups and the downs that you'll do
and one for the good good landing

one for the good good landing

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Accordion / Acoustic Guitar / Wurlitzer Piano / Bass / Drums / Broom

NINE OLD FRIENDS

sittin' at a card table in Malmo,
Sweden

nine old friends and me
Runer, Irena .. Anders and Maria
what a sight to see

Hakan and Monica .. Lars and
Marita and Elin round the bend

we made up a poker game .. where
every card was wild
each one of us had a royal flush ..
and we all wore crooked smiles
and we toasted one another ..
every time that jukebox played
cause we .. we never let a good
song ever slip away

like.. today i started loving you
again
or John's Angel From Montgomery
and her good hearted man

now John Platania is in the room
.. go on John

instrumental

now since we made up those crazy
rules .. the following is true:

no one won the big pot .. we split it
up for free
singing, "fuck all the perfect
people" .. and "holy shit .. it is me!"
and we toasted one another ..
every time that jukebox played
cause we .. never let a good song
ever slip away

and "i taught the weepin' willow
how to cry"
words of Johnny Cash
"i can't help it if i'm still in love
with you" .. Hank's song

"why baby why baby why" .. that's
George Jones

and here's John Platania now

instrumental

sittin' at the card table in Malmo,
Sweden .. nine old friends and me
Runer, Irena.. Anders and Maria
what a sight to see
Hakan and his Monica .. Lars and
Marita .. and Elin .. comin' round
the bend

Yeah, actually we were not very
far from the Victoria Theater .. a
couple of blocks. And Goran Grini
came by with Tom Skjeklesather
.. that was great .. from Norway.
And oh yeah .. Jan Ake was there.
What a night.

Chip Taylor

Goran Grini

John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals

Bass

Electric Guitar

TONS OF GOLD

now people run away from ..
people they don't know
and some run away from .. people
they don't wanna know
but there's gold in those hills ..
gold in them humans
there's gold .. tons of gold .. slippin'
away

and when people get lonely .. they
don't have no one
no one to talk to .. they miss out on
all the fun
but there's gold in those hills ..
gold in them humans
there's gold .. tons of gold .. slippin'
away

in a basement in Yonkers ..there
were 4 smilin' faces
uncle Tony drank his whiskey ..
and Frankie smoked his Aces
and Ralphie & me.. we stole three
.. we went down to mighty cellars
we got sick as hell .. just smokin'
and namin' cars"

instrumental

and people run away from .. people
they don't know
some run away from .. people they
don't wanna know
but there's gold in those hills ..and
gold in the humans
there's gold .. tons of gold .. slippin'
away

now at 16 I remember .. crashin'
up the fender
while watchin' pretty girls .. there
were three of 'em .. walkin 'cross
the street
i came home and told my mother..
she called up to my father
dad said .. "don't be too hard on
the boy Barbara!"

and people run away from .. people
they don't know
and some run away from .. people
they don't wanna know
but there's gold in those hills ..
gold in them humans
there's gold .. tons of gold .. slippin'
away

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Acoustic Guitar / Wurllitzer Piano / Mellotron / Bass / Percussion / Samples

YOU FLEW IN AND OUT OF ME

what was that .. you flew in and out of me
you flew in and out of me so fast
the years went by .. the clock spun round and round
in me
you flew in and out of me.. so fast

where are you now .. i hope in a peaceful place
you flew in and out of me so fast
i pray there's love .. so much love in that space
you flew in and out of me .. so fast

i got some news today .. that broke into the heart
of me
i felt the pain in me .. when you hurt so bad

i found some words and put them to melody
that flew in and out of me so fast
far too fast

and now the silence .. the leaves are falling
and the good heart that we shared back then
will linger on again .. until forever

what was that .. you flew in and out of me
you flew in and out of me so fast

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Una Corda / Pump Organ / Mellotron / Bass

LITTLE SONGS

little songs .. from a big heart
get you thinkin' .. you do the rest

little songs .. they don't say much
just give you somethin'.. to remember her by

make a left turn .. then another
a sharp one down the hill .. to the water

sun bouncin' .. 'cross your shoulder
she's runnin' .. by your side

little songs .. from a big heart
get you thinkin' .. you do the rest

instrumental

little songs

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Mellotron / Bass / Drum Programming / Percussion
Dobro

COME BACK AND SING IT WITH ME

life's too long .. life's too short
to not get it out
that something inside .. that needs to cry
i've done some wrong .. you've done some wrong
and that's what this song's about
come back and sing it with me

the sun rises .. the sun sets
and as good as we get .. in between
don't it seem .. we could do better han that
i've done some wrong .. you've done some wrong
and that's what this song's about
come back and sing it with me

and Oh life .. this beautiful life
won't you come back and sing it with me

instrumental

i've done some wrong .. you've done some wrong
and that's what this song's about
come back and sing it with me
won't you come back .. and sing it with me
won't you come back .. and sing it with me

Oh life .. this beautiful life
won't you come back and sing it with me

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini
John Platania

Vocals / Acoustic guitar / Harmony Vocals
Piano / Pump Organ / Mellotron / Bass
Nylon Guitar

HERE'S TO YOU CAMILLE

here's to you Camille .. who am i? .. why am i here?
here's to you Camille .. and who is he? .. what does
he know?
he's just your husband and you have longed for us
to sing
like we did years ago

here's to you Camille .. i see you watching from the
sky
smiling at your always favorite guy
and there's no need .. for us to say goodbye
we'll just always feel the way we did

and oh it's been something .. just to share time
together
and that's the best of forever that we know

and here's to you Camille .. with love from Joan &
me
it's been so crazy .. and that's just how it should be
years ago .. didn't we lose our sanity
oh what a blessing .. for us all

here's to you Camille .. who am i? .. why am i here?
here's to you Camille .. who is he? .. what does he
know?
he's just your husband and you have longed to hear
us sing
like we did years ago .. and we will again
just for you

do do do do .. do do do do
do do do do .. do do do do

Chip Taylor
Goran Grini

Vocals / Acoustic guitar
Piano / Pump Organ / Mellotron / Optigan / Bass / Glockenspiel