MANY DANCES • JERRY KOSAK





1930 National Tricone

Tracks 1, 5, 8 and 9



1979 Kohno Model 15

Tracks 2, 7 and 12 I CAN'T STOP MOVING • The main riff developed from mindless noodling while sitting in the kitchen. One night as I was playing this piece while my kids were going to sleep, my daughter, Sarah, burst out with, "I can't stop moving." I guess this one doesn't work as a lullaby. • MANY DANCES • After not composing for nearly 10 years, I wrote this for my Mom as a birthday gift. It reflects the variety of dances she has done over the years: mother, wife, friend, and more. In another sense, it reflects the many different styles in which I compose. • WARY FOR THE DEVIL BLUES • I was sitting in the kitchen writing out a blues for one of my students when I started singing these lyrics. To my surprise, everything fit together. While my student, Dave, got to perform it first, I made him promise to let me record it first. • THIS MUCH I KNOW • This was the first piece I wrote in altered tuning (DADGBD). It was written for my friend Susan. This one wasn't written in the kitchen, but rather in the bedroom. Oh...no, I don't mean anything like that. I mean that I was sitting on my bed when I came up with the ideas. You know what I mean? Well, this much I know. When I combine these notes in this order they remind me of Susan. • MYSTERY ON WEST 53RD STREET • One Sunday I found myself with the luxury of free time and the desire to compose. I sat down (not in the kitchen) and this song seemed to flow very naturally from start to finish. It's a mystery to me. • LOOSE PICKS • The initial riff came from the same noodling session as "I Can't Stop



1950 Martin 00-18

Tracks 4, 6 and 11



1934 National Duolian

Tracks 3 and 10

Moving." I didn't think too much of it at first, but it seemed as though I was always playing it so I thought why not? As I was putting this piece together, my fingerpicks kept coming loose. • MATAGALPA • While in Nicaragua, I was fortunate to meet José Chamorro Rios, one of the finest guitarists in that country. Inspired by sharing music with him as well as by the beautiful scenery, Matagalpa was composed in homage to Chamorito, as he is affectionately known. • FORGOTTEN BLUES • This isn't a blues with regard to form, it uses the major 7th, and I had forgotten that I had written it. • SLEEP DISORDER • I went to the hospital to do a sleep study because I kept waking up at 4am. After gluing wires all over me, wrapping belts around me, and plugging me into a vast array of scientific-looking gear, I was told to sleep. • GREAT BIG HURT • I had a dream about Johnny Winter, Son House, and Robert Johnson. Maybe that's why I was waking up at 4am. • THE KITCHEN RAG • One morning I sat down at the kitchen table and said, "I wonder if I can write a rag?" It seems as though I write a lot of music in the kitchen. I would guess that since my house has only three rooms and the kitchen is between the other two, I always end up in the kitchen. OVER THE GARDEN WALL • This was written for the wedding of two friends, Rose and Phil. Someone once told me that it sounds like Bach doing a bossa nova.

• Thanks for spending some of your time with my music. • Jerry Kosak

All songs Jerry Kosak All guitars and vocals Jerry Kosak Producers Jerry Kosak and Matthew Zimmerman Studio Wild Sound/Minneapolis, MN/January 1999 Engineer/mastering Matthew Zimmerman Art direction Tom Kosak Design Photography Chris Wilson/Susan Nordbye/Russ Schroeder

Special thanks Susan, Alex & Sarah/ The Homestead Pickin' Parlour/Willie's American Guitars

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Performing with Chamorito in Nicaragua.