

"Where's The Hook?"

TuneMoose Matt bates

Nov 14, 2023

SHOW NOTES

... I'm TuneMoose Matt Bates and these are the show notes from "Where's The Hook?" on 91.3FM, Bluewater Radio

... If you'd like to hear a particular song or topic covered in a future show you can email me at mattb@tunemoose.ca

1) //////////////////////////////////////

Welcome and Station ID

... Good evening and welcome! Welcome to "Where's The Hook? This is 91.3FM, Bluewater Radio and I'm your host for the show, TuneMoose Matt Bates.

Waiting On A Friend / The Rolling Stones

Opener song comments

Show overview

- Waiting On A Friend. Known mostly for their bluesy rock and roll, The Rolling Stones had several great ballads as well. The lyric story says 'just waiting' but, clocking in at 110, a fast walk, the music says 'in a little bit of a hurry'

... You're listening to "Where's The Hook? I'm TuneMoose Matt Bates

... Let's play some great songs, and take a look inside to see what makes 'em tick

- Tonight I'll be talking about the music of two different, but related, migrations to Canada. We'll also look at the bass frequency range and how it drives beat and groove. And in the second half I have a varied perspectives look at Country music, and another of love songs.

THE HURDY GURDY

- But before we get to that I want to give you a taste of the sound of a rather unusual instrument. Last week I played The Hurdy Gurdy Man by Donovan, that got me thinking a bit and looking around. The Hurdy Gurdy has a violin like sound, set against a couple of rich bass drone strings. This recording is mostly Hurdy Gurdy, but there's also an organ pad that appears, as does a Bodhran-like drum sound. And notice the big reverb in the mix, like we're listening in a cathedral, or Union Station in Toronto, or the Taj Mahal perhaps.

Reverse Dance / Andrey Vinogradov

ZYDECO, CAJUN and the ACADIANS

- I was on a cycling trip in Nova Scotia and stayed in the town of Antigonish one night. With some time on a Saturday night, I took in some local traditional music. It was a nice night out. I loved the sound of the small accordion they were playing. A week later, for work, I found myself in New Orleans. With some time on my hands on a Saturday night I took in some local music. The band starts playing Zydeco music. And to my astonishment, there was the same sound as I had heard the week before, driven by, a small accordion. Here's Jalepeno Lena from Rockin' Sidney's 1991 recording.

Jalapeno Lena / Rockin' Sidney

- Between 1755 and 1764 the Acadians of the Maritimes experienced Le Grand Dérangement , or the Great Upheaval, the Great Expulsion. Refusing to swear allegiance to their new British King they were sent to Louisiana, a then French colony. There's a story made famous by Longfellow's epic poem, the story goes that the Acadian Evangeline is separated from her beloved on the day of their wedding and searches tragically, and unsuccessfully to find him again. The gist of story just kind of gets to me for some reason. The tragedy. The lifelong faithfulness and searching. Robbie Robertson, certainly drew on this story a bit for his song, here performed by Emmylou Harris and the Band. The story doesn't seem to be about the same Evangeline of the Acadians. But she's from the maritimes and she waits for, and ultimately loses her beloved. The gist of the song lines up with my gist of the Evangeline of the deportation. **Evangeline /**

Emmylou Harris, The Band

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- Many of the Acadians returned home by following the North star. If you've been to the Maritimes you've likely seen the Acadian flag flown here and there. It's like the French flag but with a single star in the blue band, the North star, their guide home again. Many Acadians stayed in Louisiana and precipitated everything Cajun. Cajun cooking, Cajun language and culture, and Cajun Music, to which Zydeco is related. Listen now to **Mamou Two-Step / Cajun All-Stars**

REQUEST - Azura in Victoria

- I have another request now from frequent requester Azura, in Victoria out on the west coast. Mamou Two Step clocked in at 176, a fast run. Here's a change of pace with Daisy Mae / Leon Bridges, way back down at 60, a very slow walk, or sitting down a sway from the waist side to side. **Daisy Mae / Leon Bridges**

BASS AND BEAT

- Bass and Beat. They often work together. See if you can focus your ear on the low end. **You Don't Mess Around With Jim / Jim Croce**

- Sweet Jane / The Velvet Underground. Even though I don't connect to the opening of this song, it does function as a wake up sound, and provides variety for the main song. And when the main groove kicks in, man I could listen to it all day, driven by a repeating and rather loud bass line. And while we're at it how about Bruce Springsteen's My Hometown with the kick drum and bass guitar linking up. **Sweet Jane / The Velvet Underground**

My Hometown / Bruce Springsteen

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Station ID

Topic Continued BASS AND BEAT

... You're listening to "Where's The Hook? with TuneMoose Matt Bates on 91.3FM, Bluewater Radio

- Let's carry on with our dive into bass and beat. But also take note of the story as well. It's a happy dancing song driven again by a rather loud, if you focus on it, a rather loud bass line groove but, the lyrics allude to the escape of a people from a life of slavery, a more sobering subject

I'll Take You There / The Staple Singers

Some time ago I was working at the Uncle Tom's Cabin museum in Southwestern Ontario. To my big surprise I learned that Canada, and Ontario in particular, was the destination of many of the slaves escaping via the Underground Railway in the 30 years between the abolishment of slavery in the British Empire and later abolishment in the States in 1865. Not being allowed to learn how to read and write, communication for slaves was limited. But they used songs to send coded messages amongst themselves. Many of these song messages related to escape via the Underground Railway. This next song is one of those. Also note the total

lack of reverb in this recording. We are so used to reverb in music that hearing a song without any is quite startling. But it does bring a sense of honesty. Now here's an aha moment for you. The code word for Canada was Canaan. **Sweet Canaan / Deborah Anne Goss**

PALETTE CLEANSE ANALYSES

- Let's cleanse our palette, as they say in the wine tasting business, with a look inside the workings of a few random songs, before we move on to look at some Country Music in the second half. Like Cajun music, Zydeco and Blues, Jazz originates in that mother-lode of musical originality, New Orleans.

I Let a Song Go Out of My Heart / Duke Ellington

- Next: A melody with lots of engaging melodic leaps in pitch, big chorus sound for contrast, some accent harmonies in the verse to catch our attention and an emotional contour that builds in intensity.

I Don't Want To Miss A Thing / Aerosmith

- And now, a Reggae opening beat from a rock band, with an off beat guitar sound, which is then used in different ways but comes back to the Reggae groove in the interlude between song sections. Engaging variety in these guitar stabs. Bass guitar and spacey organ solo, different.

Can't Stand Losing You / The Police

- This next song has the clarity of a Singer-Songwriter style, for a protest song message, with its instrumentally minimal arrangement. But an engaging level of virtuosity, nonetheless, in the guitar playing. Notice how the song doesn't really finish harmonically, like he's leaving us to complete the song in our head.

Universal Soldier / Donovan

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2nd hour Welcome and Station ID

... Thanks for joining me tonight for "Where's The Hook?"

... I'm TuneMoose Matt Bates and this is 91.3FM, Bluewater Radio

... Send me feedback, like, hey man this show is great! or make suggestions, like, can you dig into the music of the 90's and how the vocals are so dry on the

reverb, or, make a song request, I love those. They get me listening to some new music. Email me to mattb@tunemoose.ca, that's m-a-t-t-b @tunemoose.ca . I don't save email addresses so you won't get any junk mail from me, in case you're wondering

... There's an open mic this Friday evening at the Durham Legion 6 30, no cover. I'll be there. Come say hi.

- I can hear the influence of Jazz chord changes, a love for the A A B A song format dating back to his Beatles days, and the engaging downward stepwise harmonic motion hook, in this, from Paul McCartney's 2012 recording, My Valentine.

My Valentine / Paul McCartney

COUNTRY MUSIC

- Country music, let's go! As Ray Charles says in the movie Ray, Country music is great for telling stories. With an upbeat tempo, uncluttered access to hearing the lyric story, and great groove Stephanie Beaumont makes light of a tough romantic situation.

Stop! You're Breaking My Heart / Stephanie Beaumont

- We've been taking note of tempo, and how that plays into the mood or feel of a song. Bluegrass really capitalizes on fast tempos for giving us a happy feeling. This song is off the charts in tempo with the subdivision being so prominent in the guitar work. The main beat is already very upbeat at 140, a jogging speed, but the 4 feel subdivision of the guitar divides that to be 4 times faster takes it off my metronome scale. And check out the choral harmonies on the chorus, pretty typical of Country songs in general.

Mountain Dew / The Stanley Brothers

- Next: a little more serious, and back at a slow walk tempo. But with 4 feel subdivisions lifting the mood. And again, those soothing choral harmonies we love in our Country music Here's **Crying / Madison Violet**

PALETTE CLEANSE

- Let's cleanse our palette once again before moving on. Bob Dylan is pretty good at taking negative alienating lyrics and making us feel happy about it. The lyric story is one thing but upbeat tempo subdivision, heavy use of perfect rhyme, the Blues form, and repetitive melody all conspire to lift our spirits. Check out the bass line riff too, for a driving groove.

Everything Is Broken / Bob Dylan

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... You're listening to "Where's The Hook? with TuneMoose Matt Bates on 91.3FM, Bluewater Radio, where variety is key and great songs have a home.

PALETTE CLEANSE Continued

Keep Smilin' / FreeWorld

REQUEST - Cliff in Durham

- I have another request for you now from Cliff in Durham, also a frequent requester. We chat often and invariably the conversation drifts towards music. Cliff tells me this song, Rocket 88, is the first Rock and Roll song, predating Rock Around The Clock

Rocket 88 / Jackie Brenston & His Delta Cats

LOVE SONGS

- And now for some love songs. There is a book, by Wayne Chase, called How Music Really Works. There's a strong west coast Canada connection here with Wayne studying in Alberta and the book published in Vancouver. Not a beginners book but definitely a jaw dropper if you've studied music at all. I won't get into the book but there's a concept he puts forward there, that we learn things by first getting the gist of what's going on, then we go back to fill in the details once we've built a framework for the information. I agree that this how we listen to music. I've heard the song Lola by the Kinks probably a hundred times. Have I fully listened to the lyrics? No. The gist of the song is enough for me when mixed with great groove. The gist is basically exuberent young love. We don't need much from a song to relight the furnace of that memory, or perhaps current experience, of exuberent love.

Lola / The Kinks

- Or how about love big band jazz style. Lots of intricate brass orchestra arrangement, laid back tempo and the sultry voice of Diana Krall. Pretty important bass line supporting everything. Careful now, you might fall in love.

It Could Happen To You / Diana Krall

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- Or love Singer-Songwriter style. Simple arrangement, lyrical melody, low key but important vocal harmonies acting as pad, and an emotional contour that builds instrumentally as we move through the song.

Always On My Mind / Willie Nelson

- Now a 1997 recording with a retro '80's feel

I Want You / Savage Garden

- Or how about a love song Reggae style. Mostly it's the band name and singer accent that says Reggae to me. Cause there are lots of other style references mixed in... Latin beats, an Elvis Costello sound a like segment, Big band horns, and an 80's synth pad.

(I Can't Help) Falling In Love With You / UB40

- Also from the 90's but if someone were to say the 70's or 2000's I'd believe it.

Kiss from a Rose / Seal

Sign off

... Thanks for joining me here tonight for "Where's The Hook".

... This is TuneMoose Matt Bates, signing off until next week.

Final Song and Goodbye

- Taking us out I have Blueberry Hill by Louis Armstrong, the king of swing. Love makes for some great memories. This is Blueberry Hill / Louis Armstrong. See you next week.

Blueberry Hill / Louis Armstrong

PLAYLIST

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[Jalapeno Lena / Rockin' Sidney](#)

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