

LYRICS PUBLISHING

PHOEBE WHITE

UNEXPECTED

Special guests

RIDERS IN THE SKY *and the* McLAIN FAMILY BAND



What is UnXpected is she's only 12 years old.

When *WoodSongs* did our 1000th broadcast, *Riders In The Sky* were my special guests. I like to have kids on every broadcast, but what kid could perform on the same stage as a major American act on a huge event like a 1000th broadcast of a syndicated, live audience radio and TV program? We found a little Kentucky girl in the foothills of Appalachia that could hold her own, keep her composure and yodel like Ranger Doug.

It was Phoebe White.

When I was asked to help produce Phoebe's album we wanted songs that did more than reveal her obvious talent, we wanted songs that would place a 12 year in the same historic stature of the legends that came before her. We needed an album that would present her as a musical princess of America's front porch.

What is unexpected is a youngster from the foothills of Appalachia could passionately reintroduce the music of America's cowboy past with the same elegance and power of Roy & Dale, Patsy Cline, Jimmy Rogers and Patsy Montana.



What is unexpected is the Grammy winning stars of stage, screen and the Grand Ole Opry, *Riders In The Sky* would immediately agree to be part of this album. What is unexpected was their genuine kindness, even changing the lyric of their big "Toy Story" hit, from "Jesse ..." to "*Phoebe, the Yodeling Cowgirl*".

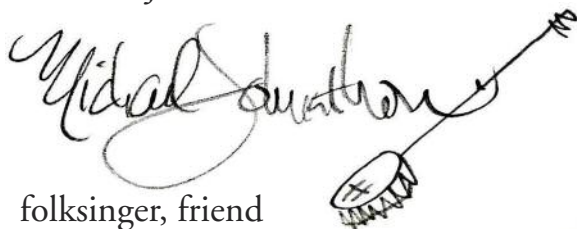
What is unexpected is a legacy bluegrass group like the *McLain Family Band* would jump on board and perform so seamlessly alongside *Riders In The Sky*.

What is unexpected is a 12 year old girl can sing these complicated yodeling songs ... her solo performance of most of these songs were done virtually in one take. Her solo piece of "*If I Could Only Learn to Yodel*" was done with one mic, one track, one take, no edits.

What is unexpected is how effortlessly a 12 year old can go from the "*Boo Hoo Blues*" to a banjo rendition of Uncle Dave Macon's "*Over the Mountain*" and then completely shock you with her vocal texture on a historic piece like "*Prairie Woman*" (originally titled *Black Woman* but I changed the lyrics because, well, she's 12).

It was more than amazing ... it was unexpected.

Michael Johnathon



folksinger, friend

Booking and Info:

SingPhoebeSing.com

Radio and Media:

MichaelJohnathon.com/Phoebe

Phoebe the Yodeling Cowgirl

Written by Ranger Doug, performed with Riders In The Sky

I was born in Oklahoma in the rolling Osage hills
And I rode my pinto pony at full gallop for my thrills
And a song of joy and gladness bubbled upwards from my heart
And burst forth in merry music: that's how yodeling got its start

They call her PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
As dainty as a fairy, princess of the prairie
Yes she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
I ride along and yodel a song from dawn to dusk to dawn
'Cause she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
(Yodeling)

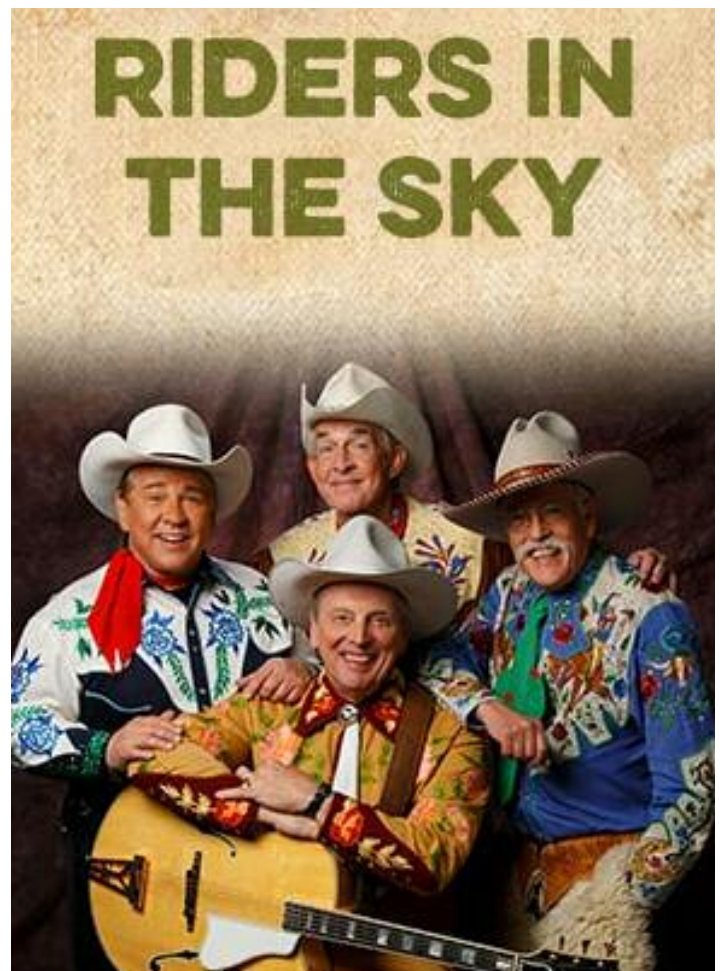
So I move to Californie and became a tee-vee star
The broadcast waves and beams and rays cast yodelin' near and far
My yodelin' swept the country, an epidemic that all caught us
And now everybody knows me as the Epiglottis Goddess!

They call her PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
Ad dainty as a fairy, princess of the prairie
Yes she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
I ride along and yodel a song
From dawn to dusk to dawn
'Cause she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl

They call me PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
(Yodeling)
Yes she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
I ride along and yodel a song
From dawn to dusk to dawn
'Cause she's PHOEBE, the Yodelin' Cowgirl
(Yodeling)

Riders in the Sky
Famed members of the Grand Ole Opry, 2-time
Grammy winners and stars of stage, screen and legacy
artists of the American west, originally recorded
Jessie, the Yodeling Cowgirl's part of the
massive hit movie, *Toy Story II*.

They changed the title of the song
especially for Phoebe's album.



The Yodeling Blues (Down In The Valley)

written by Johnny Mercer, Robert Emmett Dolan
performed with the McLain Family Band

Down in the valley
You'll hear me when the lights are low
Down in the valley
You'll hear my yodelay blues

Oh, yodelay yodelay got the blues
Yodelay yodelay just for you
Yodelay yodelay and the sweetest little home I ever knew
Oh, yodelay yodelay gotta go
Yodelay yodelay don't you know
Yodelay yodelay and I'll sing the yodelay blues

Way up in New York City
They talk a different style
So busy making money
They ain't got time to smile
It was so doggone crowded
It felt so hemmed in there
We came back home to Texas
To get a breath of air

Oh, yodelay yodelay got the blues
Yodelay yodelay just for you
Yodelay yodelay and the sweetest little home I ever knew
Oh, yodelay yodelay gotta go
Yodelay yodelay don't you know
Yodelay yodelay and I'll sing the yodelay blues

Down in the valley
You'll hear me when the lights are low
Down in the valley
You'll hear my yodelay blues

We're so lonesome
We don't know what to do
Guess we're sentimental
Feeling the way we do

Oh, yodelay yodelay gotta go
Yodelay yodelay don't you know
Yodelay yodelay and I'll sing the yodelay blues
Oh, yodelay yodelay gotta go
Yodelay yodelay don't you know
Yodelay yodelay and I'll sing the yodelay blues



Originally performed by Carolina Cotton
"The Yodeling Blues Bombshell"

Recorded in 1950 at the Castle Studio in
The Tulane Hotel, Nashville, TN

She was considered a world champion yodeler.
In the 1940s, she toured with *Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys* and then went on the road with
the Sons of the Pioneers.

She made several western films with leading
actors like Gene Autry and was a radio star.

Boo Hoo Blues

Written by Carolina Cotton, performed with the McLain Family Band

I'm feeling sad
I'm looking bad
Someday I'll just up and die
But when I'm gone
You're gonna moan
You'll be sorry by & by

And oh, oh, oh, how much I've suffered
Boo hoo hoo how I've cried over you
I can't see why you're so mean to little old me
And now I've got the boo hoo hoo blues

I always was a fool because
I let you follow me all along
It wasn't fair but I don't care
I'll always love you right or wrong

And oh, oh, oh, how much I've suffered
Boo hoo hoo how I've cried over you
I can't see why you're so mean to little old me
And now I've got the boo hoo hoo blues

Go on your way
There'll come a day
You'll be sorry wait and see
Somebody new will make you blue
Wipe your eyes and think of me

And oh, oh, oh, how much I've suffered
Boo hoo hoo how I've cried over you
I can't see why you're so mean to little old me
And now I've got the boo hoo hoo blues

I can't see why you're so mean to little old me
And now I've got the boo hoo hoo blues



Over the Mountain

**traditional, Michael Johnathon banjo
performed with the McLain Family Band**

I'm always lighthearted and easy
Not a care in this world have I
Because I am loved by an Allie
And I couldn't forget if I tried

He lives far away o'er the mountain
Where the little birds sing on the trees
And the cabin's all covered in ivy
And my Allie he's waiting for me

It's over, yes, over the mountains
Where the little birds sing on the trees
And the cabin's all covered in ivy
And my Allie he's waiting for me

The day I bid goodbye to Allie
Is a day I will never forget
for the tears bubbled up from their slumber
I fancy I see them yet

They looked like the pearls on the ocean
as he wept his tears of love
And he said my dear girl, don't forget me
Till we meet here again, or above

For it's over, it's over the mountains
Where the little birds sing on the trees
And the cabin's all covered in ivy
And my Allie is waiting for me
(yodel)



Uncle Dave Macon
Born shortly after the Civil War, was
considered the first superstar of the
Grand Ole Opry.

In 1925, Uncle Dave and Sid
Harkreader were asked by the
Nashville Police Force to perform at
the Ryman Auditorium because it was
to become the home of the Grand
Old Opry, a Saturday night radio
concert broadcast throughout the
American South.

Uncle Dave was one of the first artists
to be invited onto the Opry show and
he remained there almost up to the
time of his passing in 1952.

Over the Mountain
was first recorded and released by
Uncle Dave in 1929



Michael Johnathon on RFD-TV

Whatever Happened To The Yodeling Cowgirls

written by Taylor Ware, performed with Riders In The Sky

Whatever happened to the yodeling cowgirls
That rode across the silver screen
The ones that rode with Roy and all of the boys
That rode the range with Tex and Gene

Whatever happened to the yodeling cowgirls
'Cause I'm too young to know
If they could still be found
I bet they'd come to town
And put us on a yodeling show
And they'd go (yodeling)

Whatever happened to the yodeling cowgirls
The ones that used to dress so cute
With fringe hanging down and rhinestones around
And multicolored cowboy boots

Whatever happened to the yodeling cowgirls
There must be at least one left
But until I find the one
I'm gonna have some fun
And do the yodeling myself
(yodeling)



Prairie Woman

traditional, performed with the McLain Family Band

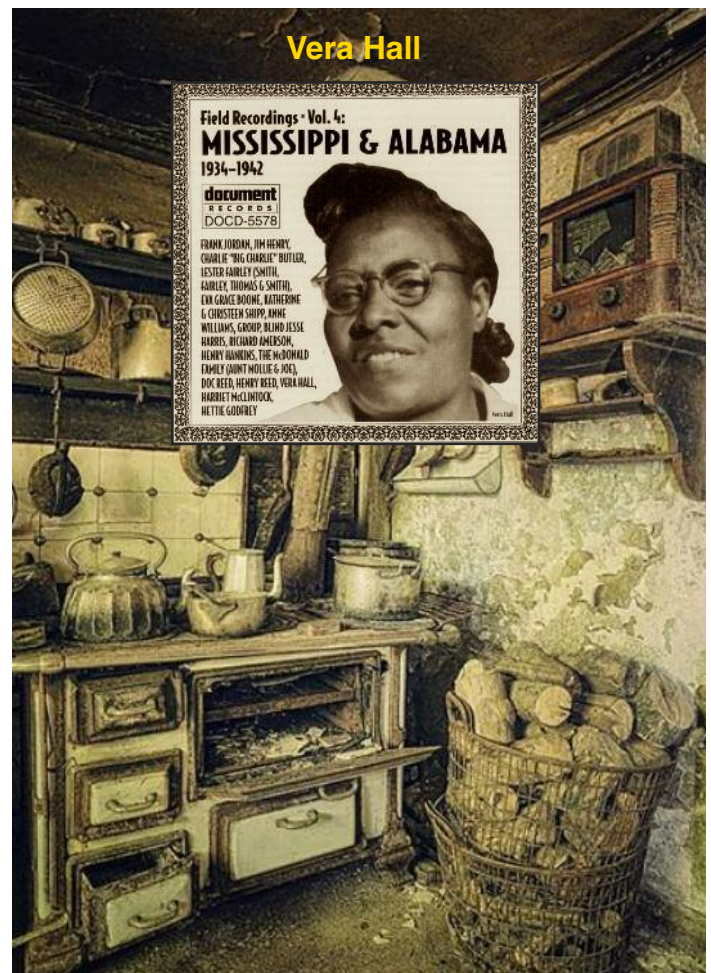
Well come here prairie woman
Ahum
Sit and listen to me
Ahum
Well I've got something to tell you prairie woman
Ahum
Don't you holler at me
Ahum
Now I'm going out to Texas
Ahum
To hear that wild ox moan
Ahum
And if the moaning don't suit me prairie woman
Ahum
I'm gonna drive my bell cow home
Ahum
Don't your kitchen feel lonesome
Ahum
When your biscuit
roller's gone

Originally performed by Adell Hall Ward,
a folk singer better known as Vera Hall.
She was born in Livingston, Alabama in 1902
and established one of the most stunning
collections of American folk music on record.

Discovered by John Lomaz and recorded for the
Library of Congress, he wrote:
"she had the loveliest voice he ever recorded."

Vera Hall recorded this song as "*Black Woman*"
and also as "*Wild Ox Moan*," the name by which
it became popular in the folk revival.

It's a song about loneliness and abandonment,
a struggle to many women during the
American exploration of the west.



Cowboy Hat

written by Trinity Seely, performed with the McLain Family Band

We live in a world where
So many boys and girls
Lost sight of who they really are
In the eye of the horse you're looking into
A mirror image looking back at you
Eyes are the window to the soul
In the eye of the horse you will find your own
Just live a simple life
Work hard and wear a cowboy hat

I come from a time where
Cowboy song and rhyme don't
Mean very much to some
But there ain't nothing phony
'Bout a good riding speckled pony
And that's what makes my world go round
I don't care about what some folks talk about
No, my world is smaller than all that
I love a simple life
Work hard and wear a cowboy hat

It's easier said than done
But that's how the west was won
Living off the folklore of the old
It's tested it's tried and true
It'll work best for me and you
Some call it the cowboy code
Just live a simple life
Work hard and wear a cowboy hat

When life gets a little crazy
And things get a little hazy
Not sure exactly how you feel
Just jump up on that silky hide
Take yourself a little ride
Put in perspective what is real
Be faithful to the brand
Always ride with a grip and sand
Keeping your eye on the trail
Just live a simple life
Work hard and wear a cowboy hat
Just live a simple life
Work hard and wear a cowboy hat



Phoebe White

I Want to Be a Cowboy's Sweetheart

Written by Patsy Montana, performed with Riders In The Sky

I wanna be a cowboy sweetheart
I wanna learn to rope and ride
I wanna ride o'er the plains and the desert
Out west of the Great Divide

I wanna hear the coyotes sing
As the sun sets in the west
I wanna be a cowboy sweetheart
That's the life I love the best
[yodeling]

I wanna ride Old Paint going on a run
I wanna feel the wind in my face
A thousand miles away from home
Going at a cowhand's pace
I want to pillow my head
Beneath the open sky
As the sun sets in the west
I wanna strum my guitar and yodel-le-hee-hee
That's the life I love the best

I wanna be a cowboy sweetheart
I wanna learn to rope and ride
I wanna ride o'er the plains and the desert
Out west of the Great Divide
I wanna hear the coyotes sing
As the sun sets in the west
I wanna be a cowboy sweetheart
That's the life I love the best
[yodeling]

YEE-HAW!!!



Patsy Montana and the Radio Ramblers

Written and first recorded in 1935 by Ruby Blevins, best known to American audiences as Patsy Montana. It was the first country song by a female artist to sell more than one million copies.

She wrote the song in 1934 when she was feeling lonely and missing her boyfriend; it was recorded a year later almost as a fluke when producer Art Satherley needed one more song at a Prairie Ramblers recording session. Montana was the group's lead singer at the time.

The *Western Writers of America* chose it as one of the Top 100 Western songs of all time and her record was added to the Library of Congress's National Recording Registry list of "culturally, historically, or aesthetically important" American sound recordings.

If I Could Only Learn to Yodel

written by Paul Roberts, performed by Phoebe White solo

I'm thinking tonight while the moon's shining bright
Of the boy that I adore
But he won't have me that is plain to see
And it hurts me more and more

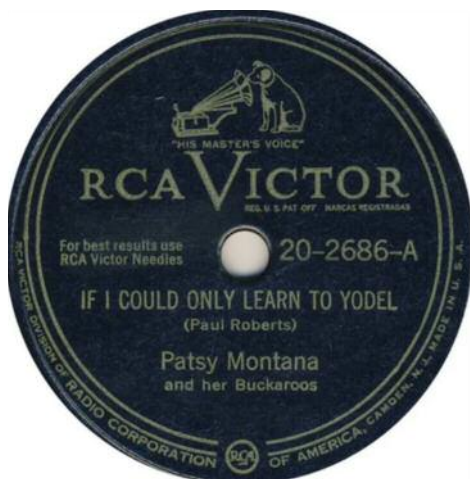
He says he's in love with a yodeling gal from the hills of Tennessee
And she won his heart with a (yodel)
If I could only learn to yodel
And go (yodel)
It's easy they say to go yodeleay
With a (yodeling)

That little old shack is calling me back
To the place where I belong
But I must admit that it just won't fit
With the boy that's done me wrong
So I'm packing my grip and I'll be on my way
to the land that's calling me
and she won his heart with a (yodeling)

If I could only learn to yodel and go (yodeling)
It's easy they say to go yodeleay with a (yodeling)

Recorded by *Patsy Montana and her Buckaroos*
December 1947 at the RCA Victor Studio
in Hollywood, CA.

Born in 1908 in Hot Springs, Arkansas,
Patsy was inspired as a child by the music of Jimmie
Rodgers, so learned to yodel and play body organ,
electric guitar, and violin.



Colorado Trail

traditional, recorded with the McLain Family Band

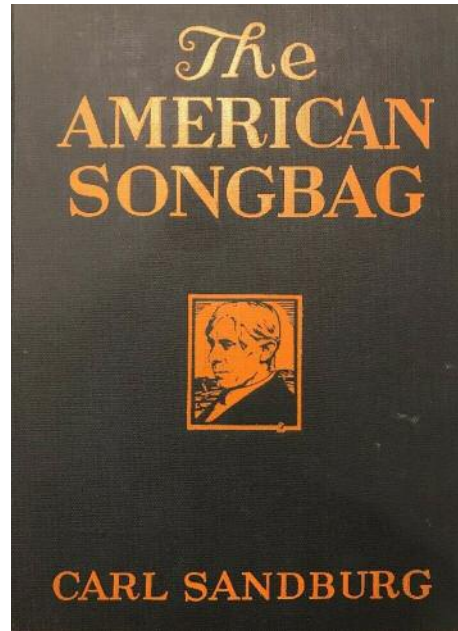
Ride through the lonely nights
Ride through the day
Keep the herd a movin' on
Movin' on its way
Weep all ye little rains
Wild winds wail
All along, along, along The Colorado trail

Ride through the stormy night
Dark is the sky
I Wish I'd stayed in Abilene
Nice and warm and dry
Weep all ye little rains
Wild winds wail
All along, along, along The Colorado trail

Saddle up my dapple-gray
sky still red with dawn
Keep a steady pace all day
Singing my sweet song
Ride through the purple hills
Just like Roy and Dale
All along, along along
The Colorado trail.

All along, along along
The Colorado trail.

All along, along along
The Colorado trail.



Colorado Trail is a traditional American cowboy song, published in 1927 by American poet, biographer, journalist and 3-time Pulitzer prize winner Carl Sandburg for his book *American Songbag*.

Sandburg learned the song from a doctor Duluth, Minnesota, who heard it from a badly injured cowboy being treated in his hospital.

Co-arranged by Lee Hays of The Weavers, it was made popular by the Kingston Trio.



UnXpected credits

All main vocal performances by
PHOEBE WHITE

RIDERS IN THE SKY

Recorded by Randy Kohrs in Nashville, TN

Tracks # 1, 5, 8

Too Slim - upright bass

Ranger Doug - guitar

Woody Paul - fiddle

Joey the CowPolka King - accordion

McLAIN FAMILY BAND

Recorded by Jeff Myers, Tower Station Studios, Lexington, KY

Tracks #2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10

Raymond McLain - guitar and fiddle

Ruth McLain - upright bass

Al White - mandolin, fiddle and short neck banjo

Alice White - vocals

PHOEBE WHITE

Track #9

solo performance, guitar and vocal

MICHAEL JOHNATHON

Long Neck Banjo - Over the Mountain

UnXpected was Produced & Arranged by
MICHAEL JOHNATHON
for PoetMan Records USA

UnXpected was mastered by
JEFF MYERS at Tower Station Studio, Lexington, KY



Executive Producer
TIFFANY WHITE

photos of Phoebe by
Christina Davis/GRACE Photography



“Recording *UnXpected* was a musical experience of a lifetime. Thank you to mommy for all her love and support to make this project possible and to my brothers and sisters for cheering us on.

Thank you to MJ, Riders in the Sky and the McLain Family Band for your amazing kindness and encouragement.

I am grateful and thank God for each of you.
Love, Phoebe”