

SAVOY-SMITH CAJUN BAND

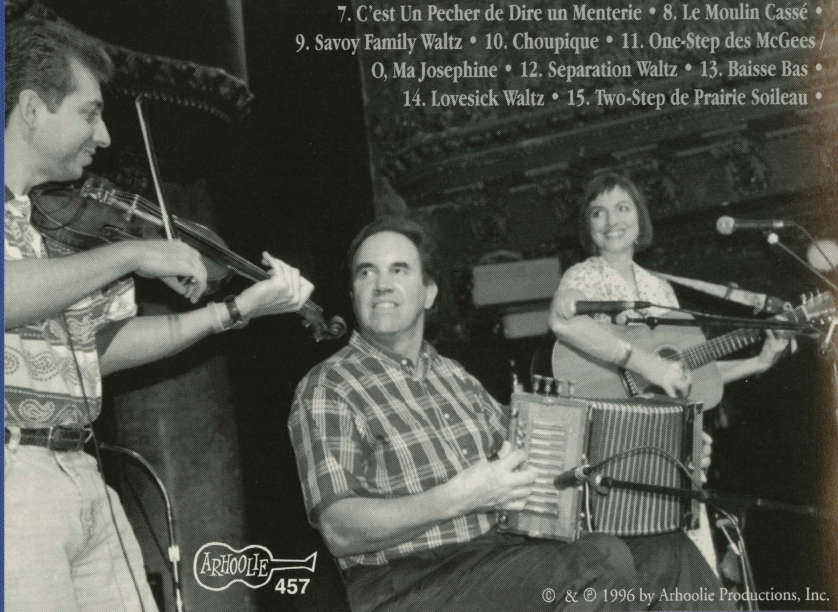
"Now and then..."

Marc Savoy-accordion

Ann Savoy-guitar

Ken Smith-fiddle

- 1. Evangeline Playboys Special • 2. Rainbow Waltz •
- 3. Wee Pee Special • 4. Old Carpenter's Waltz/Contredanse de Mamou • 5. Blues de Basile • 6. Walker Special •
- 7. C'est Un Pecher de Dire un Menterie • 8. Le Moulin Cassé •
- 9. Savoy Family Waltz • 10. Choupique • 11. One-Step des McGees /
- O, Ma Josephine • 12. Separation Waltz • 13. Baisse Bas •
- 14. Lovesick Waltz • 15. Two-Step de Prairie Soileau •



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THE SAVOY-SMITH



CAJUN



BAND

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"Now & Then"

For the past eighteen years, Marc, Ann and I have been playing old time Cajun music together. Out of great respect for the past masters of Cajun culture, our music is made up of uncluttered renditions of old melodies and tales of love and loss. Our new compositions, although based on the past, are also inspired by living our Cajun traditions.

Performing and recording with the Savoy's is a life long endeavor, but with Beausoleil's touring schedule, I sometimes find that I can't be in two places at once. So in my absence Marc and Ann bit the road with Ken Smith. This CD showcases the awesome talents of this Louisiana state champion fiddler, a prodigy of the late, great "Cheese" Read. And what a superb musical experience it is! Watch out now, you're in for a special treat with the Savoy - Smith Cajun Band! (Michael Doucet - 1996)

Credits:

Produced by the Savoy-Smith Cajun Band and

Chris Strachwitz

Front cover photo by Gabrielle Savoy, back cover photo by

Chris Simon

Hand tinting by Ann Savoy; cover by Ann Savoy & Dix Bruce

Recorded at Acadiana Sound, Eunice, La., in 1996

Engineer: Scott Ardoin

Mixed by Scott Ardoin, Ken Smith, & Ann Savoy

Tina Pilione: bass on 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, & 15

1. Evangeline Playboys Special

(Austin Pitre-Flat Town Music)

Marc says, "In the 1960's Austin Pitre's "Evangeline Playboys" and my band would alternate playing the Saturday night dances at the Lakeview Park in Eunice. On the Saturdays when my band didn't play I would go to the Lakeview just to hear Austin play this song. I loved his style and vocals and thought this tune was Austin at his best."

Hé, y yaille, s'en aller à la Choupique
C'est pour voir ma mignonne
Ma petite vilaine manière.

Hé, y yaille, tu m'as dit hier au soir
Tu m'as dit tu m'aimais,
Aujourd'hui tu me tournes le dos.

Hey, let's go to Choupique
To see my little cute one,
My girl with the ugly ways.

Hey, you said to me last night
You said you loved me
Today you turn your back.

2. Rainbow Waltz

(Traditional, arr. by Marc Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

We've always loved the power of the beat and rhythm of the words in this song. Amédée Breaux recorded it in 1950 on a 78rpm called "The Hard Luck Waltz" in 1950, with his brother Ophy on vocal.

O, bébé, ouais, t'après me quitter
Ouais, pour t'en aller, ouais, avec un autre,
O, 'tite fille, ouais, reviens-toi, donc,
Ouais, à la maison, rejoindre ton pauvre vieux nèg'.

O, bébé, mon je connais tu vas pleurer,
Ouais, pour t'en revenir, mais, ouais, à la maison.
O, 'tite fille, ouais, mais m'écoutez,
Ouais, tu pourrais pas si tu demanderais, mais
aujourd'hui.

O, bébé, ouais, mais t'as quittée
Ouais, pour séparer de moi, mais, tu t'en vas.
O, 'tite fille, ouais, mais reviens-toi, donc,
Ouais, à la maison, rejoindre ton pauvre vieux nèg'.

Oh, baby, yes, you left me
Yes, to go off with another.
Oh, little girl, come back
To the house to meet your old man.

Oh, baby, you know you're gonna' cry,
To come back to the house.
Oh, little girl, listen to me,
You know you wouldn't be able to come back if you'd
ask today.

Oh, baby, you left
To separate yourself from me you left.
Oh, little girl, so come on back
To the house to join your poor old man.

3. Wee Pee Special

(Marc Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Marc says: "I first heard elements of this tune from Pee Wee Broussard in the mid-'60's. The fiddler who was playing with us at the time was forced to quit because of family conflicts and Pee Wee joined our group. Not only was Pee Wee a great Cajun fiddler but also one of the finest Cajun accordion players of all time. He was the first musician to figure out that you could play in 'F' on a 'C' accordion. Through all of our years of friendship I've admired the fact that he never tried to sell his music by buttering people up. He expected to be respected for his musical skill, never backing down from his cantankerous personality."

4. Old Carpenter's Waltz / Contredanse de Mamou

(Canray Fontenot/Ken Smith-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Ken learned the first part of this medley, a beautiful waltz, from Creole fiddler Canray Fontenot. The second tune is an old contredanse that Shelby Vidrine of Mamou used to play.

5. Blues de Basile

(Traditional, arr. by Marc Savoy, lyrics by Ann Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Our performance is based on Amédé Ardoin's recording which is today generally known as "Couleé Rodin" and heard on his CD "I'm Never Coming Back" (ARH/FL CD 7007).

O, comment je va's faire, jolie,
Mais si ton pop veut pas mais comment je vas faire?
Je te vois mais beaucoup rarement
Et si ta mom veut pas mais éou je va's aller.

Oh, what am I gonna' do, doll?
If your daddy doesn't want, what am I gonna' do?
I see you so rarely
And if your mom doesn't want, where am
I gonna' go?

O, mais éou je va's aller, catin,
N'importe éou je va's aller, catin,
Mais toi t'es jamais là
Mais si ta mom veut pas mais comment je va's faire
Si ton pop veut pas mais éou je va's aller.

Oh, where will I go, doll?
No matter where I go you're never there.
If your mom doesn't want,
What am I gonna' do?
And if your daddy doesn't want, where will I go?

6. Walker Special

(Lawrence Walker-Flat Town Music Co.-BMI)

Marc pulled this great old two step out of his hat this year in the middle of a dance. Lawrence Walker recorded it in the early 1950s.

7. C'est Un Pêcher de Dire un' Menterie (It's a Sin to Tell a Lie)

(Mayhew)

This beautiful tune has always been one of Ann's favorites. She then heard Cleoma Breaux do a Cajun version of it and ever since then wanted to record it. Ken came up with a lovely fiddle part that really shows off his amazing talent.

Êtes sûr c'est vrai quand tu dis tu m'aimes
C'est un pêcher de dire un' menterie
Millions de coeurs ont étaient cassés
Quand ces paroles ont été parlés
Ouais, je t'aime, ouais, je t'aime, tu connais je t'aimes

Be sure it's true when you say you love me
It's a sin to tell a lie
Millions of hearts have been broken
When these words have been spoken.
Yes, I love you, I love you, you know I love you,

Si tu casses mon coeur ça va me tuer
C'est sûr, c'est vrai, quand tu dis , ouais, tu m'aimes
C'est un pêcher de dire un' menterie.

If you break my heart I'll die
It's sure, it's true when you say I love you
It's a sin to tell a lie.

8. Le Moulin Cassé

(Traditional, arr. by Marc Savoy, Ann Savoy, & Ken Smith-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Ann found this song on an old 78rpm record by the Thibodeaux Boys and loved the way they'd translated the old Memphis Minnie song "What's the Matter With the Mill" into French. It's all in fun!

Il y a un' 'tite fille, elle reste au village
Son vieux père veut p'us me quitter la voir

(Refrain) Quoi- z- y a avec le moulin?
Quoi-z-y a avec le moulin?
Le moulin il est cassé, il y a p'us de moulin ici.

Deux vieux monde après faire l'amour
'Un qui dit "Not' temps est court". *(Refrain)*

Il y a un' 'tite fille, elle est très jolie
C'est dommage quiqu'un la pris. *(Refrain)*

Deux vieilles femmes couchées dans le lit
Un qui se tourne et l'autre qui dit- *(Refrain)*

There's a little girl, she stays in town
But her old dad won't let me see her anymore.

(Refrain) What's the matter with the mill?
What's the matter with the mill?
The mill is broken, there's no more mill here.

Two old people making love
One said, "Hurry, our time is short." *(Refrain)*

There's a little girl, she's pretty.
It's too bad somebody took her. *(Refrain)*

Two old ladies sleeping in the bed
One turned over and the other one said- *(Refrain)*

9. Savoy Family Waltz

(Marc Savoy & Ann Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Marc made up this beautiful tune and asked me to write some words for it. One day in the fall I was driving through the foggy countryside and saw a bleak, empty field and a little house with smoke coming from its chimney, surrounded by bare trees. Suddenly a flock of blackbirds flew up from the field where they were resting and circled above the house. It was a beautiful sight and I imagined the people in the house. The song fell right into place.

Je va's traverser en travers du clos
Là-bas où les oiseaux
Sont après, ouais, voler,
C'est la maison de mon cher bébé,
Il y a si longtemps que je l'ai pas vu
Il y a si longtemps, j'ai pas connu
Comment gros, ouais je l'aime
Son cher 'tit coeur aussi aimable.

(Refrain) Et quand je va's arriver
Je va's tout le temps ouais, la soigner
Je va's la prendre dedans mes bras
Je va's jamais, mais la quitter. *(repeat)*

Le brouillard après se lever
Mes idées sont éclaircies
Et je souhaite elle va pas me blamer
C'est la maison de mon cher bébé.
Les années vont passer
Et un coeur peut oublier
Je vois asteur qu'elle est la seule
La seule trésor dedans ma vie.

I'm going to cross through the field
Over there where all the birds
Are flying
It's the house of my dearest one.
It's been so long I haven't seen her
It's been so long, I'd never realized
How much I love her
Her dear lovable little heart.

(Refrain) And when I'm gonna' get there
I'm always gonna' care for her
I'm gonna' take her up in my arms
I'm never gonna' leave her. *(repeat)*

The fog is lifting
My thoughts are clearing up
And I hope she won't blame me
It's the house of my dear one.
The years will pass,
And a heart can forget
I see now that she's the only one
The only treasure in my life.

10. Choupique

(Traditional, arr. by Marc Savoy, lyrics by Ann Savoy-Tradition Music Co.-BMI)

This song has been around in the dancehalls for a long time. Marc wasn't too interested in it until he heard black accordion player Amédé Ardoin do it as the "Amédé Two-Step" (heard on Amédé's ARH CD 7007), now he can't stop playing it.

O, y yaille, jolie catin, 'tite fille tu me fais de la peine
Chaque fois je te vois, jolie catin,
tu voulais pas me voir.

O, jolie 'tit monde, quoi faire tu me fais comme ça?
Tu m'as quitté, tu m'abandonnes,
'tite fille tu me fais de la peine.

O, y yaille, jolie 'tit monde, quoi faire tu me
fais comme ça?

Tu m'as quitté, tu m'abandonnes,
'tite fille tu me fais de la peine.

O, jolie 'tit monde, joli 'tit monde tu fais
Mais tout ça tu m'as fait, catin,
quoi faire tu me fais comme ça?

Oh, y yaille, pretty little doll, little girl you hurt me,
Each time I see you you don't want to see me.

Oh, pretty little one, why do you do that?
You left me, you abandoned me,
little girl, you hurt me.

Oh, pretty little one, why do you do that to me?

You left me, you abandoned me,
little girl, you hurt me.

Oh, pretty little girl, little girl you're doing
All you did to me before, doll,
why are you doing that?

11. One-Step des McGees / O, Ma Josephine

(Traditional, arr. by Ken Smith & Ann Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Ken loves this one step he learned from the playing of Dennis McGee. We added a fun Hackberry Rambler swing song on to it, which Luderin Darbonne recorded in the 1930s.

O, Joséphine, ma Josephine

T'es un' jolie 'tite fille.

O, Josephine, ma Josephine,

quoi faire tu me fait m'ennuyer?

Tu m'as dit tu m'aimais, mais mon

je connais c'est pas vrai—

O, Josephine!

Oh, Josephine, my Josephine

You're a cute little girl.

Oh, Josephine, ma Josephine,

how come you make me so lonely?

You told me that you liked me

but I know it is not true—

Oh, Josephine!

12. Separation Waltz

(Traditional, arr by Marc & Ann Savoy, lyrics by Eva Touchet-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

This old classic is one of our very favorite heartfelt waltzes, also called the "Oakdale Waltz" (Cheese Read) and the "Pin Solitaire" (Cleoma Breaux). I learned it from dear Eva Touchet, my favorite living Cajun woman vocalist, and Cleoma. Marc plays the bridge he learned from Cheese Read.

Mon, je m'en va's à la maison

Comment tu crois, comment je va's faire, 'tit monde,

Tu connais pour toi-même

Tu m'as quitté comme un' pauvre orpheline.

I'm going to the house

How will I make, how will I make it, dear one,

You, yourself, know,

You left me like a poor orphan.

Comme un' pauvre orpheline,

Y a pas juste toi dans le pays pour m'aimer.

Like a poor orphan,

But you're not the only one in the land to love me.

(Refrain) Mon je vois pas que mon je t'ai fais

Ouais, pourquoi tu m'as traité comme t'après me faire.

Mon j'après m'en aller.

Èoué jamais dans le pays tu vas me trouver. (repeat)

(Refrain) I don't see what I've done

For you to have treated me like you're doing.

Me, I'm leaving this place

Where in the country will you find me? (repeat)

13. Baisse Bas

(Marc Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

Marc made up this dance number remembering the black dance of the same name. The name means "Get down low."

14. Lovesick Waltz

(Ray Morgan)

Marc and I have always loved this song with its tricky but subtle rhythms and beautiful words. I particularly like Aldus Roger's 1948 record of this song with its nice vocal by Roy Morgan.

Donne-mon, donc, ton 'tit coeur, chère 'tite fille,
Et je va's l'emmener à la maison avec moi.
Tu m'as tout le temps, si bien soigné, mais jolie fille,
Mais tout ce que je te demande c'est t'en revenir à la maison.

Un 'tite bouclette de tes 'tits cheveux que j'aime autant,
Un 'tite caresse qui m'travaille aussi dur.
Mon 'tit coeur est si gâté juste pour toi,
Viens toi, donc, avec ton nèg' à la maison.

So give me your little heart, dear little girl,
And I'll bring it to the house with me.
You have always cared for me so well,
All I ask is that you come back to the house.

A little curl from your little hair that I love so much
A little caress that works me over so hard.
My little heart is so spoiled for you
Come back with your old man to the house.

15. Two-Step de Prairie Soileau

(Traditional arr. by Marc Savoy, lyrics by Ann Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music)

"After being a student of Amédé Ardoin's style for the past forty-five years I have finally concluded that we are definitely not born equal. What Amédé did with musical notes and rhythm, Shelley, Byron, Frost, etc. did with words and rhyme. Not bad for a man who couldn't even sign his name." (Marc Savoy). This is the way Marc, Ken, and Ann play this classic Amédé hit, peppered with licks from the master.

Comment donc, je va's faire, jolie, catin,
Ta mom n'a pas voulu, comment je va's faire?
Eoù c'est mon je va's aller pour te trouver, catin,
Mais comment mon je va's faire...

Quoi faire, quoi faire, quoi faire, jolie,
Comment tu veux que mon je fais,
c'est pas de ma faute, catin,
Comment tu veux que mon je peux faire
pour m'en aller
Et quitter toi derrière mignonne.

What am I gonna' do, pretty one, doll,
Your mom didn't want, what am I gonna' do?
Where am I gonna' go to find you, doll?
What am I gonna' do?

Why, why, why, pretty one,
What do you want me to do, it's not my fault, doll,

How do you think I'm gonna' be able to go

And leave you behind, pretty girl.

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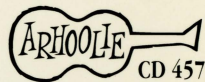
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THE SAVOY-SMITH CAJUN BAND

"Now & Then"



1. **EVANGELINE PLAYBOYS SPECIAL**
(Austin Pitre-Flat Town Music) (4:06)
2. **RAINBOW WALTZ**
(Trad., arr. by M. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:23)
3. **WEE PEE SPECIAL**
(M. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:03)
4. **OLD CARPENTER'S WALTZ/CONTREDANSE DE MAMOU**
(Canray Fontenot/K. Smith-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (3:16)
5. **BLUES DE BASILE** (Trad., arr. by M. Savoy, lyrics by Ann Savoy - Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:46)
6. **WALKER SPECIAL**
(Lawrence Walker-Flat Town Music Co.-BMI) (3:31)
7. **C'EST UN PECHER DE DIRE UN MENTERIE**
(Maybew) (4:12)
8. **LE MOULIN CASSÉ** (Trad., arr. by M. Savoy, A. Savoy, & K. Smith-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:38)
9. **SAVOY FAMILY WALTZ**
(M. Savoy & A. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (5:20)
10. **CHOUPIQUE** (Trad., arr. by M. Savoy, lyrics by A. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:47)
11. **ONE-STEP DES MCGEES / O, MA JOSEPHINE**
(Trad., arr. by K. Smith & A. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (3:20)
12. **SEPARATION WALTZ** (Trad., arr. by M. & A. Savoy, lyrics by Eva Touchet-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:58)
13. **BAISSE BAS** (M. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (5:10)
14. **LOVESICK WALTZ** (Ray Morgan) (4:47)
15. **TWO-STEP DE PRAIRIE SOILEAU** (Trad. arr. by M. Savoy, lyrics by A. Savoy-Tradition Music Co./BUG Music) (4:45)

Marc Savoy—accordion; **Ann Savoy**—guitar;
Ken Smith—fiddle; with **Tina Pilione**—bass on
2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, & 15.

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(Michael Doucet - 1996)

Total time: 66:10

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