THE SAVOY FAMILY BAND

TURN LOOSE BUT DON'T LET GO
The Savoy Family Band – Turn Loose But Don’t Let Go

1. Crowley Two Step (P.D. arr. by Marc Savoy and Aldus Roger) Instrumental
2. Tous Les Soirs Quand Ca Fait Noir (Adam Hebert – Flat Town Music) Vocal by Ann
3. ‘Tite Robe Courte (Pierre Varmin Daigle – Flat Town Music) Vocal by Wilson
5. Je Me Sens Comme Une Pauvre Orpheline (I Feel Like A Poor Orphan Girl) (Ann Savoy – Tradition Music Co. c/o BUG Music Co.) Vocal by Ann
6. I’ll Be Lonely (Je Vas M’ennuyer) (Belton Richard – Flat Town Music) Vocal by Ann
7. Rockin’ Chair Two Step (Marc Savoy – Tradition Music Co. c/o BUG Music Co.) Instrumental
8. Sugar Bee (Eddie Shuler – TEK Publishing) Vocal by Wilson
10. Rosa, Tomorrow Is Not Sunday (Adieu Rosa) (Dennis McGee & Sady Courville – Flat Town Music) Vocal by Wilson
11. You’re So Easy To Love (Belton Richard – Flat Town Music) Vocal by Ann
12. Valse Des Reeds (Reed’s Waltz) (Dennis McGee – Flat Town Music) Instrumental
13. Two Step De Prairie Soileau (Marc & Ann Savoy – Tradition Music Co. c/o BUG Music Co.) Vocal by Wilson
15. Cheese Cloth (P.D. arr. by Marc Savoy – Tradition Music Co. c/o BUG Music Co.) Instrumental

Personnel:
Marc Savoy – Accordion
Ann Savoy – 1953 Gretsch Hollow Body electric guitar, Custom Martin 00-21 acoustic guitar, and resonator guitar, vocals, triangle on # 6,10, & 11
Wilson Savoy – piano and vocals; fiddle on # 10 & 12 and accordion on # 5
Joel Savoy – fiddle; guitar on # 14
Steve Riley – drums on # 13
Drew Simon – drums on # 3, 8, & 11

Marc plays the Acadian accordions he builds at the Savoy Music Center, Eunice, LA. Joel and Wilson play Matthew J. Doucet violins. All selections except as listed below recorded by David Rachou at La Louisiane Studio, Lafayette, LA. # 1, 7, & 15 recorded by Joel Savoy live at the Savoy Music Center in Eunice, LA. Live recordings # 5 & 13 recorded at Rhythm & Roots Festival, Charlestown, RI by Paul Antonell of Clubhouse Recording, Rhinebeck, NY. Produced by The Savoy Family Mixed by Joel Savoy, Studio SavoyFaire, Eunice, LA Cover photo by Ann Savoy; other photos by Bennet Rhodes. Thanks to Nick’s on Second of Eunice for the use of their dance hall in the photographs

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Ann Savoy’s comments about the songs, transcriptions and translations of the lyrics:

1. Crowley Two Step – This is one of the most interesting and rocking Cajun instrumental two-steps. It has been around a long time, beginning on recordings by Joe Falcon, but we can’t remember what he called it.

2. Tous Les Soirs Quand Ça Fait Noir – We learned this song from Adam Hebert who wrote and translated many great songs. We love the way he sings of love, in simple, earthy words, very soul wrenching.

3. ’Tite Robe Courte – In this age of computer madness and isolation we loved the fun of this song, rallying people to get up, get dressed up, go out and meet the people and have fun before life is over

4. Baby and the Gambler – This songs was learned off a 78 rpm by Delma Lachney - it is the only song I have heard talking about an abandoned crying baby - it touched me so much.
5. Je Me Sens Comme Une Pauvre Orpheline (I feel like a poor orphan girl) –
Ann wanted to do a real old Cajun country blues with her resonator guitar, fiddles and monotonе accordion wailing in the background. She was calling forth the rough pioneer country blues girls that that she loves to listen to.

O, j'ai plus personne mais pour m'aïmer
J'ai plus personne à la maison mais pour m'aïmer.

O, mon homme est gone de la maison
O, mon homme est gone de la maison il m'a laissé mais moi toute seule.

6. I'll Be Lonely (Je Vas M'Ennuyer) – Another beautiful, sad love song from Belton Richard.

Où est toi tous les jours moi je vas m'ennuyer
Où est toi tous les jours qu'après se passer
Quand-même toi, mais tu t'éloignes
Faudra que j'essaie de l'endurer
Où est toi tous les jours, je vas m'ennuyer.

Je va m'ennuyerde ce pas là
Où est toi tous les jours je vas m'ennuyer.

Moï, j'ai plus besoin de quijouï pour m'aïmer
Moï, j'ai plus besoin de quijouï pour me consoler
Il y a juste toi qui peut faire ça
'Gardez donc c'pas là
Où est toi tous les jours je vas m'ennuyer.

Je viens pour aller au bal
Sway, sway in my arms
Go to sleep, go to sleep in my arms
He's gonna' bring me, he's gonna' bring me to the big prairie.
Je vas mettre ma robe barrée pour aller au bal.

7. Rocking Chair Two Step – Marc put this two step together, the first part from memories of tunes from his dancehall days and the second part from his head.

8. Sugar Bee – This song was a national hit for Cleveland Crochet. Our friend Jesse Stutes belted the vocal out like a wild man. Wilson is following suit, wailing the blues.

9. Madame Atchen – A pure old Cajun waltz written about the daughter of Marc's great grandfather's French yardman. She would wear a striped dress and was very tall, so at the dance a song was written about her, Grande Barree (Tall Woman in Stripes) Amede Ardoin later recorded it and called it Madame Atchen as a tribute to Marc's grandmother's housekeeper of this name.

Je vas mettre ma robe barrée, mettre ma robe barrée
'Garde mon nég' qui vient
Il m'a promis il va me soigner va me faire du bien
Il va m'ramener, va m'ramener sur la grande prairie.
Je vas mettre ma robe barrée, s mettre ma robe barrée
'Garde mon nég' qui vient.

Balancez, balancez, ouais mais dans mes bras
Fais do-do, fais do do mais dans mes bras
Il va m'ramener, va m'ramener sur la grande prairie.
Je vas mettre ma robe barrée pour aller au bal.

I'm going to put on my striped dress, put on my striped dress
Look at my man coming
He promised he will care for me, he'll do me good
He's gonna' bring me, he's gonna' bring me to the big prairie
Look at my man who is coming.

Sway, sway in my arms
Go to sleep, go to sleep in my arms
He's gonna' bring me, he's gonna' bring me to the big prairie
I'm gonna' put on my striped dress to go to the dance.
10. **Rosa, Tomorrow Is Not Sunday (Adieu Rosa)** – This enigmatic song comes from the singing of Dennis McGee who was imitating the “witnessing” custom of the black religious gathering called “Jurés”

Adieu Rosa, merci bon Dieu, demain c’est pas dimanche
Jurez, ma lord, Rosa c’est pas ma soeur
Adieu Rosa, jurez, ma lord, jurez ma lord.

Goodbye, Rosa, thank God tomorrow is not Sunday
Witness to the lord, Rosa isn’t my sister
Witness to the lord...

11. **You’re So Easy To Love** – We learned this song from the Cajun crooner Belton Richard, who wrote many beautiful love songs and translated many great American country songs into French. I remember seeing Belton playing at the Liberty Theater in Eunice once and women were screaming!

Viens voir ici, laisse-moi te toucher
Laisse-moi regarder dans les yeux un autre fois
Laisse-moi te dire comment gros je t’aime
Laisse-moi te caresser
Parce que t’es si aisé pour aimer
J’ai toujours voulu qu’un comme toi pour rester avec moi
Attrappe ma main fais-moi sentir comme une femme un autre fois
Parce que t’es si aisé pour aimer.

Come here, let me touch you
Let me look in your eyes one more time
Let me tell you how much I love you, let me caress you,
Because you are so easy to love.

I always wanted someone like you to stay with me
Take my hand, make me feel like a woman another time
Because you’re so easy to love.

Take my hand, walk with me
Let me show the world how much I love you
With you at my side, there is nothing I can’t do
Because you’re so easy to love.

You’ll be always in my thoughts, you’ll be always right in my heart

12. **Valse Des Reeds (Reed’s Waltz)** – This has always been one of our favorite melodies by Dennis McGee. Joel and Wilson play twin fiddles here, playing the waltz in an upbeat, old-style way.

Valse des Reeds (Reed’s Waltz)

13. **Two step de Prairie Soileau** – Amedé Ardoin, the late great Afro American pioneer, recorded this song in the 1930’s. It is basically a pyro-technic exercise around two chords.

Hey, comment mais tu crois
Mais quoi faire, quoi faire bébé ‘ot monde
Mais ton pop et ta mam ça veut plus de moi
Mais quoi faire, quoi faire bébé.

Because I adore you
Take my hand, make me feel like a woman another time
Because you’re so easy to love.

Hey, so what do you think I’m gonna’ do, baby,
Your Pop and your Mom don’t want me anymore
Why, why, why?
14. You Don't Know Me (Tu Me Connais Pas) – Wilson translated this old country and rhythm and blues song into French. When we heard him singing it we asked him to record it very simply, with him on piano and with Joel on guitar.

Tu donnes ta main à moi, et puis tu me dis bonsoir,
Et moi je peux plus parler, moi je peux plus respirer
O, j'suis juste un ami, c'est tout j'ai toujours été
Tu me connais pas.

Tu connais pas l'un qui rêve à toi à soir
Qui veut te tenir dans mes bras
Qui veut te tenir près de moi
O, tu vas jamais savoir, ouais, l'homme qui t'aime un tas
Tu me connais pas

J'ai jamais su comment faire l'amour
Mais mon cœur est pleine de l'amour pour toi
Tu m'a fait peur, j'ai manqué ma chance
La chance que tu m'aimerais aussi.

Tu donnes ta main à moi, et puis tu me dis bonsoir,
Moi, je te regarde, ma chère, avec un autre à ton côté
Ouais, tu vas jamais savoir, l'homme qui t'aime un tas,
Tu me connais pas.

To give your hand to me, and then you say hello
And I can no longer speak, I can no longer breathe
Oh, I'm just a friend, that's all I've ever been
You don't know me.

You don't know the one who dreams of you at night
Who wants to hold you in his arms
Who wants to hold you close to me
You will never know the man who loves you so
You don't know me.

Oh, I never knew how to make love
Though my heart was full of love for you
You made me afraid, I missed my chance,
The chance that you would love me too.

You give your hand to me and then you say hello
And I look at you, dear, with another at your side
Yes, you will never know the man who loves you so,
You don't know me.

15. Cheese Cloth – Marc learned this song from Cheese Read, the late, great Cajun fiddler. He enjoyed the challenge of playing this very un-Cajun tune on his accordion.
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