

CHARLIE PEACOCK

Two former Sacramento recording artists.
Two Grammy Award-winning, Billboard #1 producers.
One formative moment from the *Wayback Machine*!



THE SONGS

Rhythm Girls
Sooner Or Later
High Risk Casualty
Christine
American Music
So Attractive

CREDITS

Produced, Arranged & Mixed by
David Kahne at The Automatt,
San Francisco, 1980–81
All instruments played by
David Kahne and Charlie
Peacock except as noted
below.

*Newly mastered in 2025 by
Charlie Peacock & David Kahne*

THE MUSICIANS & VOCALISTS

Peter Bilt (guitar) & John
Stench (drums) — Pearl Harbor
& the Explosions
Jack Johnson (guitar) — The
Yanks
Mark Isham (trumpet) — Film
Composer
Steve Erquiaga (guitar)
Vicki Randle (vocals) — The
Tonight Show Band
Erik Kleven (bass) — Peacock
bandmate
Aaron Smith (drums) — Romeo
Void, Peacock bandmate

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NEW RELEASE FROM THE VAULT—1980s—NEVER-HEARD-BEFORE SONGS

In 1980, Sacramento's **Charlie Peacock and David Kahne**—later named among the 500 Most Important Producers in Music History in Billboard's *Encyclopedia of Record Producers*—met at San Francisco's Automatt studios. Kahne, already making his mark in the city's post-punk underground, was producing; Peacock, an emerging songwriter-performer, was chasing a record deal with songwriting partner Steve Holsapple.

Over the course of a year, Kahne produced a set of demos—punchy, melodic, and just left-of-center enough to stand apart. The major-label deal for Peacock was still a few years away, but Kahne's production helped him secure his first publishing contract with CBS Songs.

For over forty years, those recordings sat unheard. Now, ***The Kahne Sessions 1980–81*** opens the vault to reveal a vivid document of a shifting cultural moment: live rhythm sections sharing space with Linn drum machines, affordable synths and samplers arriving monthly, and locking instruments to a beat becoming the new frontier. Kahne was testing ideas that would later resurface in his hits; Peacock was absorbing it all, borrowing more than a few tricks for his own future work.

"I wish I was singing more in my speaking voice back then, but alas, it was the yelpy new wave period," Peacock admits. "Even so, I'm proud of these songs—they belong to that place and time. And it's wild to hear David's early production genius. He deserves all the accolades he's achieved in popular music."

David Kahne — From 415 Records to Global Hits

Kahne's early years as A&R director and in-house producer for 415 Records yielded defining West Coast new-wave records from Translator, Romeo Void, and Wire Train. That led to Columbia Records in Los Angeles and a worldwide No. 1 smash with The Bangles' "Walk Like an Egyptian." His career since has spanned Paul McCartney, Tony Bennett (MTV Unplugged, Album of the Year Grammy), Regina Spektor, Fishbone, Lana Del Rey, Stevie Nicks, Linkin Park, New Order, and Bruce Springsteen, plus acclaimed film scores and avant-garde work.

Charlie Peacock — From Exit Studios to Chart-Topping Hits & Eclecticism

Peacock began producing in Sacramento's punk scene with Labial Fricative, then moved on to his own recordings for A&M and Island Records, as well as projects for The 77s and The Choir, all the while touring with The Fixx, General Public, and Let's Active. A move to Nashville brought a pop breakthrough with Amy Grant's "Every Heartbeat" (and session work on *Heart In Motion*, Grammy Album of the Year nominee), leading to songwriting collaborations with Philip Bailey (Earth, Wind & Fire), The Damnwells, Bourgeois Tagg, Out of the Grey, and Jay Buchanan (Rival Sons). His production credits include the No. 1 Billboard-charting The Civil Wars, Brett Dennen, The Lone Bellow, Holly Williams (with Jakob Dylan & Jackson Browne), and Switchfoot—including co-producing the hit "Dare You to Move" with John Fields. Peacock's range extends to Joy Williams (Venus), Chris Cornell (*12 Years a Slave* soundtrack), Matt Berninger of The National (*TURN: Washington's Spies*), Kris Allen, Ricky Skaggs, CeCe Winans, Al Green, Béla Fleck, The Turtle Island Quartet, and jazz luminaries Steve Swallow, John Patitucci, Eddie Henderson, Ravi Coltrane, and country icon Merle Haggard.