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**ARTIST** TITLE

**Lovey's Original Trinidad String Band** 

Calypso Dawn: 1912

LABEL

CATALOG # PRICE-CODE

**EAN-CODE** 

**Bear Family Records** 

BCD 16057

AΗ



**ISBN-CODE** 

978-3-89916-695-8

**FORMAT** 1 CD digipac with booklet

**GENRE** Calypso **TRACKS** 24 **PLAYING TIME** 72:09



LOST PROPERTY: This is the story of an exciting discovery – the very first recorded examples of calypso music!

When researching aspects of the history of the Caribbean, American ethnologist Dick Spottswood unexpectedly uncovered an unknown musical treasure. From the depth of a library he fished out several flat cardboard boxes containing matrixes. The accompanying note said the recordings were made by a 12-piece jazz orchestra from Trinidad in 1912: Lovey's Trinidad String Band.

Who were these musicians? We do not know much about them, and the internet doesn't either. It is known, though that in May 1912 the dance band embarked on a tour to the United States of America as reported by the 'Port-of-Spain Gazette' a couple of days before their departure. The ensemble had been founded by violinist Lovey (real name: George R. Baillie) during the last decade of the 19th century. So by 1912 they were by no means unknown in their home country.

We can't say for certain which cities, festivals and ballrooms the Trinidad instrumentalists visited in the U.S.A. But this is clear: they stayed in New York City from late June into July 1912 where they recorded several songs of South American rhythms, first in the studio of the Victor Talking Machine Company, then at the Columbia Phonograph Company. In doing so, George R. Baillie and his men made musical history; they were the first to bring the sound of Calypso onto records.

Recording technology back then was in its infancy and scratches and noise were common. So it's amazing that the sound of these old, uniquely important recordings is actually pretty clear. "They sound no worse than recordings from the '40s or '50s," says Richard Weize who has restored and issued many Calypso pearls from the early days of shellac records on his BEAR FAMILY REcorps label. For the restoration of these historic recordings he couldn't have secured the services of a better man than mastering expert Chris Zwarg from True Sound.

These completely restored masters should be of special relevance for the state of Trinidad and Tobago. Fifty years ago, in the summer of 1962, the islands finally became independent from Great Britain. The people celebrated carnival for a week, remembering and celebrating their own identity. Half a century earlier, Lovey's Original Trinidad String Band had played a substantial role in developing and promoting the identity of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

## TRACK LISTING

Manuelita (Vals Español) • Rosenthal (Vals) • Unidentified (Vals #1) • Unidentified (Vals #2) • Unidentified (Paseo #1) • Sarah (Paseo) • Oil Fields (Paseo) • Trinidad (Paseo) • Mango Vert (Paseo) • Pauline (Paseo) • Mari-Juana (Paseo) • Alexandrina (Paseo) • Unidentified (Paseo #2) • Tobo Justina (Paseo) • Siempre Alegre (Vals) • Manuelito (Vals) • Clavel Blanco (Vals) • Flores de Trinidad (Vals) • La Liebre (Stop Vals) • Unidentified (Vals #3) • Discie You Doan Know De Law (Paseo) • BONUS: Trinidad (Paseo) • Manuelita (Vals Español) • Sarah (Trinidad Paseo)



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CD 5: CODALLO'S TOP HATTERS ORCHESTRA: Lopez Contreras • Tierras Lejanas • Linda Vista • Mi Vida • THE GROWLER: Old Man • Only Foreigners • Calypso Behind The Wall • Too Botheration • History Of Woodbrook Vicinity • GEORGIE JOHNSON & HIS RHYTHM KINGS: Happy Man • THE GROWLER: Hitler Demands • Bosie Darling • Trinidad Loves To Play Carnival • The Coldness Of The Water • In The Morning • Police Diplomacy • The Diamond Ring For Emmaline • LORD INVADER: Demasbar • Ten Thousand To Bar Me One • LION: Buddy Abraham • LORD EXECUTOR: They Talk About Nora's Badness • Who Has Done The Most For Humanity • ATILLA THE HUN: Love Me Emily • The Five Year Plan • THE CARESSER: Home Sweet Home • Time For Man Go Home • So Many Women

CD 6: THE CARESSER: Fare Thee Well • LION: Woman Headache • Malicious Neighbours • LORD BEGINNER: After The Bacanal • Chamberlain Says Peace • Christmas Morning The Rum Had Me Yawning • Don't Tickle Me Dorothy • THE GROWLER: In The Dew And The Rain • I Don't Want No Calaloo • THE CARESSER: Mois La Travy • Peggy Dearie • LION: Death • Bee • Sweet Emily • Old Woman • Hooray Hoorah • Fire Girls • Elsie Jambie • KING RADIO: Elsie • Old Men Come Back Again • Matilda • John O'Carr • It's The Rhythm We Want • ATILLA THE HUN: The West Indian Sheik • Dem Policemen • La Belle Trinidad • Inequality Of Life

CD 7: LORD EXECUTOR: My Life Of Matrimony • THE CARES-SER: No Surrender • Fire, Fire In Port-of-Spain • If The Follow Me They Get Fever • ATILLA THE HUN: Freddo • La Reine Maribone • LION: Charming Trinidad • ATILLA THE HUN: Gabilan Bombay • LORD EXECUTOR: Alla Nom (Go Way Man) • THE CARESSER: You Better Let Me Go • I Am Free, Single And Disengaged • LORD INVADER: Don't Stop The Carnival • Sofie Bellah • KING RADIO: Too Much Sorry And Pain • THE GROWLER: Joe Louis-Schmeling Fight • Soup In Bottle • High Brown • LION: Bad Woman Oh • Blow Wind Blow • Kash Kash Kmona • Customs Fire • The Power Of The Lion • Where Is My Sister This Morning • Ara Da Da • ATILLA THE HUN: Scorpion • LORD EXECUTOR: The New Shop Law • My Indian Girl Love • LION: Bing Crosby • Mama I Want It



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CD 8: GEORGE CABRAL: Memories Of Trinidad • THE CARES-SER: Amanja Soqua Me • LORD EXECUTOR: Two Bad Men In The World • Gambo Lai Lai Before The Court • THE GROW-LER: Leave Me Alone Dorothy • Advantageous Young Girls • PRETENDER: Adeline • BLACK PRINCE: You Felt Me Bundle Before The Dro • LORD ZIEGFELD: Hitler • LORD INVADER: My Intention Is To Join The Volunteers • Hitler Demanded Trinidad • Romance In The Moonlight • Caro At Point Cumana • Ochro and Rice • LION: The Invasion Of Poland • Sir Neville Chamberlain • THE LION: Hitler's Mistake • THE CARESSER: Freedom And Liberty • Clementina • Not So Carolina • ATILLA THE HUN: Finland • KING RADIO: My Impressions Of Demerara • Sedition Law • Two Sisters Scandal • LORD BEGINNER: Run Your Run Hitler • THE LION: Hitler's Attitude • GORILLA: Brambroocoo Dance • Appetite

CD 9: THE TIGER: Let Them Fight For Ten Thousand Years • THE LION: Lion Oh • Carnival Revue • SA GOMES RHYTHM BOYS WITH CAMBULAY: Run Your Run Hitler • THE CARES-SER: Do You Remember Me? • LORD BEGINNER: Second Hand Girls • Cocoa Tea Puzzle to Me • THE TIGER: No No No Miss Angeline • In My Own Native Land • THE GROWLER: When I Marry Dorothy • KING RADIO: Emily • Germany Invade Poland • Story Of Mr. Paul • MIGHTY DESTROYER: Leave Me Alone Dorothy • Matrimony Becomes a Papyshow • LORD ZIEGFELD: Lillian's Slackness • Don't Worry With Me • THE GROWLER: Bertha I Feel You • No, No, Marie • Demi Gal • Nazi Spy Ring • THE LION: Deliso • THE TIGER: Ah Neighbours Neighbours • THE LION: Happy Land Of Canaan • Suzi-Qu • I Send My Wife To The Market • Shango Dance • Rada Dance

CD 10: LUIS DANIEL QUINTANA (TROVADOR DE LA MEDIA NOCHE): La Vieja Mia • LORD EXECUTOR: Carnival Again • Sambo Why You Are Go • LUIS DANIEL QUINTANA (TROVADOR DE LA MEDIA NOCHE): Patria Preferida • ATILLA THE HUN: Gambie Law Ray • The Admiral Graf Spee • No Wedding Bells For Me • Li Li Pierrot Darrie • Send Hitler To St. Helena • LORD BEGINNER: Teener Have Sympathy • KING RADIO: The Guardian Contest • The War • THE GROWLER: Harold Change Your Mind • Women Diplomacy • THE LION: Orphan Home • THE TIGER: Ellis Nottingham • YOUNG PRETENDER: Policeman • LUIS DANIEL QUINTANA (TROVADOR DE LA MEDIA NOCHE): General Contreras • Mi Quiero Casar