

**EVERY GOLD SINGLE, EVERY TOP 40 HIT, THREE TRACKS PREVIOUSLY  
UNRELEASED IN THE U.S., AND MORE ON TWO-CD  
CARPENTERS GOLD - 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

In 1969, Karen and Richard Carpenter headlined their first album. Over the next dozen years, the brother-sister duo became the biggest-selling American-born artists of the era and one of the most beloved of all time. The two-CD **Carpenters Gold - 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition** (A&M/UTV Records), released February 10, 2004, celebrates their enduring popularity by collecting most of their singles (all 21 Top 40s), many of them in their later remixed versions; numerous popular album cuts, and a few rarities--40 songs in all, each digitally remastered. The package also includes a reminiscence by Richard, who produced the compilation, as well as his recollections about each recording.

Featured are three selections previously unreleased in the U.S.: the 1999 completions of "Leave Yesterday Behind," a 1978 recording; their 1980 version of "The Rainbow Connection" that fans have clamored to be released for years, and "California Dreamin'," a 1967 recording starring a 17-year-old Karen.

Their debut single in 1969 was a ballad version of "Ticket To Ride" that showed some chart potential by reaching #54. Then came the gold: "(They Long To Be) Close To You" (#1), "We've Only Just Begun" (#2), "For All We Know" (#3), "Rainy Days And Mondays" (#2), "Superstar" (#2), "Hurting Each Other" (#2), "Sing" (#3), "Yesterday Once More" (#2) "Top Of The World" (#1) and "Please Mr. Postman" (#1). All 10 gold singles are on **Carpenters Gold - 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition**.

The other Top 40s are "Only Yesterday" (#4), "Goodbye To Love" (#7), "I Won't Last A Day Without You" (#11), "It's Going To Take Some Time" (#12), "There's A Kind Of Hush (All Over The World)" (#12), "Solitaire" (#17), "I Need To Be In Love" (#25), "All You Get From Love Is A Love Song" (#35), "Calling Occupants Of Interplanetary Craft" (#32), and 1981's "Touch Me When We're Dancing" (#16), and what would become their final Top 40. The album also includes "Merry Christmas Darling" (#1, Christmas), as well as the Oscar-nominated "Bless The Beasts And Children," Top 10 country "Sweet, Sweet Smile," and other favorites.

On February 4, 1983, Karen passed away. The album concludes with "Karen's Theme," initially written by Richard for TV's "The Karen Carpenter Story" (1989), and featured in his 1997 A&M album Richard Carpenter-Pianist, Arranger, Composer, Conductor.

Today, more than 20 years after their last recording, more than 20 years after Karen's death, and now 35 years after Carpenters were first heard on record, Richard writes, "One can only imagine the music that could have been made had Karen lived; I really feel that the best was yet to come. At least we have these recordings, and many others, as quite a legacy."

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