

**NEW COMPILATION CARPENTERS PERFORM CARPENTER FEATURES ORIGINAL
HITS AND FAVORITES COMPOSED BY RICHARD CARPENTER; ALSO
CARPENTERS MUSIC VIDEO COLLECTION INTERPRETATIONS DEBUTS ON DVD**

There are artists who have been admired, influential and/or popular but it is the rare artist who is also beloved. The Carpenters, sister Karen and brother Richard, are among the latter. That love between artist and fan continues today, refreshed once again this summer with the release of a new compilation album, **Carpenters Perform Carpenter**, and the DVD premiere of a classic music video collection, **Interpretations**, both released July 29, 2003, by A&M/UMe.

Carpenters Perform Carpenter takes a unique approach to their much-anthologized recordings. Of course, Karen's lush vocals sounded great on hits penned by others, such as "We've Only Just Begun," "Superstar," "(They Long To Be) Close To You" and "For All We Know." But her emotional connection to a song was even more intimate when the song was written specifically for her by Richard, who helped select the tracks on this compilation. Each of the 18 recordings on **Carpenters Perform Carpenter** was penned by him, including such huge hits as the #1 "Top Of The World" and #2 "Yesterday Once More," both gold; #4 "Only Yesterday," #7 "Goodbye To Love," and Top 30 "I Need To Be In Love"--all of them either #1 or #2 Adult Contemporary.

Carpenters Perform Carpenter also features the signature songs "Maybe It's You," "One Love," "All Of My Life" and Karen's own wedding song, "Because We Are In Love," plus the bonus track "Merry Christmas, Darling," which has since become a holiday standard. In addition, the album reprises "Karen's Theme," Richard's tribute to his sister (who passed away in 1983), initially written for TV's "The Karen Carpenter Story" in 1989

but completed for his 1997 album Richard Carpenter-Pianist, Arranger, Composer, Conductor.

Interpretations, a video compilation of 11 Carpenters' songs, was first issued on VHS in 1995, and now makes its DVD debut. All of its tracks, taped between 1970 and 1980, have been digitally enhanced and feature remastered stereo audio. Highlighting Interpretations are video performances of four of the duo's biggest hits: the #1 and gold "(They Long To Be) Close To You," and a trio of #2 gold smashes, "Rainy Days And Mondays," "Superstar" and "We've Only Just Begun"--each of them #1 Adult Contemporary. Another Top 40 seen and heard is "Calling Occupants Of Interplanetary Craft."

The remaining videos on Interpretations are of "Reason To Believe," "Without A Song," "Little Girl Blue," "Bless The Beasts And Children," "When I Fall In Love" and "From This Moment On," the latter being an outtake from the Carpenters fifth television special and presented in this collection for the first time.

With Carpenters Perform Carpenter and Interpretations, fans once again experience the magical moments the Carpenters brought not only to music but to everyone's heart.

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