

Her Thoughts of Songs on “*This Old House*”

King Jesus - This is an old song that the Oak Ridge Boys made famous many years ago. I have always been a fan of the gospel music of the Oaks. I think this song is a great mix of hope and warning about the coming of the Kingdom of the Prince of Peace.

Holy Ghost Revival - Joel Hemphill wrote this song and so many other greats. I wanted to record this song because I feel that the church is slipping from dependence on the Holy Spirit into a self-accomplishment mode. Our medicine, leisure, finances, safety and entertainment are all maintained outside of the realm of God these days. Our attempt to live free of God's blessing is a frightening place to be.

No Such Thing - I have always wanted to do a Cajun-sounding song. I loved the groove of this one when I hear Phil Cross and Poet Voices sing it and have fun making it my own.

Tears Will Never Stain - This is another classic song from Dottie Rambo. Dottie is a treasure of the Church. This song expresses our desire to be rid of the troubles and heartaches of this earth and free in the eternal joy of Heaven. I think songs of this kind are sweet reminders of God's sacrificial work and the value of the gifts of Jesus.

Lord, Feed Your Children - This is a song I fought for on the recording. It doesn't fit the criteria we had in mind for the selection of songs; we intended for this to be a project of older songs. “Lord, Feed Your Children” is not that old but it has a prayer like structure that I felt would be a great addition to my live concert events. This song is anointed and will minister to the body of Christ.

I'm Bound For That City - G.T. “Dad” Speer is my husband, Brian's, Grandfather. This was Dad's signature song in his last years of his life. He would wave his handkerchief and look toward Heaven. You could tell he saw glimpses of Glory. This is a classic and I am thrilled to have a chance to share it with a new audience.

The Dearest Friend I Ever Had - Dad Speer wrote many melodies and collaborated with a lyricist to complete his songs. When that lyricist passed away, Dad knelt at the piano and prayed for God to send him another poet to complete his songs. When he got up from that prayer, Dad wrote “The Dearest Friend I Ever Had” all by himself. It was the beginning of a long songwriting career. I am honored to be able to record this and share Dad's heart with the folks I meet.

One Day - This song is a hymn that has been performed differently in the black church than in white congregations. When I heard this black version, I fell in love with it. What a great lyric and amazing musical display! This will be fun for all ages.

This Ole House - When I heard Rosemary Clooney's version of this Stuart Hamblin song I felt had to copy it. Rosemary was a great force for musical excellence and it is a fun chance for me to tell a great analogous story about this life's temporary nature.

Life's Railway To Heaven - I have always wanted to sing this song and never felt like it fit into the mix for any of the previous recordings I've done. I love seeing folks recognize songs like this and sing along.

Had It Not Been - Rusty Goodman was a fine writer with anointing on his work. This song is a “bottom line” kind of lyric. If Christ had not come to save us we would be eternally, hopelessly lost.

Beulah Land - This is a classic tune by Squire Parsons. Not only is the song special to me but Squire is the gentleman who helped me begin a singing ministry. He and his songwriting make the church a richer body.