20. Gary McFarland and Antonio Carlos Jobim: I Want to Hold Your Hand

(J. Lennon / P. McCartney) Northern Songs Ltd. - Maclen Music Ltd. /
Edition Accord Musikverlag GmbH c/o EMI Music Publishing Germany GmbH (Hamburg)
From Soft Samba; orig. LP: Verve V6-8603
Rec. June 16, 1964; prod. by Creed Taylor; © 1964 Verve

Gary McFarland, vibes & vocal; Antonio Carlos Jobim, guitar; Patty Bowen, piano; Richard Davis, bass; Sol Gubin, drums; Willie Bobo, percussion; Seldon Powell, flute; Jimmy Cleveland, muted trombone; arr. by Gary McFarland

McFarland's trademark, the unison vibes/vocal, was used in the bossa nova adaptations of many pop hits on the Soft Samba album. Jobim, at Taylor's request, played guitar on two tracks. One of them, chosen by Jobim, was the Beatles' hit "I Want to Hold Your Hand," which had received a Grammy nomination in 1964 for "record of the year." "The Girl from Ipanema" won, but Jobim lost to the Beatles as "best new artist" -- hence this ironic tribute to the boys from Liverpool...

21. Edu Lobo: To Say Goodbye

(E. Lobo / L. Hall / N. Torquato) Rodra Music Inc. / Musikverlag Intersong GmbH (Hamburg)
From Sergio Mendes Presents Lobo; orig. LP: A&M 3035
Rec. 1970; prod. by Sergio Mendes; ® 1970 A&M
Mit freundlicher Genehmigung von A&M Records

Edu Lobo, vocal & guitar; Sergio Mendes, piano; Sebastião Neto, bass; Roy Kramer, cello; arr. by Edu Lobo and Sergio Mendes

One of the most lyrical songs on this compilation, "Prá Dizer Adeus" (its original title) is proof of just what great ballad-writers many of the bossa stars were. The intimacy of approach reinforces the song's dense romanticism. Introduced to US audiences on Desmond's From the Hot Afternoon CTI album of 1968, it received English lyrics by singer Lani Hall. Lobo tried many times to develop an international career, and this A&M album, produced by Mendes and evoking the title of the latter's bestseller Herb Alpert Presents Sergio Mendes, failed in its commercial intent.