



JUST FOR THE RECORD

by Dennis Barker



The Rolling Stones: (*I can't get no*) Satisfaction

When I was in Jr. High School, rock and roll had eclipsed the king, the English invasion was in full swing, and most of the kids had divided into one of two camps. You were either a Beatles guy, or you identified with the bad boys of rock, the Rolling Stones. Having watched thousands of teenage girls lose their self control, throw clothing, swoon and beg for more; I hopefully fell into the "Love Me Do" camp. However, the Stones would feed my darker side. And, the rebellious attitude reflected in "(I can't get no) Satisfaction" was just what the doctor ordered.

The Stones had broken into the American music scene in May 1964, with "*England's Newest Hit Makers*", a Rock & Roll album with an R&B flavor. The Record featured the Buddy Holly tune, "Not Fade Away", which was also the A side of their first U.S. single (along with the Lennon/McCartney composition "I want to be your man" on side B). Later in 1964, the Stones rehash of Bobby Womack's "It's all over now" would bring the band its first top 40 U.S. single, and they wrapped up the year with their second U.S. album, "12X5" (12 songs by 5 musicians'). 12X5 was an unremarkable concoction of Rhythm & Blues covers, along with 3 Mick Jagger/Keith Richards songs and two group compositions credited under the pseudonym of "Anker Phlegm". The band was angry, sullen, disrespectful, and clearly not in the same musical stratosphere as the Beatles.

Then, on June 6th, 1965, came the game changer. The Stones would release (*I can't get no*) *Satisfaction*, marking the beginning of the groups journey from cover band, into one of the great touring rock and roll bands of all time. Beginning as a Keith Richards inspiration, waking in the middle of the night and using a cassette player to record a guitar riff, and the words "I can't get no Satisfaction", the song would be fleshed out with lyrics provided by Mick Jagger, and would take the two musicians down a decades long path of successful collaboration.

The song perfectly captured the Stones attitude. Recorded using a Gibson Fuzz box to create distortion, the lyrics commentary about American commercialism was cynical, impolite and rebellious. It was the bad boy's of rock at their best, and they would be rewarded with their first number 1 hit in both the U.S. and England. A look at almost any list compiling the greatest rock & roll songs will consistently rank (*I can't get no*) *Satisfaction* among the top 4 or 5. It was, and remains, the Stones defiant masterpiece.

THE ROLLING STONES (*I can't get no*) Satisfaction:

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Goldmine price guide to 45 rpm records, Values original copies of Satisfaction, in near mint condition, with original sleeve, at \$75.00