

= Having Fun with Elvis on Stage =

Having Fun with Elvis on Stage is a 1974 spoken word concert album by Elvis Presley . The album consists entirely of byplay and banter by Presley from between songs during a live concert ? primarily jokes , with the songs themselves removed from the recording . The album was created as a ploy by Presley 's manager , Colonel Tom Parker , to self @-@ release an Elvis Presley album through his own label , Boxcar Records , that would not consist of content that contractually belonged to RCA Records . Having Fun with Elvis on Stage was first distributed at Elvis Presley concerts , but RCA would later package and distribute it .

Having Fun with Elvis on Stage has been considered to be Presley 's worst album ; critics felt that the compilation of banter was incoherent , and lacked context due to the removal of the songs that his remarks related to . In their 1991 book , Jimmy Guterman and Owen O 'Donnell named Having Fun with Elvis on Stage the worst rock and roll album of all time , duly noting its lack of actual " rock and roll " .

Presley himself disapproved of the album , and it was withdrawn at his request . Despite this , Having Fun with Elvis on Stage reached number 130 on the Billboard 200 , peaked at number 9 on the Billboard Hot Country LPs , and spawned bootleg copies along with a fan @-@ made sequel .

= = Content and release = =

The album is unique among Elvis Presley 's recordings as it does not contain any actual songs ; it consists entirely of byplay recorded between numbers . Presley is frequently heard humming or singing " Well ... " , which during the actual performances led into songs that have been edited out of the recording . Much of the album consists of him making jokes , although the recording is devoid of any context . Despite the randomness of the audio , from 8 : 01 ? 11 : 55 on side A , Presley is captured speaking autobiographically about his early life and his career aspirations before becoming a singer , and his early appearance on The Steve Allen Show .

The album was the idea of Colonel Tom Parker , Presley 's manager . Parker wished to release an Elvis Presley album through Boxcar Records ? a company that he formed to manage Presley 's commercial rights , so that he could profit directly from it . However , since Presley was signed to RCA Records , any recordings made would legally belong to RCA . To circumvent this restriction , Parker compiled audio of Presley talking ? material over which RCA could not claim rights .

Initially , the record was only sold at Presley 's concerts . However , the album was later packaged and marketed by RCA as a legitimate concert album , with the only warning for the buyer being the subtitle " A Talking Album Only " on the back cover . Presley is credited on the back sleeve as the album 's executive producer .

= = Reception = =

Having Fun with Elvis on Stage has been described as the worst album of Elvis Presley 's career . Critics felt that the album 's material was spliced in a manner lacking any continuity and nearly devoid of comprehensibility , let alone humor . Mark Deming of AllMusic states that " some have called Having Fun with Elvis on Stage thoroughly unlistenable , but actually it 's worse than that ; hearing it is like witnessing an auto wreck that somehow plowed into a carnival freak show , leaving onlookers at once too horrified and too baffled to turn away . " Nick Greene , a writer for Mental Floss , felt that the material presented on the record is " so incoherent , you don 't really get an idea of his stage presence , despite the fact that all the audio comes from his shows . " Rock critics Jimmy Guterman and Owen O 'Donnell , writing in their 1991 book The Worst Rock and Roll Records of All Time , named it the worst rock album ever , although one could easily note the lack of " rock and roll " in the record .

The album peaked at number 130 on the main Billboard album chart , and peaked at number 9 on the Billboard Hot Country LPs chart . At the request of Presley , the album was eventually discontinued . However , bootlegs of the album are popular , and an anonymous person created a

Having Fun With Elvis on Stage , Part Two record that has been circulated . The original album remains unavailable on CD , but it has been reissued as a series of three 10 " records in the United Kingdom .

= = Track listing = =

Side A ? 18 : 06

Side B ? 19 : 00

= = Personnel = =

Elvis Presley ? vocals

= = Chart positions = =