



ARTIST: **Ed Kuepper**
TITLE: **TODAY WONDER - REMASTERED & EXPANDED**
BARCODE: **5035135103246** CAT. #: **HOT1032-R**
LABEL: **Hot**

At long last *Today Wonder* is set for re-issue - expanded and re-mastered. From April 2002 this less-is-more 10-track opus boasts liner notes & tops the 78-minute mark with 8 bonus tracks taken from a previously unreleased live session that was recorded & broadcast by Dutch National Radio during the *Today Wonder* European Tour in the Northern autumn of 1991.

"1990. I'm working in a backstreet music emporium in London's West End, selling dull indie records to dull teenagers and overpriced Prince CDs to tourists with too much disposable income.

To please ourselves, and turn on the punters, my colleagues and I have Ed Kuepper and *Laughing Clowns* albums on fast rotation. One day the company rep comes in waving new releases at me and I spy a promo of Ed's forthcoming *Today Wonder* set. I duly relieve him of it - he knows no better - and order unreasonable quantities for the store.

I spin the white label and go into blissful shock. Last time out, *Everybody's Got To* saw Ed flirting with all the production EMI's bucks could offer. *Today Wonder* at once breaks new ground and occupies a place instinctively closer not just to our hearts, but we fancy, to Ed's too. And for an accidental birth - demos to capture a 12-string and percussion acoustic show - it's somehow greater in scope than it's polished predecessor. In the 21st century, everyone and their aunt will do the acoustic record, but will they resonate like Ed and Mark Dawson's sexy and spontaneous, perfectly formed effort?

Legendary bully goes serene machine. Skip James and Tim Hardin, Donovan and Eric Burdon, their songs climb out of the domestic Kuepper kollection and into his oeuvre, slipping seamlessly amidst *Today Wonder*'s originals. The shimmering 'Horse Under Water' (yes, I know - over-used, but this song really does shimmer, and I don't care) is one of those slow-burn openers Ed has such a masterful way with, 'Everything I've Got Belongs To You' is simply a stone classic and 'Eternally Yours' marks a stark first re-working of *Laughing Clowns* material.

I review it for *Melody Maker* ("if you only buy one record this year...") and I write it up again upon its first CD release ("heart-stopping"). Oh, and I cover the live show too. You could say I like it. This expanded edition also offers seven live recordings from the Kuepper/Dawson partnership - a splendid document, whether you were there or not - and a window to the Wonder of the moment. What more to say?"

- JAMIE SELLERS April '02

"The most effective entry point to Kuepper's kingdom" - *The Times*



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TODAY WONDER



THE TRACKS:

- 1 Horse Under Water 6:04
- 2 Always The Woman Pays 3:13
- 3 Everything I've Got Belongs To You 4:31
- 4 What You Don't Know 4:01
- 5 I'd Rather Be The Devil 4:22
- 6 There's Nothing Natural 3:43
- 7 Today Wonder 4:32
- 8 Pretty Mary 3:39
- 9 Eternally Yours 5:33
- 10 If I Were A Carpenter 3:58
- 11 Intermission 0:17
- 12 Always The Woman Pays - Live 4:01
- 13 What You Don't Know - Live 4:32
- 14 Pretty Mary - Live 4:18
- 15 Today Wonder Medley - Live 4:13
- 16 Horse Under Water - Live 5:30
- 17 I Am Your Prince / Told Myself 7:15
- 18 Everything I've Got Belongs To You - Live 4:32