

## Mp3 Original Formula - Radio-active



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Soulful, traditional, original and old-time music. 13 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Traditional Country, COUNTRY: Bluegrass Details: ORIGINAL FORMULA "RADIO-ACTIVE" Melody Man Records MM-02CD

I'm not exactly sure what the original formula for bluegrass was, but one early concoction certainly contained musical brothers playing and singing together, as the enormous popularity of the brother duets of the 1930's and '40's makes clear. Original Formula consists of two musicians, Al Elliott and Rob Perkins, who play guitar and sing harmonies in that staunch, stoic style popularized by everyone from the Stanleys to the Everlys. Performing successfully as a duo requires a great deal of discipline and respect. One must carefully hew to their chosen path harmonically and rhythmically, while carefully listening to their partner to pick up on subtle nuances of their performance to create the proper blend and balance. Elliott and Perkins make that demanding task sound easy here, and that's a testament to the strength of this excellent CD. The material here flows from many sources. There's "I Need Attention Bad" from Ernest Tubb, and Lester Flatt's playful "Backing To Birmingham." There's traditional tunes such as "Give Me Roses While I Live" and "In The Pines" which give the musicians a blank canvas to artfully play against. In addition to being fine traditional singers, Perkins displays a skilled hand as a flatpicking guitarist on "Teasin' The Frets," an instrumental tune written in the 1920's by guitarist, Nick Lucas. The duo also contributes several fine original tunes, including "People" and another interesting guitar instrumental, "Mosquito Bite." Throughout the CD, Original Formula keeps things simple and straightforward, and that's their greatest strength. For fans of old-time country and bluegrass, "Radio-Active" will melt a warm spot in your heart. (BLUEGRASS UNLIMITED MAGAZINE-SEPTEMBER 1999.) ORIGINAL FORMULA "RADIO-ACTIVE" Melody Man Records MM-02CD. "IF you like old-time singing, songs with a little humor, songs that touch your heart, great picking and singing, you'll be pleased with this project," Clyde Johnson

of WPAQ Radio in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, comments in liner notes. This sparsely produced yet, Hard-Hitting set from guitarist and singers Elliott and Perkins includes five out of 13 cuts, with songs also from Ernest Tubb, Justin Tubb and Lester Flatt, among others. (IBMA-International Bluegrass Music Association- Volume 15, Number 1 January/February, 2000) ORIGINAL FORMULA "RADIO- ACTIVE" Melody Man Records MM-02CD This goes to prove you do not need a bass fiddle (or percussion) to back up a group. This is just a side note, as we had a person that used to play at local pick ins who couldn't play without a bass included. He said there was no way musicians could keep time without a bass. So much for that. This is a kick back to old radio days where a minimum of instruments were used at times. They get enough out of the two guitars to make this project interesting. Great for lovers of older style country music. (DISC COLLECTOR 1999)

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