

## Mp3 Hal Willis - A Cut Above



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Another smash-a-roo by the voice himself " hal willis " that you won't soon forget..loaded with a truck load of original \* hit's \* that will make you want for more...dynamite 15 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Traditional Country Details: CD REVIEW FROM COUNTRY MUSIC MAGAZINE BY:PAUL DAVIS HAL WILLIS PEARL INTERNATIONAL Will the real Hal Willis please stand up! I can barely ever recall anyone so versatile as HW. His clever stylings Brought to mind so many class acts ranging from Horton to Robbins to Presley and many more. Hes an Astonishing entertaining singer, A 101 genres inter-twine through his repertoire ranging from crooning to comedy to Cajun to cowboy to country. So if you like your music a la diversity then this is for you. The tracks have been Commendably produced in Nashville with awhos-who list of session legends. Mainstream conveyer belt release It may be, but it should be sought out by the true-blue country devotee. The easy listening tag confers injustice to These progressive stylings of generally lesser known ditties paraded. He delivers with a tender heart and produces Well crafted, grassroots poetic art with a common chart-country touch. A most competent and compelling talent. PAUL DAVIS pauldavisauthor.com ----- COMPLIMENT TO HAL WILLIS FROM JACK BLANCHARD WRITER/ SINGER/ AND INTERNET CORRESPONDENT THANKS HAL You know, we cant believe your musical abilities, you sometimes have the best of Marty Robbins, Johnny Cash, Al Martino, but all in your own style! Amazing voice control, not to mention the fine songs and production, we dont see stuff like this oftenYour friend , Jack Blanchard Misty Morgan COMPLIMENT TO HAL WILLIS FROM JACK BLANCHARD WRITER/SINGER/ AND INTERNET CORRESPONDENT HAL Youre the absolute best male solo singer in country music, and Jackie Burns is the absolute best female solo singer, If you two Did a duet, It would be a smash!!! It would be like Dinah Washington and Brook BentonYour friends , Jack Misty ----- Hal

Willis was born in Rouyn, Quebec, the heart of the logging and mining country of Northwestern Quebec. By age nine, Hal was already singing lead in the school and church choirs and was the talk of the town for his God-given talent. Hal's Mom and Dad with their whole family moved to Normetal, Quebec, a small mining town north of Rouyn, where they had purchased a farm with 50 acres of farming land surrounded by 150 acres of tall timber. It was there that Hal learned what it was like to be a "lumberjack." At nighttime, the family would play cards on the kitchen table and listen to country music on their new battery radio. One evening, by pure chance while turning the radio dial, Hal tuned in to The Grand Ole Opry from Nashville, Tennessee, and heard them introduce to the audience a singer by the name of Hank Williams, who then performed his classic song, Lovesick Blues. Hal recalls: "when I heard this guy sing, a shiver ran all over me, I knew right then and there what I wanted to do with my life." Another time, while tuning in to the radio, Hal picked up a radio show broadcast live from Timmins, Ontario on CKGB, sponsored by a local taxi cab company, and presented as Burnettes Porcupine Frolic, featuring Ginger The Melodie Rangers. Hal loved the show and would tune into it every afternoon and listen to Ginger sing, play an accordion and carry on... little did Hal know that later on in life, fate would bring him and Ginger together, both on stage, as well as husband and wife. Since Hal was French and at the time spoke very little English, he discovered that by writing the lyrics to a song phonetically he could sing the song in English even if he didn't know what the words meant... and, with Hal's never-give-up approach to life, his English improved quickly, although his pronunciation still left something to be desired. Eventually, Hal would leave the family homestead. With a suitcase, an old guitar, and a little sum of money his Mom and Dad gave him, Hal headed back to his hometown of Rouyn to pursue a career in music with stops along the way working in the mines, on the railroad and as a lumberjack. While working as a truck driver for OKeefes Brewery in the day time, Hal would spend his evenings in the local hotels honing his skills as a country singer. Hal jokes about those days sometimes I'd help consume some of the deliveries I had made that same afternoon with the OKeefes truck. One fateful day things changed dramatically for Hal Willis. Ginger The Melodie Rangers came to Rouyn to fulfill a two-month performance contract at the then plush St-Louis Hotel. Ginger met Hal, heard him sing, and hired him on the spot to sing in her band. Hal was so tickled he could hardly contain himself after all, these were real professional singers. With the contract fulfilled, Ginger decided to break up the band, and with Hal, headed to Montreal where they would soon develop into one of the more popular floor show acts on the Canadian entertainment circuit. With Ginger's tutoring,

Hal's English kept improving, and soon he was able to record his first session for the famed Rodeo Records label, in 1951. In 1954, the great Webb Pierce, while on tour, caught their act in Buffalo, New York at the world famous McVans night club. Webb liked what he saw and heard and invited Hal and Ginger to move to Nashville. In 1955 they followed Webb Pierce's advice and made the move to Nashville where with Webb's help, they made their first appearance on the world famous Grand Ole Opry. Webb then was instrumental in getting the duo booked at Nashville's renowned Rainbow Room where the likes of Marty Robbins and Hank Snow would often be seen as part of the audience. Ginger was soon offered a job as Marty Robbins' secretary, and she accepted the offer as long as it would not interfere with her music. Hal kept busy recording demos for various music publishers, all the while improving his own recording technique and his English. In 1956 Hal recorded his first session on Atlantic Records and had an early Rock n Roll hit with My Pink Cadillac. That same year, Hank Snow introduced Hal and Ginger to Colonel Tom Parker, who immediately hired them to tour with then rising phenom, Elvis Presley, and provided them with some instant recognition. Hal and Ginger, along with Hank Snow would go down in history as the only Canadian performers to have toured with Elvis Presley. In 1965 Hal finally got the big record break he had been working so hard for, when his recording of The Lumberjack, became an international hit, selling over 1.5 million copies, and reaching #5 on the Billboard Country Charts in the USA. Through sheer persistence and determination, Hal Willis overcame what he calls those small obstacles in life and, to his credit, has gained the respect of all the people that have crossed his path. His music career, now in its fifth decade, continues to flourish, and a recent comeback on the recording scene with two brand new albums, One titled " COAST TO COAST " and one Christmas titled " SANTA'S CLONES "...Hal has now added two more Great new albums " TITLED " A CUT ABOVE " AND " BETTER THAN EVER" from which three single releases have already been released on Compilation All four albums are chucked full of great original material, written by Hal and Ginger. ( Two of the best writers in the business )..Another Great Album is now in the making...Please watch for it

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