

# **Mp3 Diane Renay - Diane Renay Sings Some Things Old & Some Things New**



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Never before released Pop songs from 60s, and adult contemporary songs from 80s. 34 MP3 Songs in this album (104:31) ! Related styles: POP: 60's Pop, EASY LISTENING: Love Songs Details: "Diane Renay" most notably famous for her 1964 Hit Recording, "NAVY BLUE" was born Renee Diane Kushner in South Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (where many other famous recording stars such as, Bobby Rydell, Fabian, Frankie Avalon, Dee Dee Sharp, and Chubby Checker) just to name a few, also hailed from the South Philadelphia area! As a point of personal interest, Diane's Mother told Diane after "NAVY BLUE" became a hit, that when she was pregnant with Diane, she went to see a Fortune Teller, who told her "that she was going to have a Girl Child, who would one day be a STAR!" As soon as Diane started talking, she started singing along with any song she would hear on the radio or record player that was playing in her parents home. By the time she was 12 years old, she started taking voice lessons with a well known vocal teacher/coach in Philadelphia, by the name of Artie Singer. Artie Singer at that time, was managing a hot new Philadelphia recording group called "Danny the Juniors", who had a major hit record at the time entitled "At The Hop". Diane's vocal teacher told her that she had the talent and makings of a future recording artist, and when she gets a little older, she should try and cut a record! So Diane begged her parents to let her cut a Test Demo in a real recording studio in Philadelphia, so that she could prove to them that she had the talent to pursue a career as a professional recording artist. Finally, by the time Diane was 14, she entered into a recording studio, and with the assistance of 4 Boys (who were her friends and with whom she also often sang with, Diane sang lead and they sang the Do Wop Background for her, hanging out on the street corners at night, in South Philly), she recorded several songs, but her favorite cut was "ZING WENT THE STRINGS OF MY HEART!" After her parents heard the outcome of

this Demo Session, they were shocked at the outcome of what they heard, and thought that Diane's vocal coach was right in telling her when she was only 12, that when she gets older, she should pursue a career as a recording artist. Diane's parents had a well known and successful jewelry business in center city Philadelphia, and one of their very good customer's was the cousin of a very successful record producer/song writer named Pete De Angelis, who worked with Frankie Avalon, Al Martino, and many other successful recording artists. At the request of Diane's father, he asked his good customer if he could arrange for a meeting, whereby Diane would meet with record producer/song writer Pete De Angelis and sing for him, so that he could give Diane's parents his honest opinion, as to whether or not he thought that she had the vocal talent to pursue a recording career. Well, within a short period of time, on a Sunday afternoon, Diane's parents drove her over the Walt Whitman bridge that connected Philadelphia to New Jersey, where Pete De Angelis lived. Diane's parents sat down on a sofa, Pete De Angelis sat at his piano and Diane began to sing several standard songs of her own choosing as Pete followed along on his piano. Within 15 minutes, after Diane sang several songs for Pete, he turned to her parents and said, "Mr. Mrs. Kushner, your daughter has a wonderful and very marketable singing voice and I can get her a record contract, without any trouble!" Pete De Angelis was able to obtain a recording contract for "Diane Renay" with the ATCO RECORD COMPANY. He produced her very first professional recording session, for which he wrote several songs that she recorded in addition to recording a well known standard song titled "LITTLE WHITE LIES." It was Diane's first record release in 1962, she was only 16 years old at the time. For her second ATCO recording session, the President of ATCO RECORDS at the time who was Jerry Wexler, decided to call in one of the best and hottest record producers at the time, "BOB CREWE" to write material and produce Diane's next session. That session resulted in her second single release "TENDER". Although both of Diane's single releases on ATCO, received airplay and charted on many area radio stations' play lists, neither songs hit the big Billboard, or Cashbox charts high enough to warrant ATCO to want to pick up their option to renew her recording contract for another two single releases, and they dropped Diane's contract. That was the best thing that could have happened to her, because after she left ATCO, "BOB CREWE" personally signed her on as one of his recording artists, that he both wrote songs and produced for her. The rest is HISTORY, the very first recording session that "BOB CREWE" produced and wrote songs for "Diane Renay" to sing, now that she was under contract to him personally, resulted in the production and release of "NAVY BLUE"! The song hit the Top 10 Billboard

Chart with a Red Bullet in the week of February 19th, 1964, "Diane Renay" was not yet 18 years old and was still in High School. Shortly thereafter, followed an album release also titled "NAVY BLUE" from which "Diane Renay's" fourth single release titled "KISS ME SAILOR," was on. It did well on the Billboard Chart, but could not top the success of "NAVY BLUE." Although Diane never had another hit as major as "NAVY BLUE" again, she continued to record many other single releases, such as "GROWIN UP TOO FAST," "HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROKEN HEART," and the tough girl punk classic most notably titled and remembered as "WATCH OUT SALLY!" "Diane Renay" was a part of the Girl Group Phenomenon of Pop Music in the early 60's, when Rock n' Roll was still in it's infancy. There will never again be an era of Rock n' Roll music like that of the 50s 60s, when it all began. And so, although "Diane Renay" only had one major hit recording, "NAVY BLUE," both her song and "Diane Renay" will always be remembered as a part of Rock n' Roll history when it was in the makings!

**MOST RECENT REVIEWS AMG EXPERT REVIEW:** As Harriet Schock released her Nik Venet-produced AMERICAN ROMANCE on her own, with former labelmate Genya Ravan similarly giving the world For Fans Only on Award Records in 2002, yet another alum from the 20th Century label has heard the calling. Miss Diane Renay hit number one on the adult contemporary charts in 1964 with her Top Ten 45 RPM "Navy Blue", and has come up with a fantastic double-CD retrospective of her recording career which fans of girl groups and good music will absolutely treasure. There is a fun, 1987 dance-oriented remake of her biggest hit on CD two, but that's only one of the excellent moments here. "Little White Lies" sweeps in, opening CD one with that sound that Connie Francis did so well. It was produced by Pete DeAngelis, who worked with Frankie Avalon and Al Martino, and was released on Atco Records in 1962 when she was only 16. In "Dynamite" you can hear the distinct sound that Bob Crewe helped the Toys get when producers Linzer and Randell put together the recordings that make up The Toys: A Lover's Concerto/Attack for Crewe's label. In a bit of synchronicity, the Barbara Now album was released by the Toys' Barbara Harrison her own imprint, receiving good press, around the same time as this project. Harrison sang backup on Renay's second hit, "Kiss Me Sailor" (not on this collection), and recorded the Beatles' "Yesterday" on her original A Lover's Concerto album. Renay includes her version of "Yesterday" here, which brings it all full circle. These amazing talents give the fans what record labels are supposed to in this business - the release of great music. The classy Diane Renay shifts gears again with "Falling Star", followed by "The Company You Keep", and this material is so strong, one wonders why this artist doesn't have a string of hit records up

there with Dusty Springfield, Petula Clark, and other divas of the day. "The Company You Keep" has little riffs from her big hit, "Navy Blue", tucked neatly in the instrumentation, while "Troublemaker" has that gritty vocal style that made Brenda Lee's pop numbers so memorable. There are 17 songs on CD one, which clocks in at around 42 minutes and 53 seconds. The second disc holds another 18 tunes for 62 minutes and 53 seconds, a whopping 105 minutes and 46 seconds of music from this pop princess who has been away from listeners for far too long. The liner notes are extensive and give the story; track number 17 is her first test demo, "Zing Went the Strings of My Heart", recorded when she was 13 or 14 years old, around 1960. There's the story of how her parents knew a cousin of producer Pete DeAngelis, who brought her to Atco and to the attention of Jerry Wexler, who introduced Renay to Bob Crewe. The liners are so packed with information that one needs to go to the web page, [dianerenay.com](http://dianerenay.com), to get the six pages of liner notes and three additional bio pages. There is not enough room here to rave about the 35 tracks, from "Please Gypsy", which sounds like a sequel to Lou Christie's "The Gypsy Cried," to the beautiful covers of the Chantels' "Maybe" and Mel Carter's "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me". This is magical stuff full of solid pop music, majestic girl group gems, and dynamic performances from Diane Renay's first demo up to the impromptu recording of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" during (but not at) the 1987 "Navy Blue" remake sessions. Diane Renay recorded a wealth of important music, and like the aforementioned singers, has not received her due. For fans of the genre, this double set is just terrific; every track is filled with the stuff that true fans go crazy at record shows looking for. Just a tremendous effort deserving of much attention. - Joe Viglione DISCOVERIES MAGAZINE April Issue-2002

On the 1964 smash "Navy Blue", Diane Renay innocently wonders about her wayward boyfriend who said "Ship Ahoy" and joined the "Na-ya-vy". Produced and co-written by Bob Crewe, that girl-group classic highlights the 14-song reissue CD on Collectables; Renay's own inspired 1987 update debuts on Diane Renay Sings Some Things Old Some Things New. She and producer David Lasley reinvent her signature tune as a pulsating dance-rock number, pouring in buckets of "sha-la-la's." Whether in the two minute original or its double-time successor, every moment of Navy Blue enchants. The Navy Blue album paints a seafaring motif on the charming follow-up hit "Kiss Me Sailor" and the clever "Bell Bottom Trousers". Exploiting his Four Seasons experience, Crewe adds dramatic drum rolls to "Please Forget Me" and collaborates with Bob Gaudio on the powerhouse single "Growin' Up Too Fast". Casting her natural sweetness overboard, Renay veers from a whisper to a snarl on the guitar-heavy "Watch Out Sally" (an

MGM 45 in late '64), and long before Blondie, she fumes "I'm Gonna Getcha" on "Sooner Or Later". Diane RenaySings...compiles 35 songs over two CDs, culled from her own tapes, records, and acetates. The collection notes such career benchmarks as her earliest studio sessions, the 1962 Atco single "Little White Lies", and a Thom Bell production of "Yesterday". Although the audio quality is uneven, the nine songs from the Bob Crewe era fulfill the two-some's musical vision, reaching a pinnacle on the toughened 1965 single "Trouble Maker"; rocking out on the demo "Live And Learn"; and sharing a relaxed duet on "Teach Me Tonight". Renay favors layered keyboards and orchestrated big-ballad arrangements on 13 previously unreleased 1980s recordings, including her melodious compositions "Blue Snow" and "Love Is Wonderful". Into this ocean of sounds crashes a startling late '60s psychedelic impression of "Greenfields", a number as weirdly intoxicating as "Navy Blue" is buoyantly irresistible. (oldiesor dianerenay.com) by Joseph Tortell

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