

1442. Summer In The City

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

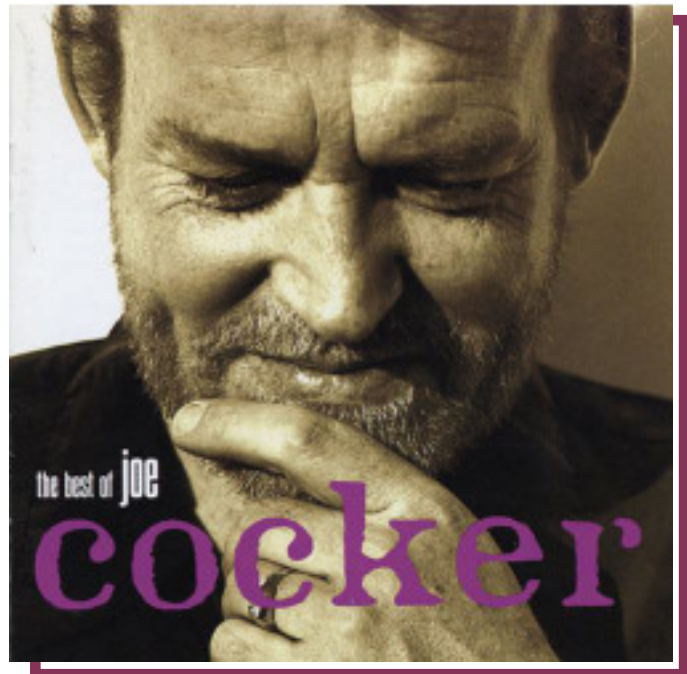
Summer in the City is a song by the American pop band The Lovin' Spoonful from 1966, which became a million seller. The lyrics are based on a poem by Mark Sebastian, the younger brother of bandleader John Sebastian. John changed the lyrics to create more excitement for the lyrics. The lyrics describe the impressions of a city dweller who abhors the unbearable summer heat. There seems to be no shadow, all passers-by look stricken due to the heat and walk on hot sidewalks. At night, on the other hand, it is different, then the heat-stricken person looks for a girl to dance with. The recordings for Summer in the City were made on 9 June 1966 in the Columbia Studios (Studio A) in New York City with John Sebastian (vocals, guitar, harmonica), Zalman Yanovsky (guitar), Steve Boone (bass guitar, organ Fender Rhodes/Vox Continental and E-Piano Hohner Pianet) and Joe Butler (drums).

The single Summer in the City / Butchie's Tune (Kama Sutra Records 211) was released on July 4, 1966 and had a perfect timing to the extreme summer heat of those days. The summer hit was considered a typical song for transistor radios. In the US hit parade it reached first place on August 13, 1966 and remained in this position for 3 weeks. He also achieved the status of number one hit in Canada (2 weeks) and the Netherlands. The title sold 1.8 million copies worldwide[5] It ranks 401 of the 500 best songs of all time in Rolling Stone magazine. The LP Hums of the Lovin' Spoonful (1966) took over the hit.

Cover versions. There are numerous cover versions of the title - including The Marmalade



The Lovin' Spoonful (1966)



(1968), B. B. King (1972), Quincy Jones (1973), The Drifters (1976), Red Face (1980), David Essex (1993), Joe Cocker (1994), Isaac Hayes (1995), The Stranglers (1997), Joe Jackson (2000), Styx (2005) or Manfred Mann's Earth Band (2005).

The Joe Cocker version emphasizes the contrast between the heat of the day and the cool of the night with its instrumentation: the latter has a light, dance-like rhythm without changing tempo. "Use as soundtrack. In 1970 Wim Wenders made his graduation film Summer in the City at the Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film. The song is heard at the end of a film set in wintery Berlin. Due to the unauthorized use of music titles, the film cannot be distributed; it is only shown at festivals. The song also appeared in the opening scene of the action film Die Die langsam: Jetzt erst recht (1995) and in the feature Verliebte Jungs (2001) as well as in a episode of the Simpsons ("Papa's Got a Brand New Badge"; 2002).



Joe Cocker 1994

4Beat+Reggae (T=90)

The musical score is written for five instruments: Guitar, Strings, Bass, E-Piano, and Drums. The time signature is 4/4 and the tempo is 90. The score is divided into two main sections, 'Main 1' and 'Main 2'.
 - **Guitar:** In 'Main 1', it plays four chords per beat. In 'Main 2', it plays a more rhythmic pattern with accents.
 - **Strings:** Marked 'Adv.', it plays a sustained chord throughout.
 - **Bass:** Plays a melodic line with eighth notes.
 - **E-Piano:** Plays chords on beats 2 and 4.
 - **Drums:** Features a pattern with HH-st. (snare), DBD (bass drum), and DSD (snare). The second section is marked 'Bongos ad lib.'.

Programming instruction

Joe Cocker has come up with a wonderful combination of 4-Beat and a Reggae. Both are running at a very leisurely tempo of 90, which sounds especially good in the completely differently emphasized reggae. In 4Beat the guitar with the four chords per beat gives exactly the right direction. The electric piano plays chordally only the snare lookup on 2 and 4. In the 4Beat part the bass drum with the 16th part is especially interesting. Quite different in reggae: here the bassdrum plays the lookup on 2 and 4, typical reggae! The bass leaves out the accents 1 and 3 and the snare only a short 16th phrase on the 3rd. The bassdrum should play the note H (35), Disco-BD!