



[Neil Young Unreleased - Archive Information](#)

NEIL YOUNG –ARCHIVES VOLUME 3

AN UNOFFICIAL PREVIEW

An NYU Publication

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ARCHIVES VOL. 3 - 1976-1987

According to Neil, **Archives Volume 3** is now more or less complete and waiting in the wings for an official announcement of its content and an official release date. His latest forecast is mid-2024. Nevertheless, it might be interesting to take a look at where we stand today in terms of its expected content, and look back at the development of the project and the different plans Neil has had for it over the last few years.

What follows is a summary of what we know about **Vol. 3** from official sources, together with a certain amount of guesswork based on other information and general deduction.

Archives Vol. 3 was initially envisaged to cover the period late 1976 to late 1990. However, in a reply to a Letter to the Editor (LTTE) in the Neil Young Archives Times-Contrarian newspaper (T-C) dated 28 Jul 2021, confirmed in a Zoom session with Neil Young Archives (NYA) Patrons on 7 Jun 2023, Neil said that **Vol. 3** would now only run from 1976 to 1987.

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/2/article?id=Letters-NYA-Volume-3-spanning>

Over the last few years, Neil has made a number of different statements about his specific plans for **Vol. 3**: “A lot of unreleased versions and songs. Probably more than the first two [Archives Volumes]... Total number of discs is higher than the first two volumes.” He announced that films would be offered “as Blu-rays in the set boxes. There are a lot of films with covers and art. Old school!” (LTTE, Vol. 3, 7 Mar 2021). “There are many full capacity CDs in Volume 3... Each has its own cover. I like to make all archives CDs in volume 3 be like records on their own.” (LTTE, Summer Songs, 6 Jan 2022). And in a long article in Times-Contrarian published 26 Mar 2021, Neil went into considerable detail about specific plans for **Vol. 3** (at the time was still planned to go through to 1990 and thus include material from the Bluenotes and **Freedom** periods):

We continued on at the cottage in Canada with Daryl, Niko and I putting together Volume three of the archives. Seven or eight films. More discs that [sic] the other Archives Volumes. Maybe more songs. Many unreleased albums back in their original shape like we did with **Homegrown** when we found it.

Johnny’s Island, Oceanside-Countryside (the origin of **Comes A Time**), Give To The Wind Orchestra live at Nashville musician’s union hall with the whole orchestra and Nicolette. What a giant recording 10 or eleven songs with the orchestra, Nicolette and I singin’ live. Truly a great find! The Archives is deep! Then **The Boarding House** record and film - a moment of captured time we had never even reviewed! We went through it all in that cabin on the lake as the pandemic raged on. We put together the record based on Joel Bernstein’s original performance notes. Joel is brilliant here. Then I found the movie - a continuous document of one show beginning to end. Magical to have this! As the winter howled outside, we went back and rebuilt the original **Old Ways** record, better than the released one by a lifetime. With the time to listen to all the takes from everywhere during the period, we made a record which hardly resembled the released one. Many unreleased songs and tracks were found and included. So beautiful! At the same time, Micah Nelson and I finished the **Trans Animated** Movie, finally telling the whole story behind **Trans** as it was originally envisioned, enhanced with Micah’s masterful ideas and animation. That was followed by **Live Freedom** - an acoustic live recording with just me, Ben Keith and Poncho Sampedro in Europe. I love this record. That brought us to the end of Volume 3. 1990. Now I started looking at the films.

Across The Water Tokyo Budokan and London Hammersmith Odeon, 1976

Boarding House by Bernard Shakey, 1978

Rust Never Sleeps by Bernard Shakey, 1979

Human Highway by Bernard Shakey and Dean Stockwell, 1982

Trans Animated Movie by Micha and I, current

Berlin by Michael Lindsay Hogg, 1982

Solo Trans by Hal Ashby, 1984

In A Rusted Out Garage by LA Johnson and B Shakey, 1986

Muddy Track by Bernard Shakey, 1987

We started compiling the pieces and put together a CD set (12 approximately) and a Blu-Ray set (10 approximately) for NYA Volume III. The Blu-Ray has every song on the CD set. Some Blu-Rays feature movies and records on the same discs.

All that time the lockdown was in effect in Canada as the pandemic raged. We stayed home with the rare gift of focus... If the creeks don't rise, NYA Volume III arrives in the first half of 2022.

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/1/article?id=A-Message-From-Neil-A-Pandemic-And-A-Rare-Gift>

Almost a year later, in January 2022, Neil wrote:

Blu-ray is the best sounding audio you can buy today in a tangible product. The albums on Volume 3, are available in high-res on Blu-ray with original covers. Also 9 films are included with a book on the era. Volume 3 release date will be announced mid-year, with Volume 3 sets following closely. Also a CD set of the songs, without the films and book, will be available at the same time. The NYA Volume 3 book will be available separate sale [sic] as well... NYA V3 sets also include beautiful original art from throughout the era. CD sets also include free hi res downloads from NYA with their purchase.

(T-C, Why To Get Blu-ray for NYA Volume Three, 10 Jan 2022)

Neil has since made a number of further specific comments about the **Archives Vol. 3** project:

"I want volume three to tell a story, so I'm not focusing on hits or known tracks rather the soul of what happened, with new interpretations of many of the known songs, versions I feel as better for this moment." (LTTE, A Patron Speaks From Australia, 12 May 2021)

In a live Zoom call with Patron members of NYA on 13 Oct 2021, Neil said it is "so big", so many songs, almost twice as big as the other volumes, and that it has "really got a lot of depth". He also spoke of "albums I've never finished before", some reordered with new songs added to them, but nothing that would be "just a replay", presumably confirming his previous statement that there would be no repeats of any previously released albums. He also confirmed that the lower priced, CD version of **Vol. 3** would have the full Blu-ray audio content but exclude the films.

In further comments, he said that he would be including two so-called "audio documentaries". In one, subsequently titled **Snapshot In Time**, he is playing songs around a table with Linda Ronstadt and Nicolette Larson: "It's like you're there with us". Another 'audio documentary' was recorded on a small tape recorder in Union Hall, Nashville while the band was practising for a benefit show the next day in Miami. "We went through the whole show live"... "really great" versions.

In an interview in December 2021, Neil again listed the planned scope of **Vol. 3**, although the planning has changed again since: "13 discs... 10 Blu-rays... 8 of them have films and CD and... albums in hi-res" (Rick Rubin Interview, 21 Dec 2021)

An article published in December 2022 quoted Neil as saying: "I've finished laying it out. But it's been so long since I finished laying it out that when it comes to checking it out it is almost like seeing it for the first time... so I'll probably make a few more changes there, because I'll have had a fresh look at

it.”

In further replies to Letters to the Editor in January 2023, Neil said: ““Volume three is now complete... I had to go back in and make some changes at the last minute, and that held things up a bit.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/6/article?id=Letters-Harvest-50th-loving-the>

“Volume 3 and 4 are focusing in on the original performances. I find them fascinating. So pure... no thinking.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/6/article?id=Letters-Acoustic-Versions-entire>

In August 2023, Neil said that **Archives Vol. 3** was now complete and “in post production”.

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/7/article?id=Letters-Chrome-Dreams-Early-Daze-i>

In November 2023, he announced it was “coming first half of 2024”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/7/article?id=Letters-Volume-3-changes-are>

and that it had been “delayed by me changing my mind too many times.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/7/article?id=Letters-Chrome-Dreams-releasing2>

On 17 Nov 2023, he wrote: “Blu rays included for movies. The biggest volume yet. Probably never be a bigger one. Cool films. Crazy Horse history ALMOST UNHEARD ALBUM.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/7/article?id=Letters-Archives-3-without-going>

Finally, in a Zoom call with NYA Patrons on 29 Nov 2023, Neil finally went into considerable specific - though at times a little confusing! - detail about the contents of **Vol. 3** and the separate discs that will comprise it. He now said that it would involve “17 discs” and “four or five films”, though he also kept referring to numbered “softpacks”, presumably meaning the separately designed packs with artwork which will include one or two discs each. In the Zoom call, it appears Neil was describing the planned full-set Blu-ray/CD edition. Halfway through he began to list tracks from some of the discs, though he often stopped part way and moved on to the next one. It seems likely that this may have been done intentionally in order not to reveal all available information in advance of the official announcement.

A number of more recent statements from Neil confirm that **Archives Vol. 3** is currently ‘definitely’ scheduled for release by mid-2024, so that an official announcement may well be imminent.

EXPECTED CONTENT

The following is an attempt at making a detailed list of contents, based partly on what Neil specifically confirmed in the 29 Nov 2023 Zoom call and on other occasions, but amplified where appropriate with my own ‘educated speculation’ based on other relevant information. The list also attempts to highlight the hitherto unreleased songs which may be included in **Vol. 3**.

ACROSS THE WATER - Part 1 and Part 2 - DISCS 1/2

March/April 1976

These two discs cover the Crazy Horse World Tour in 1976 with both audio and film from London Hammersmith Odeon, Glasgow Apollo, Tokyo Budokan and, according to Neil, “somewhere else which I can't remember.” (Zoom Call, 29 Nov 2023).

The following rare songs may show up on these discs. They were debuted on the tour but were not included in **Archives Vol. 2**:

Let It Shine, No One Seems To Know, Sad Movies (unreleased)

Across The Water seems to have been originally intended exclusively as a film, based on footage from the tour filmed by contracted film crews in both the UK and Japan. This footage not only includes live concert material but also scenes of Neil chatting and playing in hotel rooms, walking in Hyde Park, London, carrying out sound checks at Hammersmith Odeon, as well of course as the famous footage of him busking in front of Central Station in Glasgow. It now seems, however, that an audio disc

version will also be released, perhaps for the benefit of a CD-only version of **Vol. 3** which will not include any films.

For full details of the 1976 Crazy Horse World Tour see

https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_getshowsgrid.php?tour_key=111&flag=2

HITCHHIKIN' JUDY – DISC 3

Fall 1976

These are cuts, presumably all 'electric', from the fall 1976 US tour. The solo acoustic performances from the first part of each show have already been covered in the album **Songs For Judy**.

Previously this **Vol. 3** disc had been referred to under the title **Chaos And The Horse It Rode In On Presented By Electric Judy** and before that simply as **Electric Judy**. It was described by Neil as:

"Ridiculous... the best Crazy Horse record ever made... just me playing guitar with Crazy Horse with one volume change and a reverb unit, no echoplex, no flangers... nothing where the signal had to go through a new place to get to the effects... the actual sound of the guitar was more pure". (Rick Rubin Interview, Broken Record Podcast, 21 Dec 2021).

For details of the tour see https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_getshowsgrid.php?tour_key=114&flag=2

It is unclear if any recordings from the pre-tour rehearsal shows will be included in **Vol. 3**, the so-called Crazy Horse Bar Tour of October 1976, mentioned by Joel Bernstein in a 2018 interview in Uncut Magazine at the time of the release of **Songs For Judy**. No recordings of these rehearsal shows are so far known to exist. For details see:

https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_getshowsgrid.php?tour_key=113&flag=2

It is also not clear if any songs from the late 1976 **Hitchhiker** Indigo sessions, or indeed anything else from this period, will be included. The original recordings of *Will To Love* and *Hold Back The Tears* from this period were recently included on the album **Chrome Dreams**.

SNAPSHOT IN TIME – DISC 4

Feb/Mar 1977

Described by Neil as an "audio documentary": "This is a documentary tape of me playing the songs on stars n bars for Nicolette Larson, Linda Ronstadt and David Briggs before we went into the studio. I think it's the best recording. It may have been done separately in the studio." (LTTE, Barefoot Floors A Snapshot In Time, 13 Feb 2021). "You can hear us all working the songs out" (Zoom Call, 29 Nov 2023).

In an article in Rolling Stone from 14 Dec 1978, Nicolette Larson is quoted as saying: "I didn't know much about Neil Young... but we went over and sat by the fireplace and Neil ran down all the songs he had just written, about twenty of them. We sang harmonies with him and he was jazzed."

Possible tracks on **Snapshot In Time** include *Barefoot Floors*, *Bite The Bullet*, *Hey Babe*, *Lotta Love*, *Long May You Run*, *Old Country Waltz*, and *Saddle Up The Palomino*.

Elsewhere Neil has said: "Rust era and Stars n Bars have new or different versions of some songs in Volume 3." (LTTE, Volume 3 Question, 9 Jun 2022). It is just possible therefore that this disc will include other recordings than simply those on the 'audio documentary' tape.

WINDWARD PASSAGE – DISC 5

Summer 1977

This disc was previously called **Ducks – A Trick Of Disaster** and involves live selections from the summer 1977 Ducks tour in Santa Cruz, some, such as *Cryin' Eyes*, missing from the Official Bootleg Series release **High Flyin' – The Ducks**. There may also be some other so far unreleased Ducks studio cuts. In any event, there is likely to be considerable overlap with the **High Flyin'** album.

OCEANSIDE-COUNTRYSIDE - DISC 6

1977

This disc, based on an unreleased album concept from the mid-1970s, apparently involves 12 recordings of which only very few have surfaced previously. They are the original solo versions of many **Comes A Time** cuts, made before subsequent overdubbing for the final released album. “The original Comes a Time is called Oceanside-Countryside and is presented in its entirety on NYA Volume three. It contains originals with sketch ODs I did myself.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/3/article?id=Letters-Sea-Of-Madness-morning>

Probable tracks include:

Comes A Time, Goin’ Back, Human Highway, Lost In Space, Peace Of Mind, Pocahontas, Sail Away - all solo recordings at Triiad, Fort Lauderdale. It is not yet clear what the other tracks are.

UNION HALL – DISC 7?

Nov 1977

Previously called **Give To The Wind**, this disc includes the other “audio documentary”, the Nashville Musicians Union Hall rehearsal tape from 11 Nov 1977, together with the Gone With The Wind Orchestra. It was recorded on the eve of the Bicentennial Park, Miami, Children’s Hospital Charity show and described by Neil as “10 or 11 songs with the orchestra, *Nicolette* and I sing live.” This disc also contains a number of **Comes A Time** outtakes.

Tracks confirmed by Neil:

Alabama, Already One, Are You Ready For The Country?, Comes A Time, Dance Dance Dance/Love Is A Rose Medley, Down By The River, Four Strong Winds, Heart Of Gold, Lady Wingshot (unreleased), *The Losing End (When You’re On), Love/Art Blues, Old Man.*

Other songs performed the next day at Bicentennial Park, Miami were: *Alabama/Sweet Home Alabama, Already One, The Needle And The Damage Done* and *Sugar Mountain* but it is not known if any live recordings will be included.

See https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_show.php?show=197711120 for details of the Bicentennial Park show.

The studio outtakes from the **Comes A Time** era will probably include cuts from the Triiad, Fort Lauderdale, and Nashville sessions with Crazy Horse and The Bullets. Definitely included are: *Motorcycle Mama, Please Help Me I’m Falling* and *We’re Having Some Fun* – all from Nov 1977 at the Sound Shop, Nashville.

Other unconfirmed possibles may include: *Dance Dance Dance, Field Of Opportunity* and *It Might Have Been* – band takes from the Crazy Mama’s sessions in Nashville, as well as a *Lady Wingshot* studio recording and possibly *Pocahontas* and *Sail Away* outtakes.

BOARDING HOUSE - Part 1 and Part 2 - DISCS 8/9?

May 1978

Audio and film of live performances from the famous Boarding House shows in San Francisco at the time of the making of the film **Human Highway**. They include film and possibly separate audio of the afternoon session with Devo and Neil performing *Hey Hey, My My (Into The Black)*.

In a Zoom call with NYA Patrons on 7 Jun 2023, Neil said that the film would be just one Boarding House show whereas the audio album would highlight performances from several.

For details of all songs played see:

https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_getshowsgrid.php?tour_key=116&flag=2

“The whole concert from the Boarding House is coming to NYA V3. Both film and record.”

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/3/article?id=Letters-Boarding-House-your>

“Boarding House is coming in Volume 3 and maybe separately. We have nine picks.” (LTTE Boarding

House, 22 Nov 2019)

SEDAN DELIVERY - DISCS 10?

Fall 1978

“Different tracks”, according to Neil, to those which have already been released from the **Rust Never Sleeps** period, with a “wacky cover”. Presumably only live tracks, and including the following already confirmed by Neil:

Bright Sunny Day (unreleased, played only once, 19 Sep 1978, Clarkston), *Cortez The Killer*, *Hey Hey, My My (Into The Black)*, *The Loner*, *Lotta Love*, *Powderfinger*, *Sedan Delivery*, *Tonight’s The Night*, *Welfare Mothers*, *When You Dance (I Can Really Love)*

COASTLINE - DISC 11?

July 1980-July 1981

Hawks & Doves and **Reactor** era cuts, presumably mostly outtakes from the main album sessions, including the following already confirmed by Neil:

Coastline, *Comin’ Apart At Every Nail*, *Get Up Now* (presumably 14 Jan 1981, Broken Arrow, with Crazy Horse), *Hawks & Doves*, *Opera Star*, *Rapid Transit*, *Stayin’ Power*, *Southern Pacific*, *Sunny Inside* (the “original” recording), *Surfer Joe And Moe The Sleaze*, *Union Man*, *Winter Winds/Turbine* (unreleased, possibly 9 Oct 1980, Broken Arrow, with Crazy Horse)

It would certainly be interesting if we were also to see *To Me, To Me*, another unreleased, never before heard song from this period on this disc.

TRANS EP / JOHNNY’S ISLAND - DISC 12

Sep 1981-1982

The **Trans EP** involves the ‘computer age’ **Trans** tracks from the late 1981 sessions at Modern Recorders, Broken Arrow:

Computer Age, *Computer Cowboy (aka Syscrusher)*, *Mr. Soul*, *Sample And Hold*, *Transformer Man*, *We R In Control*.

These tracks may conceivably only appear as animated videos, recently produced by Micah and Alex Nelson, a film project which was separately referred to as **Trans Animated**.

In 2019 Neil announced: “We are releasing Trans again in its original state just the computer age based songs... Sample And Hold is the seminal trans track and will possibly have two versions: Briggs Hanlon mix (longer like a club dance track)... and the original” (LTTE, Trans, 2 Jul 2019). Later in 2019 Neil announced the new film project: “Watch for the all new animated Trans video... it tells the whole story of Trans... In production now with Micah Nelson directing” (LTTE, ‘Trans’ Long-Form Video, 22 Mar 2019). In December 2019 the project was being described as a “film + EP”.

Whether the **Trans** tracks on **Vol. 3** include mixes and versions not included in the original album remains unclear.

In an interview with Micah Nelson in *Speakin’ Out #3*, published in July 2020, Micah said: “There will be an animated video for each song. It’s like a dystopian sci-fi rock opera art film. Very strange and very cool. A totally DIY project, using a ton of different mediums all stitched together like an animated collage. It is raw as hell... Neil is re-releasing the Trans EP the way it was originally meant to be heard, and seen as an animated film. It’s a dream project.”

In early 2021 Neil was referring to the film as **Trans Animated** and said it would be part of **Archives Vol. 3** (LTTE, Trans Animated NYA Volume 3, 14 Feb 2021).

Johnny’s Island (1982) includes recordings by the Trans Band in Hawaii, with three ‘non-computer’ acoustic tracks from **Trans** and “seven tracks [which] have never been heard” (LTTE, Johnny’s Island, 23 Feb 2021). The recordings presumably all come from the May 1982 sessions at Commercial

Recording, Honolulu. Closely related to the original album concept *Island In The Sun*, Neil explains that “Johnny’s Island, is not Island in the Sun, but does include some of the music from that unreleased record, in addition to other rare unheard songs.”

Tracks confirmed by Neil include:

Big Pearl (unreleased), *Hold On To Your Love*, *If You Got Love*, *Island In The Sun* (unreleased), *Johnny* (unreleased), *Love Hotel* (unreleased), *Rainin’ In Paradise* (unreleased), *Silver & Gold*, *Soul Of A Woman*.

We may also get to hear *Bad News Is Coming To Town*, *Sunny Inside*, and perhaps new versions of *Little Thing Called Love*, and *Like An Inca* from *Trans*.

In the Zoom call on 29 Nov 2023 Neil, introduced *Trans EP* and *Johnny’s Island* as Disc 12 but then later confusingly said “Disc 8, Softpack 9, Discs 13 and 14”. Neil may in fact have been referring here to the next disc *Evolution*, especially since he went on to describe *Evolution* as Disc 13.

EVOLUTION – DISC 13

Jan 1983-Jan 1984

Neil described *Evolution* in the November 2023 Zoom call as “a lot of different songs with a lot of different feelings because I started off doing *California Sunset* and *My Boy*, and then we went into the Shocking Pinks period, and then came out of that into... *I Got A Problem*, *Hard Luck Stories*, *Your Love*, and *If You Got Love*, a lot of previously unreleased originals.”

Certainly, this twelve-month period, with Neil delving into country, rockabilly and synthesiser music, and working with the Shocking Pinks and the International Harvesters among others, is difficult to bring under one roof. Hence, presumably, the title *Evolution*.

During the November 2023 Zoom call, Neil specifically mentioned the following recordings, the speculation on the details of the recording here, however, are mine:

California Sunset - presumably 15 Jan 1983, House of David with the International Harvesters

My Boy - presumably an outtake from the Jan 1983 House of David sessions with the International Harvesters

I Got A Problem – “the original”, presumably an Aug 1983 Ranch Studio outtake

Hard Luck Stories – “the original”, presumably a Jan 1984 Ranch Studio outtake

Your Love (Is Good To Me) – “the original”, unreleased, no studio recording is hitherto known but possibly a Jan 1984 Ranch Studio outtake

If You Got Love – “the original”, presumably a Jan 1984 Ranch Studio solo outtake

Neil has since confirmed that *Razor Love*, thought to be a Jan 1984 Ranch Studio solo outtake, will also be included. Other tracks from 1983, all recorded with the International Harvesters at the House Of David, Nashville but not mentioned by Neil, include: *Beautiful Bluebird*, *Old Ways*, *Silver & Gold*, *Soul Of A Woman*, *That’s All Right (Mama)*, *Winter Winds/Turbine*, and perhaps *For The Love Of Man*,

TOUCH THE NIGHT - DISC 14

7 Feb 1984

In the November 2023 Zoom call, Neil talked of a live album based on two Crazy Horse shows at the Catalyst, Santa Cruz on 7 Feb 1984, and including:

Barstool Blues, *I Got A Problem*, *Rock, Rock, Rock* (unreleased), *So Tired (Of Talking To Strangers)* (unreleased), *Touch The Night*, *Violent Side*, *Welfare Mothers*, *Your Love (Is Good To Me)* (unreleased) and presumably more.

A total of 15 songs were performed that night though Neil did not specifically mention *Cinnamon Girl*, *Cortez The Killer*, *Hey Hey*, *My My (Into The Black)*, *Homegrown*, *Powderfinger*, *Tonight’s The Night*, or *Stand By Me*, a song by Billy Talbot. In earlier references, Neil has also spoken of video material from these two shows, but there were apparently significant quality issues, so we are unlikely to see it in

Vol. 3.

Since Neil specifically mentioned two live performances from one single night for this disc – presumably therefore the title ***Touch The Night*** - it seems unlikely that it will include cuts from the less than totally successful Crazy Horse studio sessions at Broken Arrow with Elliot Mazer and at the Power Station, New York, with David Briggs, from early 1984. Neil has already said about these sessions: “We were not happy with them initially. I remember them well.” It seems likely therefore that they have indeed been left off **Vol. 3**.

GREY RIDERS - DISC 15

Jun 1984-Sep 1985

Further tracks from the Old Ways/International Harvesters period. Neil had talked previously of a project called ***A Treasure Expanded*** with “many” songs from the ***Treasure*** era “in their unreleased studio versions”.

Tracks specifically mentioned by Neil include the following, again track details are based on my speculation:

Amber Jean – “original”, early show 6 Jun 1984, Saddle Rack, San Jose

Are You Ready For The Country? - 6 Jun 1984, Saddle Rack, San Jose, or the ***A Treasure*** version

Get Back To The Country – “original”, possibly 6 Jun 1984 Saddle Rack, San Jose or perhaps 20 Apr 1985 Castle Studios, Franklin

It Might Have Been - 6 Jun 1984, Saddle Rack, San Jose, or the ***A Treasure*** version

Let Your Fingers Do The Walking – live version?, possibly 25 Sep 1984, Austin City Limits or possibly 21 Apr 1985 Castle Studios, Franklin

Misfits (Dakota) – “unreleased live version” presumably with Crazy Horse from the 1985 Australia/NZ tour

Nothing Is Perfect (In God’s Perfect Plan) – unreleased version, possibly from Live Aid or 7 Sep 1985 Philadelphia?, or possibly 30 Jun 1985 Castle Studios, Franklin

Soul Of A Woman – live version?, possibly 25 Sep 1984, Austin City Limits?

This Old House – “original”, live version from 1985 or possibly Jun/Jul 1985 Castle Studios, Franklin

Southern Pacific – presumably a live version, possibly 25 Sep 1984, Austin City Limits, or ***A Treasure?***

Time Off For Good Behavior – unreleased, possibly 1 Jul 1985 Castle Studios, Franklin

Other rare recordings from this period not mentioned by Neil include *Interstate*, *Beautiful Bluebird*, *Down By The River*, *Leavin’ The Top 40 Behind* (unreleased), *Old Hillbilly Band* (unreleased), *Razor Love*, *Silver & Gold*, *Try, Your Love Again* (unreleased).

ROAD OF PLENTY – DISC 16

1985-1987

The original album project titled ***Road Of Plenty*** was first mentioned by Neil in an article in Times-Contrarian on 23 Apr 2020. At that time it was intended to cover a range of well-known unreleased recordings, including the original live *Road Of Plenty* from September-October 1986 - the precursor to the later *Eldorado* - as well as studio takes from 1988 including the 17-minute version of *Sixty To Zero* with the Bluenotes and various takes from Hit Factory sessions with The Restless and Neil’s Saturday Night Live band. With **Vol. 3** now ending in 1987, the title ***Road To Plenty*** seems to have come to be used on a more limited basis for a collection of recordings from the ***Landing On Water*** and ***Life*** periods, at least judging by the song titles which Neil listed in his November 2023 Zoom call. These were:

Bad News Beat, *Drifter*, *Hippie Dream*, *People on the Street*, *Pressure*, *Road of Plenty* (“original”, previously unreleased), *We Never Danced* (“original”), *Weight of the World*, *When Your Lonely Heart Breaks* (“original... unbelievably great”).

These will certainly not be the only tracks on this disc, so we are likely to be in for some surprises.

SUMMER SONGS – DISC 17

Summer 1987

Solo recordings with Niko Bolas made at Broken Arrow Ranch in the summer of 1987: “A collection of originals from 1987... Every song in the collection was with acoustic guitar or piano and simple added embellishments - sketches of arrangements we made to preserve the initial ideas... The words of these originals are significantly different from their subsequent master releases in many cases.” (T-C, Summer Songs Uncovered, 27 Nov 2021). The eight songs were released on NYA on 25 Dec 2021 as a virtual NYA album (LTTE, Summer Songs Added To V3, 1 Dec 2021).

American Dream, For The Love Of Man, Hangin’ On A Limb, Last Of His Kind, Name Of Love, One Of These Days, Someday, Wreckin’ Ball

https://neilyoungarchives.com/album?id=A_133&tab=songs

THE FILMS IN ARCHIVES VOLUME 3

In the Zoom call from 29 Nov 2023 with NYA Patrons, Neil specifically stated that **Vol. 3** now involves “17 discs” and “four or five films”. The films which seem most likely to be under consideration for inclusion in **Vol. 3** are:

Across The Water (1976)

Boarding House (1978)

Trans Animated (1981)

In A Rusted Out Garage (1986)

although the inclusion of one or other of

Rust Never Sleeps (1978)

Human Highway (1982)

Berlin (1982)

Solo Trans (1984)

Muddy Track (1987)

is not out of the question if there are indeed five and not four films included. These last five have previously been released on physical media but they are not easy to obtain. A re-release would be very welcome.

Films connected with ***Across The Water*** and ***Boarding House*** were specifically mentioned by Neil in his detailed description of the content of **Vol. 3** during the November 2023 Zoom call. See ‘Expected Content’ above. ***Trans Animated*** was not specifically mentioned by Neil but has also been discussed above. The possible inclusion of ***In A Rusted Out Garage*** in **Vol. 3** remains unconfirmed but likely, and therefore deserves further explanation.

IN A RUSTED OUT GARAGE

1986

The film ***In A Rusted Out Garage*** was based on the live cable stream filmed at Cow Palace, Daly City, on the final night of the 1986 tour with Crazy Horse, 21 Nov 1986. It was first shown in Hearse Theater on 22 Oct 2019. When asked in 2020 if a Blu-ray edition of the film was coming, Neil replied: “2021. We’re just planning the schedule.” (LTTE, A Rusted Out Garage, 7 Sep 2020). In March 2021

Neil wrote that the project “is in production now” (LTTE, Releases, 5 Mar 2021). Later that year he wrote: “Rusted out Garage will be in Volume three and in the archives at that time.” (LTTE, Three Rail World, 20 Sep 2021). There has since been no definite official news of an official media release. From Billboard.com, 19 Dec 2017: “***In A Rusted Out Garage*** was a document of the final night of the tour, and the Horse dove into it like gangbusters, setting fire to such key tracks from Crazy Horse’s then-forthcoming 1987 LP ***Life*** such as *Mideast Vacation* and *Prisoners Of Rock ‘n’ Roll*, roughing up the synth stuff like *Sample and Hold* from ***Trans*** and ***Landing On Water***’s *Violent Side* and delivering maximum impact versions of such old warhorses as *Like A Hurricane* and *Powderfinger*. Some people say ***In A Rusted Out Garage*** is the best Neil Young live album there’s ever been.”

<https://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/rock/8070939/10-deep-cuts-from-the-neil-young-archives>

For details of the Cow Palace show see https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_show.php?show=198611210

There is still some speculation as to whether an album soundtrack is also planned in addition to the film, though this seems unlikely to be a factor in **Vol. 3**. In an article in Times-Contrarian on 9 Aug 2021, Neil certainly seemed to imply that he was also planning to release a David Briggs’ recording from the 1986 tour as part of **Archives Vol. 3**.

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/1/article?id=David-Briggs-Genius-CH-Live>.

It was not clear if such an album would be a compilation from various different shows or a selection from a single show: “Briggs and a recording truck followed the band to the majority of the shows.” However, the list of songs mentioned in the article included *Sugar Mountain* and possibly a rendition of *Happy Birthday*, both of which suggest it may be a recording from the show in Denver, 11 Nov 1986. Songs specifically mentioned in the article were:

After The Gold Rush, Cinnamon Girl, Computer Age, Cortez The Killer, Down By The River, Drive Back, Happy Birthday, Heart Of Gold, Mr. Soul, The Needle And The Damage Done, Opera Star, Sample And Hold, Sugar Mountain, Violent Side.

No further mention of an audio album has been made since that article.

The following films from the period covered by **Archives Vol. 3** have now apparently been excluded, presumably for reasons of space, either because they have already been released in some form or perhaps on the basis of quality or rights issues.

Rust Never Sleeps (1978)

Berlin (1982)

Human Highway (1982)

Solo Trans (1984)

Austin City Limits (1984)

Catalyst Crazy Horse (1984)

Muddy Track (1987)

WHAT ELSE IS LIKELY TO BE MISSING FROM VOLUME 3?

The following recordings seem unlikely to appear in **Archives Vol. 3**:

Stills-Young Band tour rehearsal/live recordings

1976

Live performances may conceivably still be released as Timeline Concerts or even in the Official Bootleg Series: “We will be looking for STILLS YOUNG but not sure. Could be a bootleg.” (LTTE, Dume

In Dad's Old Truck, 14 Feb 2021). In the June 2023 Zoom call, Neil said: "Stills Young Band Tour? Maybe someday soon we'll be able to do that."

Rare songs from the tour included: *Evening Coconut* (unreleased), *No One Seems To Know*

Crazy Horse Bar Tour

Fall 1976

Mentioned by Joel Bernstein in a 2018 interview in *Uncut*, presumably from the pre-tour rehearsal performances for which no recordings are so far known.

https://www.sugarmtn.org/sm_getshowsgrid.php?tour_key=113&flag=2

The Last Waltz

25 Nov 1976

Neil's legendary performances with The Band and Joni Mitchell

The Geffen Years

1982-1987

Recordings from his period with Geffen Records are certainly included in **Archives Vol. 3**, although Neil has previously also said: "I am working on getting a box set of the Geffen Years." (LTTE, The Geffen Years 31 Mar 2021). More recently he announced: "Geffen is coming", though this may simply refer to preparation for **Vol. 3** (LTTE, Geffen Box Set?, 1 Sep 2022).

Old Ways

1983

In a previous description of his plans for this period, Neil wrote: "As the winter howled outside, we went back and rebuilt the original **Old Ways** record, better than the released one by a lifetime. With the time to listen to all the takes from everywhere during the period, we made a record which hardly resembled the released one. Many unreleased songs and tracks were found and included. So beautiful!".

<https://neilyoungarchives.com/news/1/article?id=A-Message-From-Neil-A-Pandemic-And-A-Rare-Gift>

The rebuild may at some time have been called **Leavin' The Top 40 Behind**.

Tracks on **Evolution** and probably also **Grey Riders** certainly overlap with these plans, and the idea of releasing a 'new' version of **Old Ways** has not been mentioned again since.

Crazy Horse Sessions

1984

There were at least two, apparently less than successful, Crazy Horse studio sessions at Broken Arrow with Elliot Mazer and the Power Station, New York, with David Briggs, at the beginning of 1984. Neil has said about them: "We were not happy with them initially. I remember them well. Maybe we will take another look." It seems likely they have been left off **Vol. 3**.

Performances may have included: *Horseshoe Man*, *I Got A Problem*, *If You Got Love*, *Modern World*, *Razor Love*, *Rock, Rock, Rock* (unreleased), *So Tired (Of Talking To Strangers)* (unreleased), *Touch The Night*, *Violent Side*, *Your Love (Is Good To Me)* (unreleased).

POSSIBLE DISC NUMBERING

This attempt at a full numbering of the **Archives Vol. 3** discs is based partly on the contents of Neil's Zoom call from 23 Nov 2023 and partly on some deductive guesswork. It is not confirmed.

	Disc #	SoftPack #
Across The Water 1	1	1
Across The Water 2 (film)	2	1
Hitchhikin' Judy	3	2?
Snapshot In Time	4	2?
Windward Passage	5	3?
Oceanside/Countryside	6	3?
Union Hall	7	4?
Boarding House 1	8	5?
Boarding House 2 (film)	9	5?
Sedan Delivery	10	6?
Coastline	11	7?
Trans EP/Johnny	12	8?
Trans Animated (film)	?	8?
Evolution	13	9
Touch The Night	14	9
Grey Riders	15	10
Road Of Plenty	16	10
In A Rusted Out Garage (film)	?	11?
Summer Songs	17	12?

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