

# 1411. Paradiso

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

**James Last** - legend, phenomenon, thoroughbred musician. Superlatives accumulate when we talk about James Last, the "Gentleman of Music". As a composer and "Arranger he was considered the inventor of the genre "Easy Listening". His records sold millions of copies, his melodies are the hallmarks of numerous feature films and TV series, his sold-out tours led him and his legendary James Last-Orchestra across all continents. He wrote successful titles for numerous World stars, he was the most successful bandleader worldwide. His music made him the most famous ambassador of the world.

Germany. Titles like Happy Heart, Happy Music, Biscaya, Der Einsame Hirte or Fool are just a few of the countless witnesses of his limitless creativity and professionalism. Synonyms of his world success. James Last shaped the "Happy Sound" and many generations of musicians worldwide. The trophies and awards he has been awarded during his career are hardly countable anymore. His work, impact and success lasted more than 50 years and made him a who wrote music history. His credo was: "Music knows no boundaries.

An Amazon review of the CD "PARADISO": *Similar to the much better known and more successful "Biscaya" is presently the beginning of the eighties created by James Last, "a smooth synthesized accordion". The earworm melodic as well as the stringently forward driving rhythms make "Paradiso" in my perception the strongest work of that creative period ... although not one of the superficial ones in the whole hustle and bustle of the "Happy Sound Pope. A clear 5.*

**James load accordion world.** The title number of the album Biscaya belongs to the greatest successes of Lasts. It is the first accordion album and the first to be recorded mostly in Florida. In addition, electronic sound effects were increasingly used, as Last wanted to develop his music further.

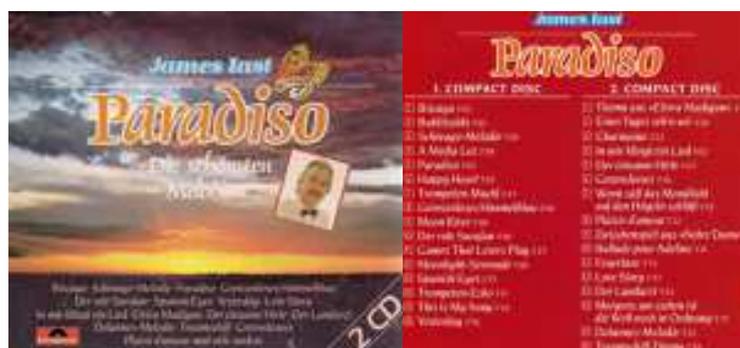


Biscaya is inextricably linked with Jo Ment, who already knew Last from their time together at NDR. He originally played the saxophone in the James Last Orchestra, but quickly began recording similar style records for Teldec himself, becoming a competitor despite his friendship. It was not until 1980 that he returned, this time with the bandoneon, which he played with virtuosity.

Two years later, Paradiso released another accordion album. On it Last even played some titles himself. He treated the accordion like a piano; the instrument lay on a table and two people moved the bellows.

The synthesizer was mainly introduced by Tommy Eggert to the James Last Orchestra. Tommy was a school friend of Last's son Ron and had experimented with electronic instruments at an early age. In 1977, he received a call from Last asking him if he could come to the studio with his Mini Moog, he needed an electronic effect. This collaboration was then extended more and more.

The work was written by Reinhardt Frantz, who wrote several pop songs and hits of the highest quality in the 80s.



Disco-Beat, T=140

The musical score is presented in a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 140 BPM. It is divided into two main sections: Main 1 and Main 2. The instruments are Strings, Overdrive-Git., Bass, and Drums. The Strings part starts with an 'Adv.' (Advance) marking. The Overdrive-Git. part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Bass part provides a steady accompaniment. The Drums part includes HH (Hi-Hat), BD (Bass Drum), DSD (Snare Drum), and Clap. The Clap is more prominent in Main 2 compared to Main 1.

Programming instruction

In this James Last style the OVERDRIVEN GUITAR is also an important sound carrier. The Main 1+2 rhytmus are identical except for the increase of clap in the Main 2. This means that the drums continuously provide the relatively fast movement of 140 BPM. The dotted version in Main 1 is a variation - the main style is Main 2.