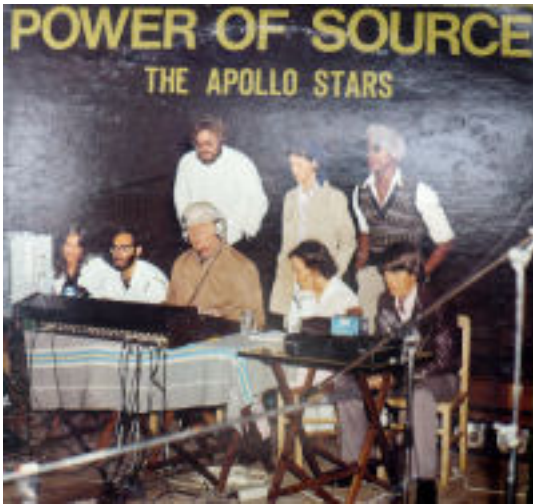


Scientology and The Apollo Stars

Written by Conrad Romo



"The planet is ours is ours is ours is ours this planet We're moving in we're moving in we're moving in we're moving in we're moving in we're moving in"

These are lyrics repeated on the Power of Source Apollo Stars album put out by

L. Ron Hubbard in 1974. I played it often back then and absolutely believed that we were moving in. I felt excited to be a part of a winning team and believed that we would take over the planet. At that time John Brodie, the quarterback from the San Franci

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, wa
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beating up on my Ram
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and Karen Black wa
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one of the hotte
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in the biz after having done Five Ea
s
y Piece

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s
, The Day of the Locust
s
t, and The Great Gatsby
s
by, and the top Jazz band according to the Playboy magazine poll was
s
the Return to Forever band with Chick Corea and Stanley Clark, and the
s
people and a lot more that I looked up to and admired were all Scientologists
s
t
s
. So, I believed Ron -- the planet was
s
our
s
for the taking.



In 1973 on the chart of top 100 songs Edward Bear had the # 67 spot for The Last Song. It was
s
sandwiched in between Superfly by Curtis Mayfield and Reelin' In the Year
s
by Steely Dan. I was
s
living with my blind grandma then. She didn't know that on the entire ceiling of my bedroom
there was
s
a peace flag drawn in pencil. I hadn't gotten around to painting it yet. I was

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S
on my bed one night
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taring up at it when on the radio the Edward Bear
S
ong played, followed by a commercial about Scientology. Ju
S
t like that, I wa
S
hooked.

A year or so later, being a good Scientologist, I bought my copy of the Power of Source album from the church book store.

Some of the text on the back of the album reads:

“Radio, TV and stage people have uniformly decreed the Apollo Stars ARE a new and exciting
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ound in mu
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ic. It i
S
often repeated that the Star
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are playing the mu
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ic of the future.” Even though 2 out of the five
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ong
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on the album are oldie
S
like Johnny Come
S
Marching Home and Summertime.

It goes on to read:

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“His movie experience and his early days as a professional singer come again publicly to light in the brilliant presentation of the Apollo Stars.”

I played that record a lot back then. I was only 20. I was sharing a house in the Hollywood Hill
s
with four other Scientologi
s
t
s
and put the album on the turntable in our living room one night. I
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at on the
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hag carpeted floor and li
s
tened. LRH wa
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onto
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omething and I wa
s
there to hear it. At the time I believed that if LRH wa
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making mu
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ic and calling it the
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ound of the future, he wa
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Source after all, then it mu
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t be. At the time I even thought thi
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mu
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ic wa
s
kinda cool. One of my hou
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emate
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Scientology and The Apollo Stars

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gave me a look and laughed. He was
older than me and far more cool and a Scientologist
that as well yet he didn't have the Power of Source album in his
collection. And when he told me to, "take that
hit off !" I questioned his
commitment to all things
Scientology.