

# IVORY JOE HUNTER

## THIS IS MY COUNTRY

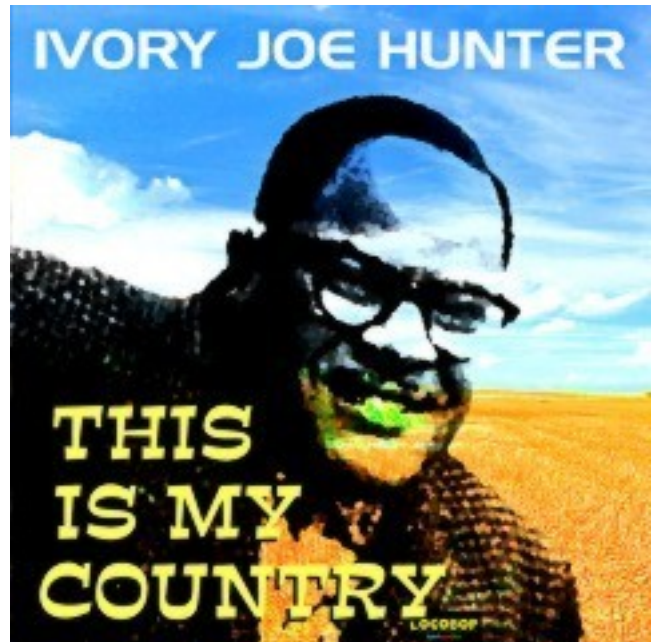
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At nineteen, Texas-born Ivory Joe Hunter made his first recording - on a 1933 Library of Congress cylinder. He honed his chops playing gigs around the Gulf Coast region, even hosting his own radio show for a time in Beaumont.

During the war years, Ivory Joe became a crowd-pleasing fixture on the California club circuit. His first commercial recording, "Blues at Sunrise" (with Johnny Moore's Three Blazers) was the first of several R&B chart-toppers between 1945 and 1949.

He churned out hits during the '50s: "Don't Fall in Love With Me," "What Did You Do to Me," "Waiting in Vain," "Guess Who," "I Almost Lost My Mind," "I Need You So," "It's a Sin," "Since I Met You Baby," "Empty Arms," "Love's a Hurting Game," and "City Lights."

Ivory Joe's lifelong love of Country manifested itself in the 1960s as he became a frequent guest on the Grand Old Opry. This album, recorded a few years before his death in 1974, is appropriately called *This Is My Country*. The 12-track collection demonstrates Hunter's mastery of his craft as a singer, songwriter, and musician. Fittingly, Ivory Joe is well-served by the cream of Nashville musicians backing him, like the great steel guitar maestro Pete Drake, whose spectacular performance on "**Walking The Floor Over You**" keeps the band playing and playing because no one wanted to interrupt the magic taking place. Other go to tracks include "**It's Too Late**," "**Playing With A Losing Hand**," and "**Just A Girl I Used To Know**."



IT'S TOO LATE  
WALKING THE FLOOR OVER YOU  
PLAYING WITH A LOSING HAND  
GOD JUST LENT THEM TO YOU  
DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE  
WITHOUT A DREAM  
JUST A GIRL I USED TO KNOW  
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE NOW  
T-FOR TEXAS  
IT'S STILL HERE  
ONE MORE MEMORY  
TELL MY FRIENDS



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