

Bee Gees – Spirits Having Flown (1979)

Written by bluelover

Saturday, 08 October 2011 08:29 - Last Updated Sunday, 15 May 2016 08:25

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01. *Tragedy* [0:05:05.68] 02. *Too Much Heaven* [0:04:58.35] 03. *Love You Inside Out* [0:04:13.07] 04. *Reaching Out* [0:04:07.45] 05. *Spirits (Having Flown)* [0:05:22.08] 06. *Search, Find* [0:04:16.22] 07. *Stop (Think Again)* [0:06:41.23] 08. *Living Together* [0:04:24.00] 09. *I'm Satisfied* [0:03:58.47] [play](#) 10. *Until* [0:02:28.45] [play](#)

Personnel Barry Gibb - Guitar, Vocals Robin Gibb - Vocals Maurice Gibb - Bass, Vocals Blue Weaver - Synthesizer, Piano, Keyboards, Vibraphone, Arp Alan Kendall - Bass, Guitar Dennis Bryon - Drums Neal Bonsanti - Horns Gary Brown - Saxophone Harold Cowart - Bass Kenneth Faulk - Horns Albhy Galuten - Synthesizer, Bass, Conductor Peter Graves - Horns Joe Lala - Percussion, Conga Lee Loughnane - Horns Herbie Mann - Flute James Pankow - Horns Walter Parazaider - Horns Bill Purse - Horns Whit Sidener - Horns George Terry - Guitar Stanley Webb - Horns Daniel Ben Zubulon - Percussion, Conga

Spirits Having Flown is the Bee Gees' fifteenth original album, released in 1979. It was the group's first album after their collaboration on the *Saturday Night Fever* soundtrack. The album's first three tracks were released as singles which all went to no.1 in the US. It was also the first Bee Gees album to make the UK top 40 in ten years (not counting the soundtrack for *Saturday Night Fever*), as well as being their first and only UK no.1 album. It has sold 30 million copies worldwide. The Bee Gees spent much of 1978 on *Spirits Having Flown*, the most time they had ever spent on one album. Barry said that he felt it had to live up to the sensational success of *Saturday Night Fever*. This only heightened any tendencies the Bee Gees had toward perfectionism, Barry in particular. No doubt each song has many, many recording dates, as they carefully recorded and re-recorded each nuance, but none of the actual dates are known. There was a break from about the second week of May to the last week of July.

Co-producer Albhy Galuten recalls *Spirits Having Flown* as being created primarily by Barry Gibb, Karl Richardson and himself putting in long days and nights at Criteria Studios. Blue Weaver recalls others being involved. Both agree that Robin Gibb was active behind the scenes

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in songwriting and offering feedback to the recording process, but Maurice Gibb contributes probably the least he did on any Bee Gees album. Not only was his alcoholism sapping his creativity, but he was having back pains finally diagnosed in 1980 as caused by a bad disk. In the recording phase Robin and Maurice now mainly played the role of backing and harmony vocalists, and even in that capacity Barry did many of the vocal dubs himself as he went over and over the recorded work.

The horn section from Chicago (James Pankow, Walt Parazaider and Lee Loughnane) made a guest appearance on this album. At the time, they were next door working on the Chicago album Hot Streets.

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