

Cruising with... THE EXECUTIVES

In 1969, popular Sydney band The Executives decided to try their luck in the USA. They left for Los Angeles in September, returning three months later, just in time for Christmas. As part of the tour, their manager arranged for them to play nightly shows to and from the USA aboard P&O liners *Oriana* and *Orsova* respectively.

Fortunately for us, an *S.S. Orsova* crewman had the forethought to record one of the shows from their return journey in December. Performed in the crew's quarters' mess hall, the show was put on specifically for the ship's officers and crew. Today, only the second half of the recording exists, however, it is enough to demonstrate just how entertaining the band was. It is likely to be the only live recording of the band in existence.

1. **Parenthesis** (v: Ray, intro by Ray) (3:42)
2. **Got My Woman** (v: Gino, intro by Carole) (2:13)
3. **If I Had A Hammer** (v: Ray, Gino, Carole) (5:15)
4. **Thanks from Carole** (0:51)
5. **Hair Medley** (v: Gino, Ray, Carole) (9:54)
6. **Encore Announcement by Cruise Director** (1:22)
7. **You've Made Me So Very Happy** (v: Gino) (4:49)
8. **Hey Jude** (v: Ray, Gino, intro by Ray) (6:19)

Total time: 34:23

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The First Class Lounge and stage onboard S.S. Orsova – one of the venues played by The Executives



The "original master tape"!

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In concert aboard S.S. Orsova, 1969