**"Here I Go Again" Whitesnake**

**By Dale Turner**

In 1984, former Thin Lizzy guitarist John Sykes hooked up with David Coverdale (vocals), Cozy Powell (drums), Nell Murray (bass), Jon Lord (keyboards), and Mel Galley (guitar) to record a few overdubs on Whitesnake's seventh studio album, *Slide It In*. Sykes, who then joined the band on tour, was one of the few—together with Murray and new drummer Aynsley Dunbar—to remain in the Coverdale-fronted lineup for the recording of Whitesnake's self-titled breakthrough album, known mostly for its hits "Still of the Night" and "Is This Love."

But in a surprise move, shortly before Sykes completed his guitar tracks on Whitesnake, Coverdale cleaned house again, firing his entire band and the producer. By the disc's April 1987 release, this era of Coverdale's Whitesnake was (mis)represented—both on the road and in music videos—by guitarist Vivian Campbell and Adrian Vandenberg, drummer Tommy Aldridge, and bassist Rudy Sarzo. In the end, Sykes may have got the shaft, but a single listen to *Whitesnake* makes it clear who really deserves props for this multi-platinum smash. Now, let's revisit the disc's #1 hit, "Here I Go Again"—the only track on *Whitesnake* featuring a solo cut not by Sykes but by Vandenberg.

**KEYBOARD FOR THE FRETBOARD**

"Here I Go Again" opens with an elaborate keyboard passage (or "cheesy keys," if you're not a fan of '80s-era synths) that also serves as the song's verse accompaniment—this section—which also functions as the verse—accompanied by electric bass, piano lines, with their left hands, and chords and melody with their right hands, adapting keyboard parts to a single guitar can be quite challenging.

Here are some general guidelines:

1. The melody is composed of three main parts:
   - The lead guitar part, which is played on the top string.
   - The rhythm guitar part, which is played on the bottom string.
   - The bass part, which is played on the middle string.

2. The melody is played on a single guitar, with the bass part being doubled by the rhythm guitar.

3. The rhythm section consists of a bass guitar and a drums.

4. The harmonies are played on the top string.

5. The song features a variety of chord progressions, including power chords and arpeggios.

**HEAVY METAL DOUBLE TOPS**

During his heavy riffing in this song, Sykes complements his pin harminics, balley vibrato, and dramatic fret-hand slides with crunchy double stops—much like those illustrated in Fig. 2. Implying an Am7 chord (A–C–E–G), these moves take notes from A minor pentatonic (A–C–D–E–G), group them in 4ths, and then slide them between scale steps that are two frets apart. This tactic should work well in most minor-key metal riffs.

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**TONE ZONE**

**GUITARS 1 & 3:** Solidbody
**PICKUP/POSITION:** Single-coil/Bridge and Middle
**GAIN:** 1–2
**EQ:** Bass/Mid/Treble: 8/6/7

**GUITARS 2 & 4:** Solidbody
**PICKUP/POSITION:** Humbucker/Bridge
**GAIN:** 8
**EQ:** Bass/Mid/Treble: 8/5/6
HERE I GO AGAIN
As Recorded by Whitesnake
(From the Geffen Recording WHITESNAKE)

Lyrics

By David Coverdale and Bernie Marsden

Verse 1
I don't know where I'm going,
But I sure know where I've been.
Hanging on to the promises
In songs of yesterday.
And I've made up my mind,
I ain't wasting no more time.
But here I go again,
Here I go again.

Verse 2
Though I keep searching for an answer,
I never seem to find what I'm looking for.
Oh Lord, I pray
You give me strength to carry on,
'Cause I know what it means
To walk along the lonely street of dreams.

Chorus
And here I go again on my own,
Goin' down the only road I've ever known.
Like a drifter, I was born to walk alone.
And I've made up my mind,
I ain't wasting no more time.

Verse 3
I'm just another heart in need of rescue,
Waiting on love's sweet charity.
And I'm gonna hold on
For the rest of my days,
'Cause I know what it means
To walk along the lonely street of dreams.

Bridge
But here I go again,
Here I go again,
Here I go again,
Here I go.

Intro

Moderately Slow Rock $\frac{3}{4} = 92$

G                  D                  C

*Gtr. 1 (clean)

[Music notation provided]

*Keyboards arr. for gtr.

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Here I Go Again

G   D/\#  C/E   C   G/B   Am   D

Am   D  End Rhy. Fig. 1

Em   Am   C

D-49 Verse 2

G  Em  Am  C  D

Gtr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

Gtr. 2 (dist.)

C5  D5

mf

Chorus

G5  C5  D5

Gtr. 1 tacet

G5  Rhy. Fig. 2

G5  C5  D5  C5  D5

P.M. -1

G5

P.M. -1

D5  C5  Am7

P.M. -1

P.M. -1
Here I Go Again

Verse 3
G
Gr. 3 (clean)  G/G
Riff A1

mf
let ring throughout

Riff A

End Riff A

D/F#  C/E  G/B
Riff B1

End Riff B1

Riff B

End Riff B

To Coda 1  D5
End Rhy. Fig. 2
To Coda 2  C5  D5
Here I Go Again

Chorus 2 w/ Rhy. Fig. 2 (last 3 bars)
Gtr. 3 twet

D5
Rhy. Fill 1

C5

D5
End Rhy. Fill 1

Coda 1

Bridge

D/F♯

P.H.

E5

P.M.

A5

E5

P.M.

A5

C5

D5

Harm. P.M.