In 1959 and 1960, at the height of the Folk Revival, Alan Lomax undertook the first-ever stereo field recording trip through the American South to document its still thriving vernacular musical culture. He traveled through Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Georgia, and North Carolina, making over 70 hours of recordings. The trip came to be known as Lomax’s “Southern Journey,” and its recordings were first issued for the Atlantic and Prestige labels in the early ’60s.

“I’ll Be So Glad When the Sun Goes Down” features Blue Ridge banjo legend Wade Ward alongside eighty-one-year old fiddler Charlie Higgins; Mississippi Hill Country church singers James Shorter and Viola James; early bluegrass from Hillsville, Virginia’s Mountain Ramblers; John Dudley’s blues from the Parchman Farm dairy camp; shape-note singing from the United Sacred Harp Convention; St. Simons’ Georgia Sea Island Singers; and one of the debut recordings of bluesman Fred McDowell, among much else.

The Alan Lomax Archive is the repository of thousands of hours of Lomax’s field recordings from across his seven-decade career, and Global Jukebox is its first independent music label. It will draw on the full range of the archive’s worldwide collections, beginning with five albums commemorating the 50th anniversary of Lomax’s storied Southern Journey. Compiled and annotated by Nathan Salsburg, the albums draw on new transfers of the original tapes, and include considerable previously unreleased material and extensive booklets of photos and notes.

**Track List**

2. James Shorter, Viola James, and the Independence Church congregation: “Jesus On the Mainline”
4. Fred McDowell: “Woke Up This Morning”
5. Ollie Gilbert: “Joseph Looney”
6. United Sacred Harp Convention: “Calvary (#300)”
7. James Lindsey & the Mountain Ramblers: “The Old Country Church”
8. Willis Proctor & the Georgia Sea Island Singers: “One of These Days”
9. Norman Edmonds & the Old Timers: “Sally Anne”*
10. Texas Gladden: “Three Little Babes”
11. Hobart Smith: “Banging Breakdown”
15. Henry Morrison: “Lazarus”
16. Ed Lewis & prisoners: “I’ll Be So Glad When the Sun Goes Down”
17. Sidney Carter: “Leather Britches”*

*Previously unissued.
†Previously unissued version.