

NEW ORLEANS NOSTALGIA

Remembering New Orleans History, Culture and Traditions

By Ned Hémard

Bingle Baby

Anaïs St. John's performances at the Windsor Court's Polo Club Lounge are sultry, steamy, sassy and sexy. For Christmas they are both naughty and nice, but always playful, especially her rendition of *Santa Baby*, first recorded in 1953 by Eartha Kitt with Henri René and his orchestra.

But what would happen if Santa was passed over for a younger man, a lovable little snowman named Mr. Bingle? Kris Kringle's snowy helper (with holly wings and ice cream cone hat) made his *début* as Maison Blanche's Christmas mascot five years earlier (in 1948). What if the "ladies" were especially attracted to the high-pitched tones of Oscar Isentrout, Bingle's voice and puppetmaster? Perhaps this is how the song would go:

Bingle baby, snowy torso with a coney cap, my lap
lingers as your landing pad
Bingle baby, come wrap your wings around me tonight

Bingle baby, my mucho macho marionette, my pet
I want your lovin' so bad
Bingle baby, come wrap your wings around me tonight

Think of all the guys I could've picked
Think of all the ice cream cones I could've licked
Next year I could be oh so good
Since our romance has really clicked
Boo doo bee doo

Bingle honey, I wanna yacht and really that's not, a lot
Sail it on Lake Pontchartrain
Bingle baby, come wrap your wings around me tonight

Bingle cutie, there's one thing I really do need, indeed
A pole dance on your candy cane
Bingle cutie, come wrap your wings around me tonight

Bingle, you're the king of Santaland
You're my walkin', talkin' snowball stand
I could be just wild for you
If you'd just buy that wedding band
Boo doo bee doo

Come on Bingle, jingle jangle me just one thing, a ring
I don't mean on a phone
Bingle baby, come wrap your wings around me tonight

Bingle baby, my love connection when it snows, and snows
Best confection in a cone
Bingle baby, your holly wings will warm me tonight

I know you're just a snowman with a paunch
No longer have that discount at the Maison Blanche
But still I have the hots for you
Let's not have a failure to launch
Boo doo bee doo

Come wrap your wings around me tonight
Come wrap your wings around me tonight

NED HÉMARD

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