

THE GREAT R&B FILES

(# 2 OF 12) PART 1

Updated July 8, 2019



The John Lee Hooker Session Discography

- compiled by Claus Röhnisch

The R&B Pioneers Series – Volume Two of twelve The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnisch: <http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info>

The John Lee Hooker Session Discography

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John Lee Hooker – The World's Greatest Blues Singer / The R&B Pioneers Series – Volume Two of twelve

Below: Hooker's first record, his JVB single of 1953, and the famous "Boom Boom". The "Hooker" Box, Vee-Jay's version of the Hooker classic, the original "The Healer" album on Chameleon. BluesWay 1968 single "Mr. Lucky", the Craft Recordings album of March 2017, and the French version of the Crown LP "The Blues". Right: Hooker in his prime. Two images from Hooker's grave in the Chapel of The Chimes, Oakland, California; and a Mississippi Blues Trail Marker on Hwy. 3 in Quitman County (Vance, Mississippi memorial stone - note birth date c. 1917).





December 31, 1948 (probably not, but possibly early 1949) - very rare (and very early) publicity photo of the new-found Blues Star (playin' his Gibson ES 175). Inserted top: the Clarksdale area. Inserted bottom: The Cash Box, race record reviews, March 5, 1949 of Hooker's very first single (ctsy *fixbutte*, 45worlds.com), issued November 3, 1948. It was recorded on September 3, and hit the Race Records Chart on January 8, 1949. Top left: The 20-627 record is the original issue of "Boogie Chillen", originally the B-side - "Sally May" the A.side. Note the times presented (they are wrong). Modern 627 is an early repressing. All of Modern's early 78 singles had the 20-prefix up to early 1951 (the last Hooker one was 20-814).



October 1968 - John Lee Hooker and T-Bone Walker in Copenhagen.
Inserted: Different labels/covers/reissues of the [Everest/Archive LP FS 222](#) (1965 with ten VJ tracks).

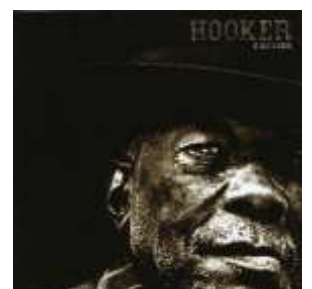
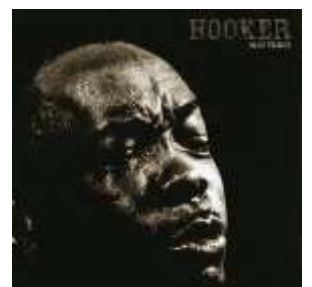
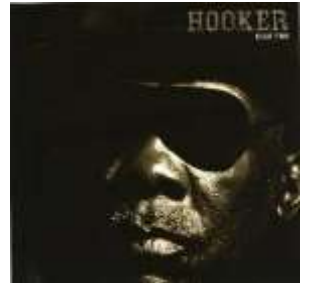
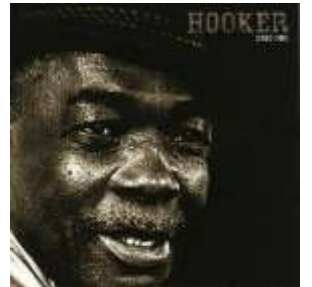
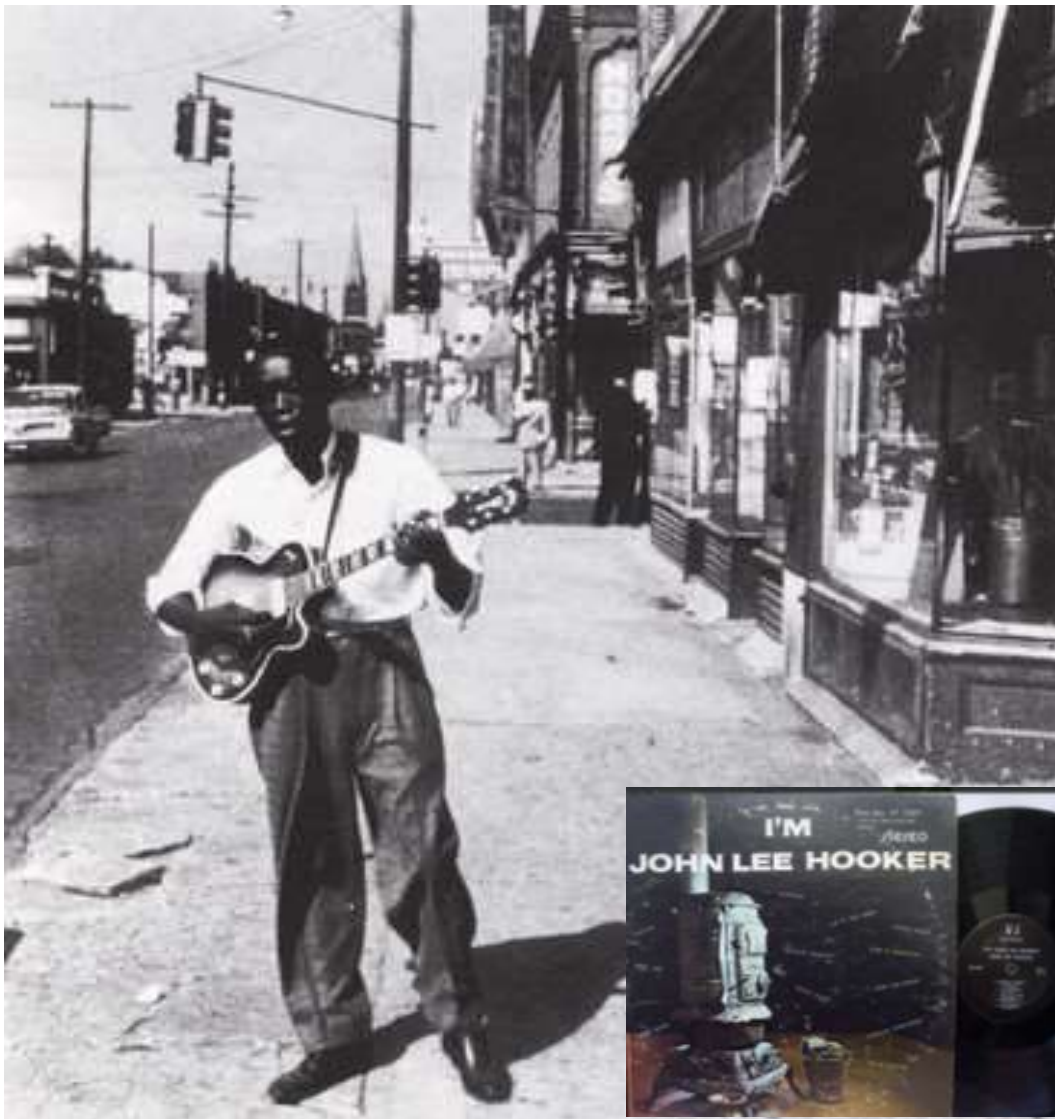
The John Lee Hooker Session Discography - The World's Greatest Blues Singer

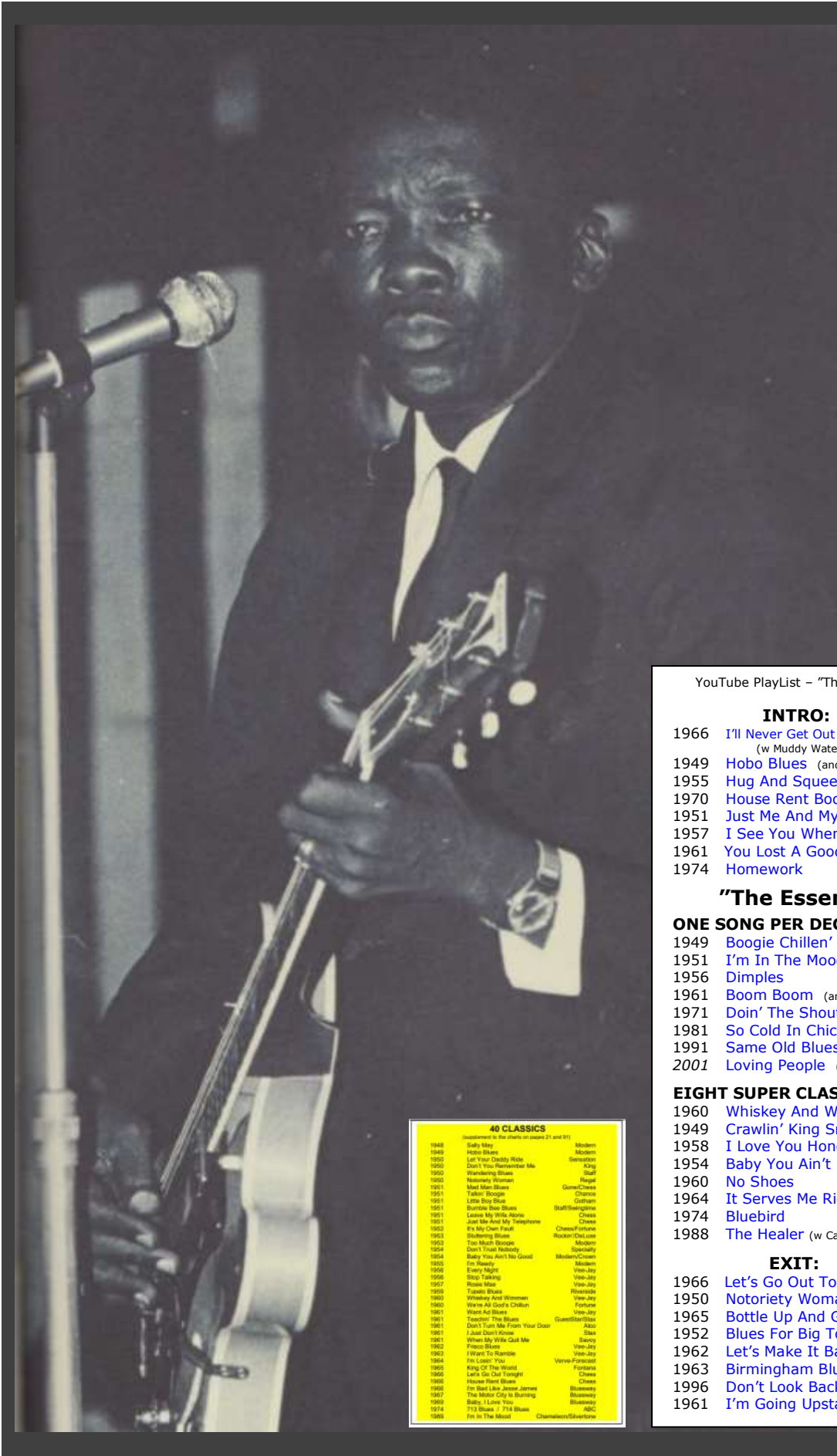


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Hooker's very first single. Hooker on Maxwell Street in Detroit in the fall of 1959 (ctsy Jaques Demetre and Marcel Chauvard). Inserted: Hooker's first LP. Top right: The box cover of the superb and ultimate 4CD-set, containing 84 Hooker classics 1948-2001, "Hooker", on Shout!Factory. Bottom right: the four CDs of the Shout!Factory "Hooker" Box.





John Lee Hooker
in his Prime.

Listen to
John Lee Hooker live
at the **Lone Star Cafe**,
NYC August 9, 1981
- with his **Coast To
Coast Blues Band**
featuring
Deacon Jones, organ;
Mike Osborn, guitar;
Larry Hamilton, bsgtr
and Tim Richards, dms

performing these great
blues during one of his
gigs in the ten years of
"live wilderness".

"SO COLD IN THE
MORNING"

"GAMBLE ON YOUR
LOVE"

"NEVER GET OUT OF
THESE BLUES ALIVE"

[exclusively here](#)
[25 minutes of live mp3](#)

ctsy Tilman Reitzle

YouTube Playlist - "The Hooker Story"

INTRO:

- 1966 [I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive](#)
(w Muddy Waters's blues band - "live")
- 1949 [Hobo Blues](#) (and video 1965)
- 1955 [Hug And Squeeze](#)
- 1970 [House Rent Boogie \(Blues\)](#)
- 1951 [Just Me And My Telephone](#)
- 1957 [I See You When You're Weak](#)
- 1961 [You Lost A Good Man](#)
- 1974 [Homework](#)

"The Essentials"

ONE SONG PER DECADE + BONUS

- 1949 [Boogie Chillen'](#)
- 1951 [I'm In The Mood](#)
- 1956 [Dimples](#)
- 1961 [Boom Boom](#) (and from "Blues Brothers")
- 1971 [Doin' The Shout](#)
- 1981 [So Cold In Chicago](#) (w Deacon Jones)
- 1991 [Same Old Blues Again](#)
- 2001 [Loving People](#) (remix)

EIGHT SUPER CLASSICS

- 1960 [Whiskey And Wimmen](#)
- 1949 [Crawlin' King Snake](#)
- 1958 [I Love You Honey](#)
- 1954 [Baby You Ain't No Good](#)
- 1960 [No Shoes](#)
- 1964 [It Serves Me Right \(To Suffer\)](#)
- 1974 [Bluebird](#)
- 1988 [The Healer](#) (w Carlos Santana)

EXIT:

- 1966 [Let's Go Out Tonight](#)
- 1950 [Notoriety Woman](#)
- 1965 [Bottle Up And Go](#)
- 1952 [Blues For Big Town](#)
- 1962 [Let's Make It Baby](#) (live audience)
- 1963 [Birmingham Blues](#)
- 1996 [Don't Look Back](#) (w Van Morrison)
- 1961 [I'm Going Upstairs](#)

40 CLASSICS		
<small>(referenced in the charts on pages 21 and 81)</small>		
1948	Sally May	Modern
1949	Hobo Blues	Modern
1950	Let Your Daddy Ride	Swenson
1950	Don't You Harass Me	King
1950	Wandering Blues	Staff
1950	Nobody's Business	Harrell
1951	Mad Man Blues	Gene/Chess
1951	Talkin' Boogie	Chess
1951	Little Boy Blue	Guthrie
1951	Bumble Bee Blues	Swafford/Chess
1951	Leave My Wife Alone	Chess
1951	Just Me And My Telephone	Chess
1952	It's My Own Fault	Chess/Fortune
1952	Shattering Blues	Rockin' Club/Chess
1952	Too Much Boogie	Modern
1954	Don't Turn Nobody	Specialty
1954	Baby You Ain't No Good	Modern/Chess
1955	I'm Ready	Modern
1956	Empty Night	Vee-Jay
1956	Stop Talking	Vee-Jay
1957	Rose Mae	Vee-Jay
1958	Texas Blues	Revere/Chess
1960	Whiskey And Wimmen	Vee-Jay
1960	Wave At Gode's Children	Fortune
1961	Ward All Blues	Vee-Jay
1961	Teacher's The Blues	Goodwin/Chess
1961	Don't Turn Me From Your Door	Alco
1961	I Just Don't Know	Star
1961	When My Wife Call Me	Savoy
1962	French Blues	Vee-Jay
1962	I Want To Romance	Vee-Jay
1964	I'm Load' You	Verve/Fortune
1965	King Of The Road	Fortune
1966	Let's Go Out Tonight	Chess
1966	House Rent Blues	Chess
1966	I'm Bad Like Jesus James	Bluesway
1967	The Motor City Is Burning	Bluesway
1968	Baby, I Love You	Bluesway
1974	713 Blues / 714 Blues	ABC
1988	I'm In The Mood	Chameleon/Starline



The 4CD "book-set" of 1994 that got sued (and had to be taken out of catalogue).



The Official Website of John Lee Hooker and Craft Recordings

– recently modernized and updated
<http://www.johnleehooker.com/>
maintained by The John Lee Hooker Estate and Concord Music Group

Please note that the site sticks to Hooker's birth of 1917.



THE GRAMMY MUSEUM® CELEBRATES THE CENTENNIAL OF GRAMMY®-WINNING BLUES LEGEND JOHN LEE HOOKER WITH John Lee Hooker: King of the Boogie Opening August 22, 2017, at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi in Cleveland, Miss.

Images left and right: **"Two sides of John Lee Hooker"** – six Vee-Jay and the same six songs recorded in the 1990s Vee-Jay/Original Blues Classics vinyl LP VJR-37597-01 (issued Nov. 2015).

CLEVELAND, MISS. (May 1, 2017) — The GRAMMY Museum®, in conjunction with the John Lee Hooker Estate, and Craft Recordings, the Catalog Division of Concord Music Group, will celebrate the centennial of the legendary GRAMMY®-winning bluesman with the opening of a new exhibit titled John Lee Hooker: King of the Boogie, on Aug. 22, 2017, at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi in Cleveland, Miss., Hooker's home state.

The exhibit will open on what would have been the late blues icon's 100th birthday and will celebrate Hooker's lasting legacy through rare recordings, photos and one-of-a-kind artifacts. The exhibit is part of a year-long celebration of Hooker's musical legacy that features special releases from Craft Recordings, a conference at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., and special exhibits at the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, Miss., and the Memphis-based Blues Foundation. The exhibit's official media partners are Oxford American and Living Blues.

"John Lee Hooker was truly a seminal blues artist. Many of his songs are part of America's blues music treasury," said blues historian and Founding Executive Director of the GRAMMY Museum Bob Santelli. "In addition to impacting blues history, Hooker's music influenced great rock bands like the Rolling Stones, the Animals, the Yardbirds and ZZ Top. We're thrilled to honor the King of the Boogie's legacy and tell the story of his incredible career in his own home state."

On display at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi throughout the fall of 2017, the exhibit will feature:

- *Rare and never-before-heard recordings from Hooker
- *Instruments such as Hooker's Gibson ES-335
- *Hooker's Best Traditional Blues Album GRAMMY for 1997's *Don't Look Back*, which was co-produced by Van Morrison and Mike Kappus
- *Rare photos, performance outfits and more

John Lee Hooker: King of the Boogie will be on display at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi from Aug. 22, 2017 through fall 2017. It will then travel to Los Angeles where it will open at the GRAMMY Museum at L.A. LIVE.

"John Lee Hooker is gone but not forgotten. In collaboration with the GRAMMY Museum and our partners, the John Lee Hooker family is pleased and honored to be able to bring to the public the artifacts in this exhibit, donated not just by family but by his very dear friends and associates. This Centennial is a celebration of John Lee Hooker's amazing life and his love of the music that he shared with the world." — Diane Roan-Hooker and Zakiya Hooker, daughters of the legendary blues artist.

To celebrate 100 years of Hooker's music, **Craft Recordings** will issue a series of titles throughout 2017, culminating with a **centennial CD box set**, offering **100 career-spanning hits** and rarities, plus previously unreleased material. Craft will also reissue several classic Hooker titles on 180-gram vinyl, as well as digitally, in hi-res and MFIT formats. To kick off the centennial celebrations, the label issued a **16-track collection of songs** from the prime of Hooker's career on its Vee-Jay imprint. **Whiskey & Wimmen: John Lee Hooker's Finest** was released March 31 on vinyl and CD, offering classic tracks from the '50s and '60s, including "Boom Boom" and "Dimples."

Other organizations celebrating the centennial include the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, Miss., which will host a special exhibit about Hooker featuring clothing, guitars, recordings, and more, opening in July. The celebration will continue through August as the museum celebrates its annual "John Lee Hooker Month" at the Delta Blues Museum. The Delta Blues Museum Band will perform Hooker's songs when they open the 30th Annual Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival on Friday, Aug. 11. The festival will run through Aug. 13. More information about celebratory activities at the Delta Blues Museum can be found at www.deltabluesmuseum.org.

Hooker's 1996 album, *Real Folk Blues*, is being inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame at a ceremony coordinated by The Blues Foundation on May 10 in Memphis. In addition, The Blues Foundation will be opening a new exhibit, The Rosebud Agency and Mike Kappus: 45+ Years Sharing the Music, which will include a special display of Hooker artifacts, curated by Mike Kappus, long-time manager of John Lee Hooker. That exhibit will open on May 10, in conjunction with the Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and will run through October 2017.

In addition, the Fourth Annual International Conference on the Blues at Delta State University is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1 through Tuesday, Oct. 3.

With an established record of attracting internationally renowned blues scholars and GRAMMY Award-winning talent, the upcoming conference promises to deliver an extra dose of educational and celebratory flair. In partnership with GRAMMY Museum Mississippi, the International Conference on the Blues will commemorate the John Lee Hooker Centennial this year.

To stay abreast of developments with the conference, visit www.deltastate.edu/bluesconference/

BD Music 2CD-box with early recordings, and also featuring an art section.



"Early Recordings – Detroit and Beyond" 2-set vinyl LPs on Third Man Records [Vol 1](#) / [Vol 2](#)

In late November 2018 two nice double-vinyl LPs were issued on Third Man comprising all the 56 tracks from the "Alternative Boogie" 3-set CD on Capitol, which featured the same 56 tracks as on the earlier United Artists LPs UAS 5512 and UALA-127-33 (3-set) from the 1970s. 32 of the tracks were actually alternates of (or some even original) Modern or Sensation singles from 1948-1952 (and all of them Besman productions). LP 5512 had been reissued on CD. The Greene Bottle 2-set LP still has to be reissued.



[Craft Recordings](#)

Whiskey & Wimmen: John Lee Hooker's Finest
Released: March 31, 2017 (Vee-Jay Craft CD 02058)

Label: Vee-Jay Records / Concord Music Group (Universal)

Details: CD and vinyl with high quality sound

Compilation producer: Mason Williams in assoc with Zakiya Hooker

This new collection features some of John Lee Hooker's most celebrated recordings from the prime of his career. Spanning his time on Vee-Jay, Stax, and Riverside Records, the album includes such favorites as "Boom Boom", "Dimples" and "Big Legs, Tight Skirt". New liner notes by music journalist Bill Dahl, lots of rare photos, and a detailed discography round out the package.

Tracks:

- | | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1961 | Boom Boom |
| 1959 | Boogie Chillun' |
| 1956 | Dimples |
| 1959 | I'm In The Mood |
| 1958 | I Love You Honey |
| 1960 | Whiskey And Wimmen |
| 1960 | I Need Some Money |
| 1961 | Grinder Man |
| 1961 | I'm Going Upstairs |
| 1964 | Big Legs, Tight Skirt |
| 1960 | No More Doggin' |
| 1960 | No Shoes |
| 1959 | Crawlin' Kingsnake |
| 1962 | Frisco Blues |
| 1964 | It Serves Me Right |
| 1955 | Time Is Marching |



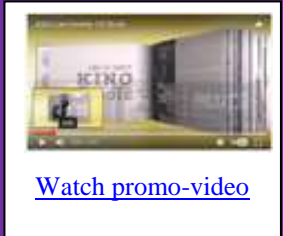
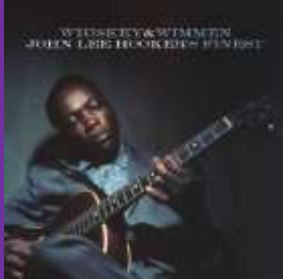
Note: "No More Doggin'" listed as the 1954 Specialty recording (Concord has the right to it), but it is the Riverside acoustic one which appears.



[John Lee Hooker Foundation](#)



[Newport Jazz Festival August 17, 1991](#)
50 minutes on YouTube w the Coast to Coast Blues Band



[Watch promo-video](#)



See the next two pages for the full 100 tracks of the book-box!



Centennial CD box set, offering 100 career-spanning hits and rarities, plus previously unreleased material on Craft Recordings (CR00015).

King of the Boogie – 5CD “Book Box Set”
Concord/Universal Craft CR00015 issued October, 2017.



New 5CD, 100-Track Book-Box For John Lee Hooker, King Of The Boogie

By MA Rowe on 25 July, 2017 at 6:09 AM (edit by CR)

This is the 100th year of the birth date of Blues great, **John Lee Hooker**. It would be criminal to not acknowledge it in some way. Over the course of John Lee Hooker's prolific career, he released well over 50 albums beginning with his Chess Records album issue, *House Of The Blues*, back in 1959 (debatable - it may probably have been Vee-Jay's *I'm John Lee Hooker* and/or Riverside's *The Country Blues of...*). He warmed the heart of many a Rock fan, and Rock stars. Before the albums arrived, he released a string of iconic singles including "Boogie Chillen" from 1948.

With this upcoming milestone, the newly formed Universal brand of Craft Recordings releases a 5CD collection of John Lee Hooker songs that represent his wonderful and extensive career. The box will be featured within a softbound book filled with photos, words, invaluable information, and other things. The set will provide new liner notes by Hooker historian, Jas Obrecht, as well as ruminations by his longtime manager, Mike Kappus. Musically, this set, called **King Of The Boogie**, offers 100 tracks. Those songs will be some that you know well, some live material, some that are rare, and even some that have been previously unreleased (really?!). **King Of The Boogie** is released in October 2017. Only 38 tracks of the **Hooker Box** are also on this book-box.

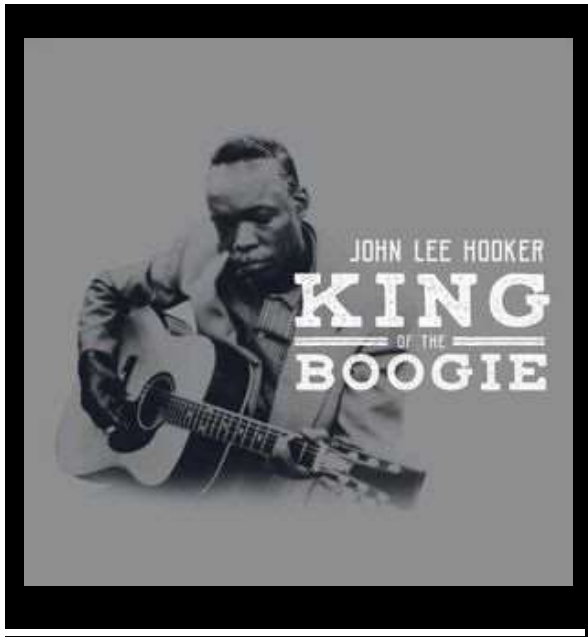
Producer of the Book-Box: Mason Williams in assoc with John Lee Hooker Foundation.

A very diversified issue in a superb "Book" cover. **See page 12 for reviews and comments!**

From John Lee Hooker Foundation:



King of the Boogie – 5CD Book-Box-Set on Craft Recordings – Part One



Product Description: Craft Recordings CR00015

Known to music fans around the world as the "King of the Boogie", John Lee Hooker endures as one of the true superstars of the blues genre. His work is widely recognized for its impact on modern music – his simple, yet deeply effective songs transcend borders and languages around the globe. Each decade of Hooker's long career brought a new generation of fans and fresh opportunities for the ever-evolving artist, and he regularly toured and recorded up until his passing in 2001. (# also on Shout!Factory "Hooker" Box)

John Lee Hooker would have been 100 years old on August 22nd, 2017. To celebrate his centennial, a handful of high-profile events have been planned to honor the legendary Bluesman, including King Of The Boogie-themed exhibitions at the GRAMMY Museum and Blues Foundation. This special box set from Craft Recordings celebrates the music of John Lee Hooker in true style. 100 songs on five CDs span the artist's career, covering not only his iconic hits, but also diving deep into his catalog for rare tracks, live recordings and previously unreleased material. Presented in a book format, the collection includes 56-pages of rare photos and new liner notes by writer and John Lee Hooker historian Jas Obrecht, as well as by Hooker's longtime manager Mike Kappus. *noted previously unreleased

Disc 1: Detroit 1948-1954

1. Boogie Chillen' - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Modern 1948) #
2. Sally May - John Lee Hooker (rec 1948, Crown LP 1961) #
3. Hobo Blues - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Modern 1949) #
4. Crawlin' King Snake - John Lee Hooker & His Guitar (Modern 1949) #
5. Black Man Blues - Texas Slim (King 1948) #
6. Goin' Mad Blues - Delta John (Regent 1949)
7. Who's Been Jivin' You - "Memphis Slim" (King rec 1948, LP-track 1964)
8. (Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby's Hair (Fortune rec 1948, issued 1958)
9. Hoogie Boogie - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Modern 1949) #
10. Burnin' Hell - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Sensation 1949)
11. Weeping Willow Boogie (Modern 1949) #
12. Moaning Blues - Texas Slim (King 1950)
13. Huckle Up Baby - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Sensation 1949) #
14. Goin' On Highway #51 - John Lee Hooker And His Guitar (Sensation 1950)
15. John L's House Rent Boogie (Modern 1951) #
16. I'm In The Mood (Modern 1951) #
17. Two White Horses (Deitch rec 1951)
18. 33 Blues (Deitch rec 1951)
19. Sugar Mama (Chess 1952)
20. Wobbling Baby (Chart rec 1953, issued 1956)
21. Stuttering Blues - John Lee Booker (Rockin' 1953) #
22. I'm A Boogie Man - Johnny Lee (DeLuxe 1953)
23. Down Child (Modern 1954) #
24. Odds Against Me (Backbiters And Syndicators) (Specialty rec 1954)
25. Shake, Holler And Run (Modern rec 1954, issued 1955)

Disc 2: Chicago plus 1955-1961

1. Unfriendly Woman [aka Stop Now]* (rec 1955, issued 1958)
2. Mambo Chillun (VJ 1955)
3. Time Is Marching (VJ 1955)
4. Dimples (VJ 1956) #
5. Little Wheel (VJ 1957)
6. I Love You Honey (VJ 1958) #
7. Drive Me Away (VJ rec 1958)
8. Maudie (VJ 1959)
9. When I Lay My Burden Down* (with drums +poss bs, ca 1960 unissued)
10. Tupelo Blues (Riverside 1959) #
11. Good Mornin' Lil' School Girl (Riverside 1959)
12. I Rolled And Turned And Cried The Whole Night Long (Riverside rec 1959, issued 1964)
13. No More Doggin' (Riverside 1960)
14. Dusty Road (VJ 1960)
15. No Shoes (VJ 1960) #
16. My First Wife Left Me (Prestige rec 1960, issued on VJ 1961)
17. Crazy About That Walk - Sir John Lee Hooker (Fortune 1960)
18. Want Ad Blues (VJ 1961)
19. Will The Circle Be Unbroken (VJ rec 1961, issued 1973)
20. I'm Going Upstairs (VJ 1961) #
21. I Lost My Job (Lauren rec 1961, issued on Galaxy 1963)
22. Don't Turn Me From Your Door (Atco rec 1961, issued 1963) #
23. Grinder Man (Stax rec 1961, issued 1969)
24. Meat Shakes On Her Bone* (Guest Star 1961: Talkin' 'Bout My Baby)



Disc 3: Chicago part two & Coast-to-Coast 1962-1997

1. Boom Boom (VJ 1962) #
2. Blues Before Sunrise (VJ 1962)
3. She's Mine (VJ 1962) #
4. Frisco Blues (VJ 1963) #
5. Good Rockin' Mama (VJ 1963)
6. I'm Leaving (VJ 1963)
7. Birmingham Blues (VJ 1963) #
8. Don't Look Back (VJ LP 1963, single 1964)
9. Big Legs, Tight Skirt (VJ 1965) #
10. It Serves Me Right (VJ 1965) #
11. Money (Impulse 1966)
12. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer (Chess 1966) #
13. The Motor City Is Burning (BluesWay 1968)
14. Mean, Mean Woman (BluesWay 1969) #
15. Doin' The Shout (ABC 1971) #
16. Homework (ABC 1974)
17. Early One Morning (Pausa rec ca 1983, issued 1986) #
18. Rocking Chair (Chameleon rec 1987, issued 1989)
19. Hittin' The Bottle Again (Pointblank rec 1987, issued 1992)
20. Deep Blue Sea (Pointblank rec 1987, issued 1995)
21. Spellbound (Pointblank rec 1996, issued 1997)



King of the Boogie – 5CD Book-Box-Set on Craft Recordings - Part Two

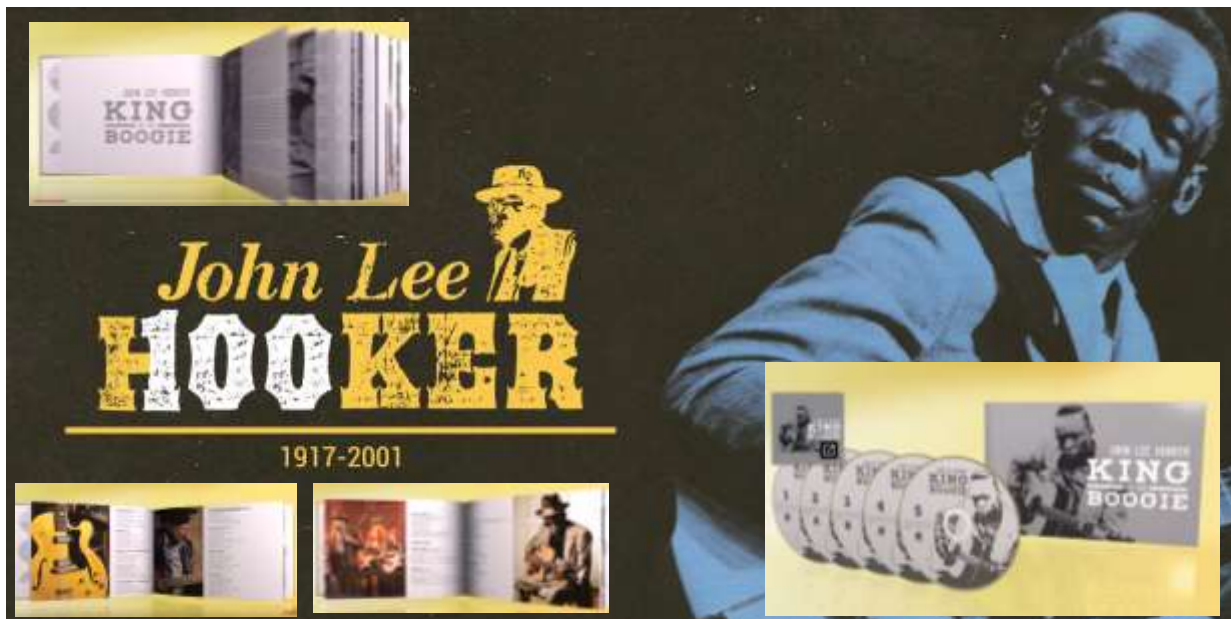
Disc 4: Live Recordings 1960-1983

1. Hobo Blues (Vanguard/VJ 1960)
2. Maudie (Vanguard/VJ 1960)
3. Shake It Baby (Brunswick 1962)
4. Boogie Chillun (Fantasy rec 1962, issued 1974)
5. Bottle Up And Go (Fantasy rec 1962, issued 2002)
6. Crawl'n' King Snake (Fantasy as above)
7. The Mighty Fire (Vanguard/VJ 1963)
8. You've Got To Walk Yourself (Vanguard/VJ 1963)
9. I'm Bad Like Jesse James (Bluesway 1967) #
10. Boogie Everywhere I Go (ABC 1973)
11. She's Gone* (bootleg rec. at Metropol, Berlin May 9, 1983)
12. It Serves Me Right To Suffer* (as above)
13. Boom Boom* (as above)
14. Hi-Heel Sneakers* (as above) last four issued on a bootleg CD
15. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer* (as above. unissued)

Note: original issue dates on all five discs, unless otherwise noted.

Disc 5: JLH with his Friends 1952-1998

1. I Got Eyes For You - with "Little" Eddie Kirkland (Modern 1952)
2. Mai Lee - with The Groundhogs (Verve-Forecast 1965)
3. Peavine - with Canned Heat (Liberty 1971) #
4. Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive - with Van Morrison (ABC 1972)
5. Five Long Years - with Joe Cocker (ABC 1974)
6. The Healer - with Carlos Santana (Chameleon rec 1988) #
7. I'm In The Mood - with Bonnie Raitt (Chameleon rec 1988) #
8. Sally Mae - with George Thorogood (Chameleon rec 1988)
9. Mr. Lucky - with Robert Cray (Pointblank 1991) #
10. Up And Down - with Johnnie Johnson & Warren Haynes (rec 1991, issued on Pointblank CD single 1995, and Eagle CD 2003) #
11. Boom Boom - with Jimmie Vaughan (Pointblank 1992) #
12. You Shook Me - with B.B. King (MCA 1993)
13. Don't Look Back - with Van Morrison (Pointblank 1997) #
14. Dimples - with Los Lobos (Pointblank 1997) #
15. Boogie Chillen' - with Eric Clapton (Pointblank 1998) #





[100 Audio Clips](#) [Reviews and comments:](#)

Matt Bauer, October 2, 2017:

At a hundred songs and five discs, box set *King of the Boogie* cuts right to the essence of John Lee Hooker. The blues icon's hypnotic and idiosyncratic style — a clipped acoustic rhythmic guitar hung on a single chord and moaning vocals accompanied with his own foot taps — was captured to devastating effect on his first recording session which yielded "Boogie Chillen," one of the biggest R&B hits of the post-war blues era. Followup singles like "Crawling King Snake" helped cement Hooker's presence, and the wisely chronological sequencing on the first three discs not only charts his evolution as an artist (including his embracing of electric guitar and the addition of band members like guitarists Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor), but the development of blues itself, with such deeply influential cuts recorded for the Vee-Jay label as 1956's "Dimples" and 1961's "Boom Boom," building blocks in the development of rock music — especially the sounds brimming across the pond. While Hooker's musical mastery continues to reverberate 16 years after his death, what is equally revelatory about certain selections here is their continued timeliness. The sorrowful snapshot of a devastating flood in Mississippi, "Tupelo Blues" stings in the light of recent disasters, while "Birmingham Blues" and "The Motor City Is Burning" are pertinent dispatches given 2017's racial climate. The fourth disc is comprised entirely of live selections, and while the comprehensive and informative liners note that Hooker was proud of having never been in a fight, "I'm Bad Like Jesse James" (backed by Muddy Waters' full band) is badass enough to give Ice Cube pause. The raucous "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer" evokes a sense of desperation that George Thorogood and the Destroyers never captured on their more celebrated cover. *King of the Boogie* closes with a fifth disc of collaborations, with the likes of Carlos Santana on the title track of Hooker's 1989 comeback *The Healer* and Bonnie Raitt ("I'm in the Mood"). The standouts are "Peavine" (with Canned Heat from 1971's oft-neglected *Hooker 'n Heat*) and "Up and Down" (with Warren Haynes). John Lee Hooker couldn't have asked for a better centenary.



Claus Röhnisch, October 12, 2017:

I have now listened to all 100 recordings (package arrived today). It looks like "Lay My Burden Down" is about the only track not issued before. It sounds like a Riverside recording of the 1960 session (Hooker vcl/gtr plus drums, and possible bass). "Meat Shakes On Her Bone" (in stereo) sounds very much like the Guest Star "Talkin' Bout My Baby" (which was not issued on Atlantic or Stax — and of which I have no vinyl left in my collection). Four of the last five live recordings have been issued before on a very rare German bootleg in 2008. It was a live radio broadcast of 1983, which also featured "One Bourbon....." (the last track of CD4 here). They all are interesting things - four boogies and a very nice version of "It Serves Me Right To Suffer" with Hooker's Coast to Coast Blues Band, featuring Deacon Jones, org; Mike Osborn (sic Osborne), gtr; Stephan Arthur Erman, bsg; and Tim Richards, dms. "Sally Mae" is the "Sally Mae" Crown 5157 LP version (but listed as the original single version). "I'm In The Mood" is listed without Kirkland's gtr (assuming Hooker is doubletracked also on guitar — personally I think it is BOTH!).



The best things with this book-box are the design, the fine liner notes, the detailed sessionography, based on the latest information to make it as correct as possible. Maybe the compilers (Mason Williams, nowadays top producer at Craft Recordings, and Roger Armstrong, the UK Ace "boss") took a peak at my discography? The fact that only 38 tracks of the 100 also can be found in the "Hooker" Box of 2006 is also a great plus.

Excerpt from a review in amazon.com by Stuart Jefferson October 6, 2017

At this point there's probably not to many blues fans who don't already own a few Hooker albums and/or box sets of his music. This latest 5 CD set is a good overview of Hooker's long life in music. But with someone as prolific as Hooker was--he recorded so many tracks both under his real name and fictitious names--this latest set can only dip into his recordings. This box is somewhere between four and five "stars"--as far as the song selection goes it does a good if not great job--so as a collection only it's probably closer to five "stars". The packaging is nicely done--a 6 1/2" X 9 3/4" hardcover book-style with slots in the back pages/back end papers for each disc. The essay by Jas Obrecht helps put Hooker's music in some perspective, and the shorter essay by Hooker's manager Mike Kappus also helps focus light on Hooker and his music. There's a lot of period photos in both b&w and color throughout the book. But the great thing is that there's track by track information that's invaluable to Hooker fans. The sound overall is very good--but with older tracks mixed with later period tracks, plus live recordings, the sound is variable--a minor quibble. But blues fans are used to not having something approaching "perfect" sound..... This is a good set of Hooker's music, especially for someone wanting a broad overview of his work. But as a blues fan I know there's so much more great music that couldn't be included. Hopefully for fans just coming to Hooker's music, this box set will only whet the appetite to hear much more of his music, from his early days up through his later years.



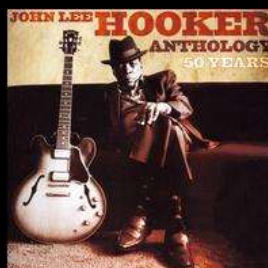
HOOKER



Robert Christgau
- BLENDER:

"4 Stars...Box-set excess does his magnitude justice"

John Lee Hooker Box Set
Named #1 Reissue
of the Year by Rolling Stone
in December 2006 and
#1 Reissue of the Year at the
Blues Foundation Awards
in May 2007



32 tracks on 50 Years:
John Lee Hooker Anthology
Shout!Factory 2CD
CD 826663-1128
issued February 2009



[All 84 Music Audio Clips](#)



HOOKER - 4cd-BOX-SET on Shout!Factory

- issued October 31, 2006 Catalog #: 826663-10198 Note: (revised recording dates)

Disc One - Detroit: 1. Boogie Chillen' (9/48) 2. Sally Mae (9/48) 3. Black Man Blues - Texas Slim (11/48) 4. Hobo Blues (9/48) 5. Hoogie Boogie (2/49) 6. Weeping Willow Boogie (7/49) 7. Crawlin' King Snake (9/48) 8. Driftn' From Door To Door (9/48) 9. Catfish Blues (8/51) 10. Moses Smote The Water (8/51) 11. Huckle Up Baby (12/49) 12. Wandering Blues - Texas Slim (8/49) 13. Don't You Remember Me - Texas Slim (3/50) 14. Notoriety Woman (8/50) 15. Let Your Daddy Ride (2/50) 16. John L's House Rent Boogie (11/50) 17. Bumble Bee Blues - Johnny Williams (1951) 18. Leave My Wife Alone - John Lee Hooker (4/51) 19. Just Me And My Telephone (4/51) 20. I'm In The Mood (8/51) 21. Blues For Big Town (1952) 22. Stuttering Blues - John Lee Hooker (7/53) 23. Down Child (late 1953) 24. Boogie Rambler (5/54) 25. Baby You Ain't No Good (late 1954) 26. I'm Ready (ca 11/54)

Disc Two - Chicago: 1. Dimples (3/56) 2. Every Night (3/56) 3. I'm So Excited (3/57) 4. I Love You Honey (6/58) 5. Tupelo Blues (4/59) 6. I Need Some Money (2/60) 7. Democrat Man (2/60) 8. No More Doggin' (2/60) 9. Gonna Use My Rod (2/60) 10. Whiskey And Wimmen (3/60) 11. No Shoes (3/60) 12. We're All God's Chillun - Sir John Lee Hooker (7/60) 13. I'm Goin' Upstairs (1/61) 14. Teachin' The Blues (7/61) 15. You Lost A Good Man (7/61) 16. Don't Turn Me From Your Door (7/61) 17. When My First Wife Quit Me (1961) 18. Boom Boom (11/61) 19. She's Mine (12/61) 20. Frisco Blues (1/62) 21. Birmingham Blues (1963) 22. Big Legs Tight Skirt (1964) 23. It Serves Me Right To Suffer (1964) 24. I'm Losin' You (11/64) 25. I Cover The Waterfront (11/64 - w. dubbed brass)

Disc Three - Coast to Coast: 1. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer (5/66) 2. Let's Go Out Tonight (5/66) 3. Bottle Up And Go (11/65) 4. Let's Make It - Live (10/62) 5. King Of The World (10/65) 6. I'm Bad Like Jesse James - Live (8/66) 7. Think Twice Before You Go (11/67) 8. Mean Mean Woman (9/68) 9. Burning Hell - John Lee Hooker & Canned Heat (5/70) 10. Peavine - John Lee Hooker & Canned Heat (5/70) 11. I Got My Eyes On You - John Lee Hooker & Canned Heat (5/70) 12. Doin' The Shout (11/70) 13. Bluebird (5/74) 14. Early One Morning (ca 1983) 15. We'll Meet Again (1986) 16. Loving People (1991)

Disc Four - Frisco: 1. Baby Lee - John Lee Hooker & Robert Cray (10/87) 2. I'm In The Mood - John Lee Hooker & Bonnie Raitt (4/88) 3. The Healer - John Lee Hooker & Carlos Santana (4/88) 4. Mr. Lucky - John Lee Hooker & Robert Cray (Oct 9, 1990) 5. I Cover The Waterfront - John Lee Hooker & Van Morrison (4/90) 6. This Is Hip - John Lee Hooker & Ry Cooder (5/91) 7. Bottle Up And Go - John Lee Hooker & John Hammond (1990) 8. Same Old Blues Again - John Lee Hooker & Robert Cray (1991) 9. Boom Boom - John Lee Hooker & Jimmie Vaughan (8/92) 10. Chill Out (Things Gonna Change) - John Lee Hooker & Carlos Santana (4/91) 11. Tupelo - J.L.H. solo (7/93) 12. Kiddio - John Lee Hooker & Charles Brown (1994) 13. Dimples - John Lee Hooker & Los Lobos (9/96) 14. Don't Look Back - John Lee Hooker & Van Morrison (4/96) 15. Up And Down - John Lee Hooker & Johnnie Johnson (5/91) 16. Mean Mean World - John Lee Hooker & Zakiya Hooker (1991) 17. Boogie Chillen' - John Lee Hooker & Eric Clapton (6/98)

Comment from the editor: Well - what a well-planned issue - a dream come true - with almost the identical tracks to my web site's "imaginative - phantasy" set! 84 tracks (not 85). Note: The dates here are revised and double-checked (and do therefore sometimes differ to the dates given in the discographical notes for the box-set). The album-set was reissued in a different box-size on SPV Blue Label SPV 95940 (4CD - in the 2009) - see image bottom left.

From the original promotion ads of the box: **John Lee Hooker**, master bluesman and undisputed father of boogie, recorded for more than 30 labels over a span of 50 years. Amazingly, he has never had a definitive career box set - until now. On October 31, 2006, Shout! Factory released **Hooker**, a 4-CD set that culls material from all eras - from a primitive 1948 recording of "Boogie Chillen'" to a version of the same song recorded exactly 50 years later in 1998 with Eric Clapton. The set was compiled by Shawn Amos and Patrick Milligan with invaluable assistance from Zakiya Hooker, Executor-Trustee and Eugene Skuratowicz, Estate Manager of the **John Lee Hooker** Estate. Music journalist Ted Drozdowski wrote comprehensive liner notes, which delve into Hooker's Mississippi and African influences, and follow his career through its many achievements and accolades up to his death in 2001. In addition, both **Van Morrison**, **Carlos Santana** and **Fito de la Parra**, the surviving member of **Canned Heat**, provided additional notes recalling their respective collaborations with **Hooker**, highlights of which appear on the 4-CD set. Born 1917 (ed note: or 1912) to Mississippi sharecroppers, **John Lee Hooker** first heard blues on a wind-up Victrola and on KFFA-FM in nearby Helena, Ark. His parents were convinced that blues was the music of the devil and insisted that he practice in the barn. His stepfather, Louisiana guitarist Will Moore, brought **John Lee** in contact with what annotator Drozdowski calls the "rolling, mesmeric beat" of Shreveport blues, "which had more in common with the ancestral African origins of the music than the Delta sound." He was also inspired by Delta blues forebears Blind Lemon Jefferson and Charley Patton. **Hooker** migrated to Memphis, and then to Detroit, where he supported himself and his family playing rent parties, the inspiration for his *John L.'s House Rent Boogie* in 1950. A rough acetate recording fell into the hands of local producer Bernie Besman, launching his recording career and leading to a series of 78s and 45s on labels like Sensation, Modern, King, Staff, Regal, Deluxe, Chess, Fortune, Crown, and Vee-Jay. He recorded under several *noms du disque*: John Lee Cooker, John Lee Booker, Texas Slim, Birmingham Sam & His Magic Guitar, Johnny Williams, Delta John and Sir John Lee Hooker. In the late '60s, **Hooker's** audience began to include white fans. Boogie disciples **Canned Heat** brought him to the attention of their fan base with the 1970 double album *Hooker 'N Heat*. **Hooker** achieved legendary status, and made a series of albums from 1965 for Impulse, ABC BluesWay, Tomato, Pausa, Chameleon and Virgin/Pointblank. 1989's *The Healer*, which included collaborations with **Carlos Santana** and **Bonnie Raitt**, earned him a Grammy® and brought him to the attention of a new generation of fans. "I hope this set will introduce **John Lee Hooker** to a new generation of fans, and reintroduce him to those who might have forgotten," says Shout! Factory A&R head Shawn Amos. "It shows how much gravitas he held in his presence, and even in a single note of his playing." Zakiya Hooker, **John Lee Hooker's** daughter, adds, "I think this is phenomenal, to have all of my father's music pulled together. It cuts through a really wide swath of music, from music recorded at a 1949 house party and an old acoustic spiritual, to his later music. The music was all over the place until Shout! Factory pulled it together for the edification of everyone - and they did so in a beautiful package. My father would have been smiling." (slightly edited by CR)

AllMusic Review by Stephen Thomas Erlewine

John Lee Hooker was an active recording artist for roughly 50 years - active in that not only did he record steadily, but he actively jumped from label to label, recording for seemingly every label, big or small, from such legendary imprints as Modern, Savoy, Chess, Vee-Jay, Impulse and Riverside, to such smaller outfits as Eagle, Sensation, Staff, Guest Star and Pausa. He started his career cutting sides for singles, later recording proper albums, and all these recordings have been repackaged and reissued in a seemingly endless series of compilations, ranging from budget-line bottom of the barrel discs to first-rate retrospectives, like Rhino's 1991 *The Ultimate Collection*, but one thing his discography has always lacked was a comprehensive, career-spanning box set, which Shout! Factory's finally provides with their 2006 four-disc set **Hooker**. Encompassing 84 songs recorded for 27 labels over the course of half a century, **Hooker** manages to sort through his unwieldy discography with grace and precision, offering all his standards - beginning with "Boogie Chillen'" and "Sally Mae," then running through "Crawlin' King Snake," "I'm in the Mood," "Dimples," "Boom Boom," "It Serves Me Right to Suffer," "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer" - but adding the depth and detail by lingering at relatively lesser-known sides and singles (including songs released under pseudonyms like "Texas Slim" and "John Lee Booker") from every era of his career. And even though **Hooker** never quite deviated from his signature boogie - he always bent backing bands to follow his rhythm, as much of the music on this set proves - he did have different eras in his career, starting with the spooky solo sides in the late '40s and early '50s, which gave way to his early experiments with backing bands, which lead to his dynamic electric work of the '60s, which in turn set the precedent for his collaborations with **Canned Heat**, which in themselves were the foundation of his comeback of the late '80s and early '90s, where he returned to the spotlight via a series of superstar-studded duets albums. All these phases are represented well on **Hooker** - some might argue that the latter duet phase is represented a little too well since the entire fourth disc is devoted to it, but that did span a full decade of recording for **Hooker**, and it did bring him his highest commercial profile ever - giving this set a welcome narrative in addition to its sheer comprehensiveness. These are the two most attractive elements of **Hooker**: it makes sense of his long career and hits virtually all his highlights. **Hooker** certainly has many excellent individual albums in his catalog, but most listeners could get this set and have all the **John Lee Hooker** they'll ever need. Which isn't the same thing as saying that **Hooker** is for everybody. **Hooker's** boogie is intoxicating, but like strong liquor it may either be addictive or an acquired taste, so it's best for the uninitiated to sample something similar, like Rhino's 1995 set *The Very Best of John Lee Hooker*, which has all the essentials in a concentrated dose. For some, that single-disc - or something similar - will be all they ever need, since it has the best of the boogie. This set is for the listener who already knows they're a fan, and wants to dig in deep - and for those listeners, this **Hooker** will certainly and repeatedly satisfy.

Note: This Box - even if it has 16 lesser tracks than "King of the Boogie" on Craft Recordings of 2017 - has a **broader and deeper view** on the "full career" of Johnnie Lee (even if both boxes include around the same number of different labels), with each of them circa eight "extra labels" beside the "mutuals". Only 38 tracks are featured in both boxes (which means you will have 146 unique tracks on the two CD boxes).

AN INTRODUCTION TO JOHNNIE LEE

The Guardian Obituary: **JOHN LEE HOOKER** (slightly edited by CR).
– Blues musician whose career spanned six decades – Blues giant whose raw voice and singular guitar bridged generations – by Tony Russell, June 22 & 23, 2001

John Lee Hooker, blues musician, born August 22 1917 (or probably 1912); died June 21 2001.
In the long history of the blues there has been no figure more singular than John Lee Hooker, who has died aged 83 (or 88). Where other singers rhymed, he sang in blank verse; where other guitarists might skip through the changes, he would play entire songs on one or two chords; and where other blues veterans were fortunate to be rediscovered once, he bounced repeatedly from obscurity back into the limelight. For most African-American musicians of Hooker's generation, to title an album Mr. Lucky would be to exercise at least a little irony, but he did enjoy more strokes of good fortune than usually come a bluesman's way. That he could draw about him, even in old age, a crowd of admiring fellow musicians and would-be collaborators was largely due to the hypnotic effect of his music, to the mantra-like chanting over the relentlessly repetitive beat of guitar and foot, which absorbs listeners into a huge heartbeat. Those qualities were evident in his first hit, **Boogie Chillen'** (1948) on Modern, an apparently impromptu synthesis of spoken narrative and sung verses with abrupt gear-changes on the guitar. Such structural wilfulness was not uncommon among the blues musicians of the 1920s and 30s, but for much of his life Hooker was exceptional, "the last," as Ry Cooder called him, "of those unstructured, free players."

So popular did he become after the success of **Boogie Chillen'** that Hooker briefly turned into a multiple personality, recording for half a dozen labels under as many pseudonyms: Texas Slim, Delta John, Johnny Williams, Birmingham Sam, and the more obvious John Lee Hooker. He was based in Detroit, where he had moved in 1943, working during the day as a janitor at Dodge Motors or Comco Steel, and at night playing in nightclubs. He managed to preserve a good deal of vagueness about his early life, whether near Clarksdale, Mississippi, where he was born into a family of 11 children, or in Memphis and Cincinnati, where he spent his younger years. In the Delta his stepfather taught him guitar, including the open G tuning he would employ to such resonant effect. He also listened attentively to the obscure Mississippi bluesman Tony Hollins, from whom he derived one of his early successes, **Crawlin' King Snake** (late 1949) but most of his highly personal conception of blues-singing and playing appears to have come from within him, like in **Hobo Blues** (early 1949). **I'm In The Mood** (still on Modern), a characteristically skewed reconstruction of the pop song I'm In The Mood For Love, gave him another hit in 1951, but the day of the solo bluesman was passing (ending his last Detroit period with some combo recordings).

In 1955 he signed with a new label, the Chicago-based Vee-Jay, and began to work with small backing groups. The other musicians flattened his more baroque rhythmic contours and some of the hectic excitement was lost, but the success of **Dimples** (1956) proved the change of setting was commercially astute. While maintaining his name in the ghetto record-stores he also, exceptionally, developed a parallel career as a "folk blues" artist, playing without amplification and recalling songs from an earlier, more rural era of the blues. "I have created about three fields," he would say proudly. "A folk field, a blues field, and a jump field for the kids. If it was necessary I could do hillbilly stuff". Such dexterity enabled him, in the early 60s, both to perform at the Newport Folk Festival and to have hits in the rhythm 'n' blues chart with **No Shoes** (1960), and **Boom Boom** (1962). **Dimples** was re-released on Stateside in the UK and entered the British top 20 in 1964 and made possible a succession of UK tours. His last Vee-Jay single was **It Serves Me Right** (recorded in mid 1964). Then followed a contract with ABC, which lasted for ten years, with several LPs for Impulse, Bluesway, and ABC (including the **Live at Cafe au Go Go** LP recorded in August of 1966, backed by the Muddy Waters blues band).

By the late 60s the folk-blues bubble had burst and Hooker's audiences were now almost entirely white. In the 70s he collaborated with Canned Heat and Van Morrison, and in 1980 he made a celebrated cameo appearance as a street musician in the film *The Blues Brothers*. But by then he seemed to have wearied of touring and recording, and when the near-silence prolonged itself through the 80s it was assumed he had retired. It was the guitarist Roy Rogers and Hooker's manager Mike Kappus who reactivated his career on Chameleon and later Pointblank (both on Silvertone in the UK), pairing him with a variety of artists including Robert Cray, Los Lobos and Bonnie Raitt. The result, **The Healer** (1989), became the best-selling blues album ever, and **Mr. Lucky** (1991) repeated the winning format with Cooder, Morrison and Keith Richards. The years seemed to have added potency to his other resource, the dark, sombre instrument of his voice. "That deep, well-like sound," Cooder called it, while for Raitt it was "one of the saddest things I've ever heard."

By now as nearly a household name as a blues artist is ever permitted to be, Hooker was sought by film-makers to add an indigo shade to their soundtracks and by advertisers to fix his stamp upon brands. Enjoying his prosperity, he now worked only when he chose, but when he did sit down on a stage with his guitar he wove much of his old spell. Though he had been lauded in the 70s as a matchless exponent of the boogie beat, he cared more about telling a story. "Every song I sing," he said, "is something that happened to my life or somebody else's life in this world. You might lose your money or your car, or can't pay the rent - every person has had these heartaches and tribulations. That's why everybody digs the blues. When I sing these songs I feel them down deep and reach you down deep". Hooker is survived by by eight children, three turned out musicians - Zakiya, Robert, and John Jr. - **Tony Russell**

Introduction CDs to start a collection

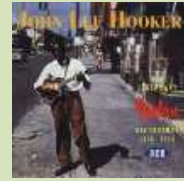
Five Decades of Recording - presented by Claus Röhnisch

Phase I: 1948-1955

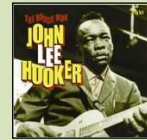
The Definitive Johnnie Lee in Detroit (Modern Records)

The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954

Ace CDCHD 315 (UK) (1993) - Flair V2 1Z-39658 (US) (1994)
Here we have several of the famous Bernie Besman originals and a cross section of the original Modern singles with several original early hits - simply a must. The very best of vintage Hooker - 24 classics! CD is compiled by Ray Topping with nice inlay comments by Dave Sax (of Sept 1991) and backcover images of early Modern singles (one of them showing the original 78 rpm spelling of "Sally May"). And do not miss his pirate recordings: the best CD is "The Boogie Man" **Properbox 111** 4CD-set of 98 tracks (with 50 of them Hooker in disguise).



Ace/Flair Tracks: BOOGIE CHILLEN - SALLY MAE (LP version) - HOOGIE BOOGIE - HOBO BLUES - WEEPING WILLOW BOOGIE - DRIFTING FROM DOOR TO DOOR - CRAWLING KING SNAKE - WOMEN IN MY LIFE - HOWLIN' WOLF - PLAYING THE RACES - LET YOUR DADDY RIDE - QUEEN BEE - WEDNESDAY EVENING - I'M IN THE MOOD (original three-voice single) - TEASE ME BABY - TURN OVER A NEW LEAF - ROCK HOUSE BOOGIE - TOO MUCH BOOGIE - NEED SOMEBODY - GOTTA BOOGIE - JUMP ME ONE MORE TIME - DOWN CHILD - BAD BOY - PLEASE TAKE ME BACK.
Properbox 111 (2006) compiled by Jaop Visser



Phase II: 1955-1965

Sir John in Chicago (Vee-Jay Records)

Giant of Blues - FruitTree CD ft821 (2CD-set)
(Italy 2002, and 2008)

Vee-Jay recordings packed in chronology from "Time Is Marchin'" late 1955 to "It Serves Me Right To Suffer" from mid 1964 (issued 1965). 40 tracks, with all of the best in-between. This set is a very rare, but essential digipak with tracks from the 3CD "Testament" SNAJ705 digipak box on Charly. Nice inlay booklet with an essay by compiler Les Fancourt. Italian label FruitTree is licensed from Charly (UK).



1. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	11. I'm In The Mood	21. I'm In The Mood	31. I'm In The Mood
2. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	12. I'm In The Mood	22. I'm In The Mood	32. I'm In The Mood
3. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	13. I'm In The Mood	23. I'm In The Mood	33. I'm In The Mood
4. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	14. I'm In The Mood	24. I'm In The Mood	34. I'm In The Mood
5. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	15. I'm In The Mood	25. I'm In The Mood	35. I'm In The Mood
6. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	16. I'm In The Mood	26. I'm In The Mood	36. I'm In The Mood
7. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	17. I'm In The Mood	27. I'm In The Mood	37. I'm In The Mood
8. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	18. I'm In The Mood	28. I'm In The Mood	38. I'm In The Mood
9. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	19. I'm In The Mood	29. I'm In The Mood	39. I'm In The Mood
10. It Serves Me Right To Suffer	20. I'm In The Mood	30. I'm In The Mood	40. I'm In The Mood



"Whiskey & Women: J.L.H.'s Finest" on Craft (16 tracks 2017) and "Testament" (60 tracks compiled by Fancourt, 2001)

Phase III: 1965-1975

Coast-to-Coast (ABC Records)

The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974

MCA MCAD-10539 (1992) - Liner notes by Colin Escott. Truly the best compilation from the ABC period, including Chess, Impulse, Bluesway and ABC recordings - 16 titles.

Tracks: ONE BOURBON, ONE SCOTH ONE BEER

(Chess 1966), DECORATION DAY (Impulse 1965), BACK BITERS AND SYNDICATORS (BluesWay 1967), DOIN' THE SHOUT (ABC 1971), NEVER GET OUT OF THESE BLUES ALIVE (w. Van Morrison, ABC 1971), I'M IN THE MOOD (Chess 1966), MR. LUCKY (BluesWay 1967), I'M BAD LIKE JESSE JAMES (BluesWay 1966), SHAKE IT BABY (Impulse 1965), BLUEBIRD (ABC 1974), THE MOTOR CITY IS BURNING (BluesWay 1967), IT SERVES YOU RIGHT TO SUFFER (Impulse 1965), THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU GO (BluesWay 1967), HOUSE RENT BOOGIE (ABC 1971), THE WATERFRONT (Chess 1966), BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG (BluesWay 1969).



Phase IV: 1975-1985

Live Wilderness (The "Tomato" Years)

The Cream - Charly CD SNAD 542 (2004 and 2008)

JLH and his Coast To Coast Blues Band, recorded live for a Tomato 2-set LP at The Keystone in Palo Alto, California in September, 1977 - reissued on Tomato CD - but especially on this 2CD-set on Charly, featuring liner notes by Clive Anderson - with 15 original tracks, including "Boogie On" with extended track time, plus five bonus tracks recorded live in Chicago in October.



Phase V: 1986-1998

Frisco Blues (The "Rosebud" Years)

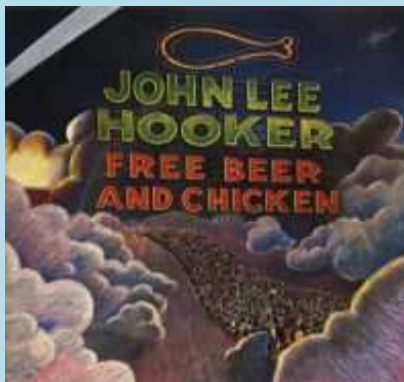
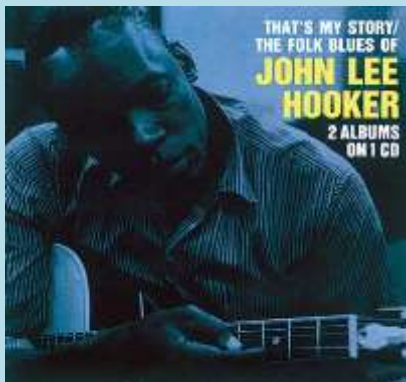
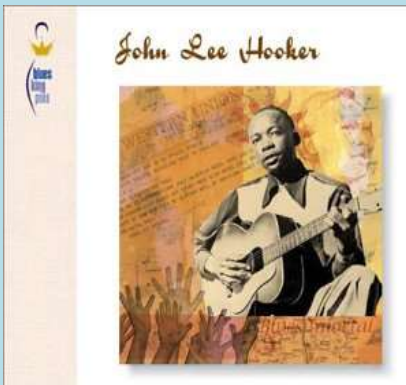
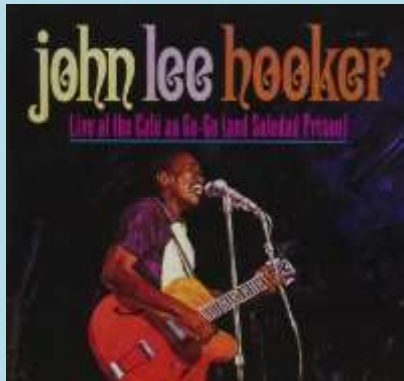
The Best of Friends (1987-1998) Produced by Mike Kappus.

Originally Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 49 (8-46424-2) (1998), reissued on Shout!Factory 631043 (2007) and European Blue SPV 493242. The best of the '90s award winning new-recorded songs from the successful Pointblank/Silvertone albums, plus three completely new ones. Detailed inlay discography.

Tracks: Boogie Chillen (6/98) - This Is Hip (5/91) - The Healer (4/88) - I Cover The Waterfront (4/90) - Boom Boom (8/92) - I'm In The Mood (4/88) - Burnin' Hell (5/98) - Tupelo (7/93) - Baby Lee (10/87) - Dimples (9/96) - Chill Out (Things Gonna Change) (4/91) - Big Legs Tight Skirt (5/98) - Don't Look Back (4/96), plus bonus track on Shout!Factory/Blue: Up And Down (5/91). Imaged: the reissue.



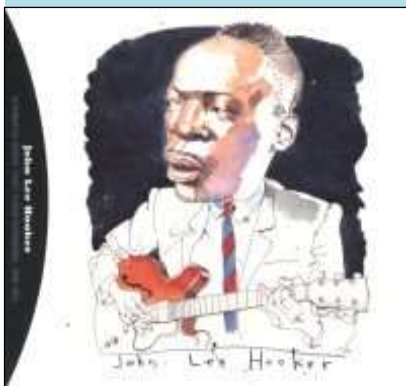
THE EDITOR'S SPECIAL FAVORITE CDs ! *Check for more details of these favorites at amazon and disogs!!*



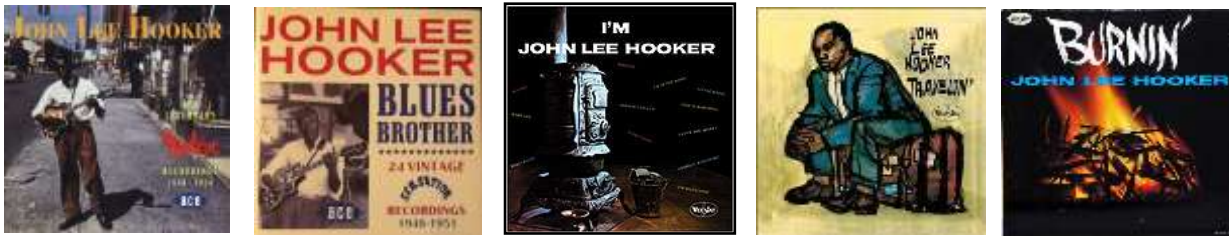
Travelin' (Charly CDGR 284, 1999 / Charly SNAP 145, 2003) rec 1960 (plus bonus tracks 1958), Live at the Café au Go-Go (MCA 11537, 1996) rec 1966 (plus Soledad Prison bonus 1972);
 Burnin' (Charly CDGR 298, 2000 / Charly SNAP 041, 2003) rec late 1961 (plus bonus tracks 1962); Blues Kingpins-Blues Immortal (Virgin 82741, 2003) with Modern tracks 1948-1955;
 Don't Turn Me From Your Door - JLH Sings His Blues (Atco/Atlantic 82365, 1992, 16 tracks) recorded 1953 and 1961, The Complete 50's Chess Recordings
 (2CD Chess-Universal 9391, European version 1998) 31 tracks rec 1950-1954; UK Ace CDCHD 927 That's My Story / The Folk Blues of JLH (1990) recorded 1960 and
 also including most of the tracks of The Country Blues of JLH of 1959; Free Beer And Chicken (BGO 123, 1991) rec 1974;
 The Complete Folk Blues Sessions (UK MCA 18335, 1991 - inserted the US reissue The Real Folk Blues/More Real Folk Blues 112 821, 2002) rec 1966;
 and below left Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings (3CD Capitol 33912, 1996) Besman recordings 1948-1952 (plus bonus 1961),

Below right:

Early Years: The Classic Savoy Sessions (2CD MetroDoubles 532, 2004) with 20 early Savoy and 12 Savoy 1961; Half A Stranger (Mainstream 903, 1991) great Besman and Modern recordings 1948-1955;
 JLH On Vee-Jay 1955-1958 (Vee-Jay NVD2-716, 1993 - 22 chrono tracks); I'm A Boogie Man (Varese Sarabande 66571, 2004) with all 16 Texas Slim recordings plus 3 early DeLuxe; The Complete 1964 Recordings
 (RPM/Shout RPSMH208, 2000) with Vee-Jay in Chicago and Verve-Folkways in London, England; The Boogie Man (4CD-pak Charly DIG 5, 1994) covering 1948-1966, with several very rare recordings, I'm John Lee Hoker
 (Charly CDGR 281, 2000 / Charly SNAP 130, 2003/2008) Vee-Jay 1955-1959 - his very first album with four bonus tracks. The Modern, Chess & VeeJay Singles Collection 1949-62 (4CD Acrobat ACQCD1703,
 August 2016) with all 50 singles for the three labels (from Boogie Chillen' to A New Leaf, 101 tracks).



Hooker's Original Billboard R&B Hits



Year	Song title	Label, cat no. (master)	R&B peak	Chart entry	Weeks charted	Weeks at #1	Notes
1949	Boogie Chillen'	Modern 20-627B (7006)	# 1	Jan	18	1	Recorded in September 1948, issued on Nov 3. Entered the Race Records Juke Box and Best Seller Charts in January 1949. Most of the reissues had no apostrophe' x
1949	Hoogie Boogie	Modern 20-663B (7036-A)	# 9	Apr	4		Recorded at Hooker's second Besman session in February 1949. Originally the B-side of "Hobo Blues"
1949	Hobo Blues	Modern 20-663A (7008-B)	# 5	May	8		One of Hooker's most famous "folk blues" recorded at the same session as "Boogie Chillen" x
1949	Crawlin' King Snake	Modern 20-714A (B-7012)	# 6	Dec	5		Hooker was given his very first guitar around 1926 from this song's originator, Tony Hollins. Recorded at the first mastodont session (although often listed as February, 1949) x
1950	Huckle Up Baby	Sensation 26 (B-8014)	# 15	Feb	1		Hooker's own "free" rendition of the 1949 huge instrumental hit "The Huckle-Buck". Recorded late 1949
1951	I'm In The Mood	Modern 835 (1636)	# 1	Oct	15	4	Based (very loosely) on Billy Eckstine's 1946 hit "I'm In The Mood For Love" (originally a #1 Pop hit by Little Jack Little in 1935). Wikipedia at the moment lacks Hooker's song in their encyclopedia x
1958	I Love You Honey	Vee-Jay 293 (58-927)	# 29	Dec	1		Most likely featuring original "Funk Brother" Joe Edward Hunter on piano
1960	No Shoes	Vee-Jay 349 (60-1384)	# 21	July	2		A hit single from Hooker's fine and classic "Travelin'" LP of 1960
1962	Boom Boom	Vee-Jay 438 (61-2204)	# 16	June	8		The hit single from the "Burnin'" LP of 1962 (recorded in November, 1961). Reached US Pop #60 position

Extra notes: In June 1964 **Dimples**, recorded in 1956, hit the UK Pop Chart #23. [Click on / touch year mark for 45.cat.com](#) and check for links to Wikipedia.
x These songs were re-recorded for Vee-Jay on January 22, 1959 for his very first album "I'm John Lee Hooker" (issued ca August, 1959).
"Boogie Chillen'" was now titled "Boogie Chillun". All four Vee-Jay versions also issued on single [Hooker discography at wikipedia](#)

John Lee Hooker at the end of six decades



1949



1959



1969



1979



1989



1999

The Definitive Early Hooker (center image: 1954)



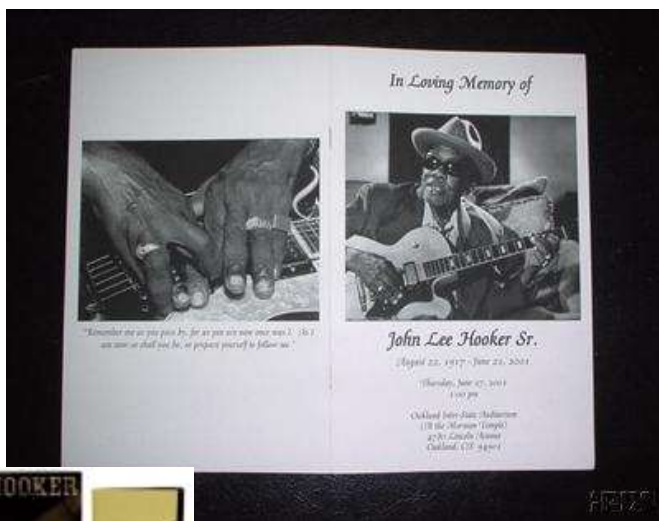
BOOGIE CHILLEN´

Well , my Mama she didn´ t allow me, just to stay out all night long,
... ooh, Lord!
Well , my Mama didn´ t allow me, just to stay out all night long,
I didn´ t care if she didn´ t allow me, I was boogie-woogie´ n´ anyhow.

When I first came to town, people, I was walkin´ down Hastings Street,
I heard everybody talkin´ ´bout the Henry Swing Club.
I decided to drop in there that night, and when I got there,
I say, yes people, they we´re really havin´ a ball, yes I know
... boogie, chillen´!

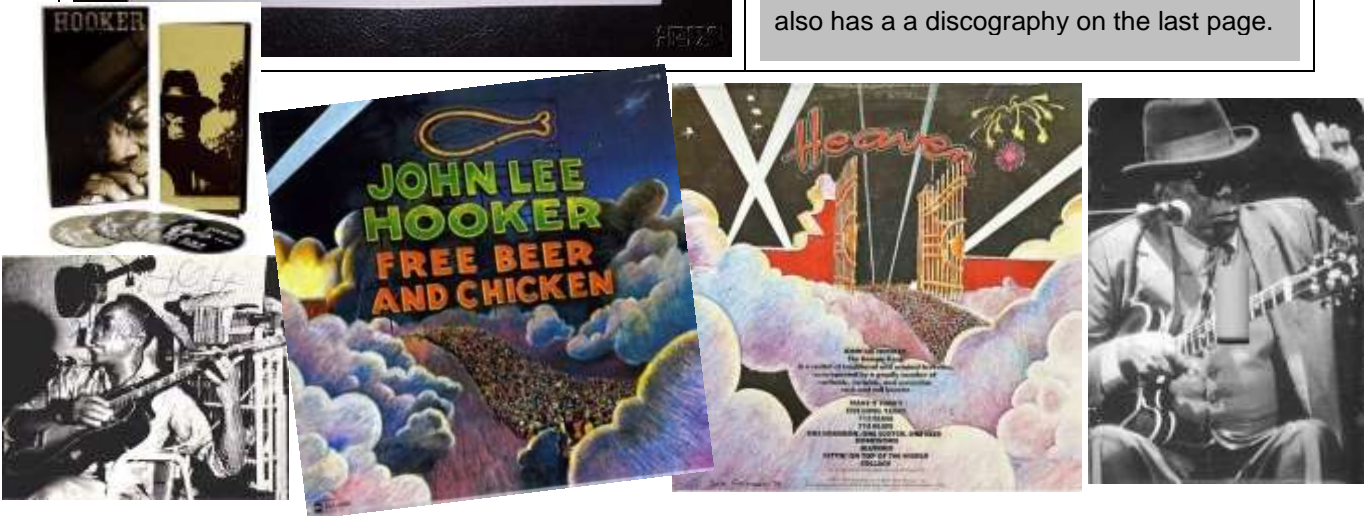
One night I was layin´ down, I heard Mama and Papa talkin´ ,
I heard Papa tell Mama: So let that boy boogie woogie,
´cause it´s in him and it got to come out!
Well, I felt so good, and I went on boogie-woogie´ n´ just the same,
... yes

- by **John Lee Hooker**



John Lee Hooker´s Memorial Program

This is an original program handed out at John Lee Hooker's memorial on June 27th, 2001 at the Mormon Temple in Oakland, California. This was handed out to about 300 guests at the family service. The Program includes the order of service, participants, pallbearers and letters from John Lee Hooker's children Zakiya, Diane, Karen, John Jr., Robert, Shyvonne, Lavetta and Frances, which were written to him in his honor. It also has a discography on the last page.



JOHN LEE HOOKER – IN THE BEGINNING

In the Beginning & Early Time-Line presented by Claus Röhnisch – updated April 11, 2019.



Born in Mississippi, raised up in Tennessee

John Lee Hooker was born **August 22, 1912** (or possibly **1917**) on a sharecropper farm in Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County close to Highway 49 and Highway 3, south of Clarksdale, Coahoma County, Mississippi. Hooker himself has given other dates of birth – in later years often 1920 - and other files say anything between 1915 and 1923. After his death - home in his sleep in Los Altos, Santa Clara County at the San Francisco Bay area, California on June 21, 2001 - the Hooker family confirmed his birth date as August 22, 1917. Findings by Bob Eagle and Eric S. LeBlanc (published in *Blues – A Regional Experience* (2013) suggest Hooker was born already in 1912 (information found in the 1920 and 1930 Census / Routledge enumerations outside and in Tutwiler town, Tallahatchie County). John Lee's mother was Minnie Ramsey (born in Glendora, Miss 1880 or possibly 1875; died around 1950), married to his father (sharecropper and spare-time preacher) William (indexed Wildred) Hooker, who was born in North Carolina around 1871 (or possibly earlier). John had six brothers and four sisters - of which not all survived. Only religious music was allowed in the Hooker family. The family moved to a new farm (the Fewell plantation) at Vance, Miss (again not far from Clarksdale) in circa 1920 (where John said he later met Snooky Pryor and Jimmy Lane - known as Jimmy Rogers in Chicago).

According to the Bob Eagle findings the parents separated in circa 1921 (since John's father was re-married to Anna from Louisiana already in circa 1922). Johnnie was the only child, who around 1930 moved to his stepfather, William Moore from Shreveport, Louisiana (no recordings). Moore was a local Lambert, Miss blues musician. He died before John Lee got to Detroit. Hooker claimed Blind Lemon Jefferson came to visit Moore, and he also remembered Blind Blake and Charley Patton. Around 1928 (or possibly earlier) John had started playing the guitar, which he said was given to him by blues singer Tony Hollins, who courted his sister Alice – and later he got his second from William Moore. From Moore Johnnie learned to play the boogie on guitar, and tunes like "Pea Vine special" (via Charley Patton), "Rather drink muddy water", "My starter won't start", "Don't turn me from your door", and "When my first wife quit me" (via Tony Hollins).

John was also influenced by Tommy McClennan and much of his greatness may be due to his natural youth mix of gospel and blues.

[Charles Shaar Murray's book "Boogie Man"](#)

[Jas Obrecht's Complete Living Blues Interviews.](#)

Neil Slaven on Hooker's Detroit debut

"John Lee Hooker ... became an overnight sensation in 1949 ... (note: edited), his talent already fully formed. Despite his recent biography, it's likely we'll never know how his highly individual skill developed because it's not something he either can or wants to talk about. And why should he, since the creative process defies definition. The huge volume of music that poured through him during the first years was like a dam wall bursting, releasing the pent-up energies of a musician whose time had finally come.... He reached Detroit in 1943 and found work at the Receiving Hospital before taking a series of jobs with Dodge and Comco Steel. He got married for the first time to Alma Hopes but they parted after a few months; his relationship with Sarah Jones managed to last a year. Far more long-lasting and inspirational was his marriage to Maude Mathis and the birth of two sons and four daughters.... There were a host of house parties and small drinking clubs around the Black Bottom and Paradise Valley sections of Detroit. Through his persistence and the conviction that he was meant to be a famous musician, John Lee graduated to clubs such as the Apex, Henry's Swing Club, the Caribbean Club and the Sensation. He also acquired an influential fan, none other than T-Bone Walker, who gave him his first electric guitar. 'It was just a matter of findin' the break,' he told Shaar Murray. 'I got discovered out of a little bar by my manager Elmer Barbee. He the one discovered me, playing around nightclubs, little honkytonk bars, house parties. I had a little trio (with pianist James Watkins, and drummer Curtis Foster). I was playin' a little bar called the Apex on Monroe Street, and I was the talk of the town.' Barbee owned a record store at 609 Lafayette, with a small recording studio in the back. For something like six months, John Lee made regular visits and cut a series of acetates, of which "Rocks" (a variant on "Roll Me Over"), cut on June 12, 1948, was one. "Leavin' Chicago" and the first of many versions of "Wednesday Evening Blues" also survive from this period (cut was also "When My First Wife Left Me"; ed.note). Eventually Barbee took him and his demos downtown to meet Bernard Besman, part owner of Pan American Record Distributors on Woodward Avenue... Besman elected to record John Lee at the city's United Sound studio." (Neil Slaven, 2000 - from the first of the Body & Soul Complete Detroit CD series booklets).

Hobo Blues - Drifting from door to door

Hooker left Mississippi and moved to Memphis in 1933-34, first staying at an aunt's and later working at the cinema "New Daisy" (and possibly also the W.C. Handy Theater) on Beale Street. Johnnie claimed that he during his Memphis stay worked with Robert Nighthawk, Eddie Love (brother of pianist Willie) and the pianist Joe Willard. He soon "hoboed" again - this time he spent a period in Knoxville, Tennessee and arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio in circa 1935. During these early years Hooker sings the blues and works with gospel groups like the Big Six, the Delta Big Four, and the Fairfield Four in the evenings - and in factories, theatres-cinemas and warehouses during daytime. The years between 1939 and 1943 are unaccounted for (except for a short spell in the army - stationed near Detroit; Hooker even may have travelled to the South).

It got to come out - Boogie Chillen'

Hooker started his career (eventually leading to become the world's foremost "traditional blues" singer) via his arrival in Detroit in circa 1943, first working at a receiving hospital and later at Dodge and Comco Steel (possibly also as a janitor at the Chrysler car plant and "sweeping up" at the Ford Motor Company). He first married Alma Hopes - one daughter, Frances - but they soon parted and he later married Sarah Jones. In late 1944 he met Maude Mathis, married her and had two sons and four daughters (after his separation with Maude in 1970, when John moved to California, he was married to Millie Strom for a while). In the evenings of the mid 1940s John got small jobs at the clubs around Hastings Street (like Forest Inn and Club Basin). Legend has it: T-Bone Walker handed Johnny Lee the first electric guitar, as John became T-Bone's "kid" when T-Bone was working in Detroit during 1946-48. "Johnny Lee" (as most of his friends called him) invented his own "unique" style (non-rhyming, sometimes out-of-rhythm) and was introduced in 1948 to Bernie Besman (of Sensation Records at Woodward Avenue; and co-owner with John Kaplan of the Pan American Record Co.) by Elmer Barbee, Hooker's original "manager", who spotted Hooker playing with his trio at the "Apex" bar on Monroe Street (although "legend" says Besman "discovered" Hooker at Lee Sensation's bar "Russell & Orange" - or at the "Monte Carlo"). Barbee continued to promote Johnnie as his manager - after the Besman introduction - for other record labels up to late 1951, mostly recording in Barbee's record shop at 609 Lafayette Street, but the main records of Hooker's up into 1952 were recorded by Bernie Besman at United Sound Systems Recording Studios Inc. at 5840 2nd Blvd. Besman leased several tracks to the Bihari brothers (Modern - of Hollywood) and soon issued others on the Detroit label Sensation. A total of eight Besman-recorded Modern singles were issued from November 1948 - December 1950 and seven on Sensation (and Regal) from November 1949 - October 1950, plus a further seven on Modern from 1951 - October 1952. Almost a hundred alternates, variations and extras were "kept in the can" and later issued on album compilations.

First recordings - When my first wife left me

Hooker's first recording was done for manager Elmer Barbee in Detroit June 12, 1948 - "Rocks" (a more "natural" title would have been "Miss Sassy Mae") - and shortly thereafter he cut demo recordings around August 1948, "Leavin' Chicago" (aka "Highway Blues") and "Wednesday Evening Blues". These three recordings were originally unissued, but released in Britain 1990 on a CrazyKat LP "Boogie Awhile". Also cut was the combo recording "Miss Sadie Mae"; and demos of "When My First Wife Left Me". That song was issued in a new version as "Drifting From Door To Door" on Modern in 1949.

John Lee Hooker's Early Time-Line



Version 1: Born August 22, 1912

JLH is born on August 22, 1912 in Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi (not far from Clarksdale, Coahoma County), son of preacher and share-cropper William Hooker (born 1871 or possibly a bit earlier; died some time after 1928 - not 1923), and Minnie Ramsey, born 1880. She died around 1950 (based on information from Bob Eagle and Eric S. LeBlanc - 1920 Census, published in their book "A Regional Experience" in 2013). They raise a family of eleven children - not all survive (Charles Shaar Murray). Murray really tried, but did not succeed in verifying this birth year in his revised edition of *Boogie Man* in 2011.

In the 1920 federal census, series T625/Roll 895/page 235, in the city of Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, Supervisor's District 2, Enumeration District 87, Sheet #29 A, lines 18-19 and 25, enumerated February 3, 1920, John Hooker is one of nine children living with William and Minnie Hooker. John is listed as 7 years of age at his last birthday. If accurate - and if his birthday is August 22 as he claimed - John Lee Hooker was born August 22, 1912. Most of his other known siblings (cited in *Boogie Man*) - Daniel, Minnie, Isaac, Archie, Alice, Sarah, Sam, and Mary - are included in the census record (along with their proper relative ages) as well as parents William and Minnie's relative ages, possibly giving greater credibility to the 1912 birthdate. William and Minnie were 48 and 39 years of age, respectively. Given this information, Minnie's year of birth is ca 1880, not 1875. Minnie was thought a "decade or so younger" than husband William again giving further credibility to this census record as corroborative evidence concerning John Lee Hooker's origins.

Version 2: Born August 22, 1917

This is the most frequent - and "official" published date of Hooker's birth. Hooker's Social Security card (Jim O'Neal), registered late 1942 in Lambert, Mississippi, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County on August 22, 1917, to William Hooker and Lee Ethel Moore (ed note: prob the by-then remarried Minnie).

1920

The Hooker family moves to the nearby Fewell plantation in Vance, Quitman and Tallahatchie Counties, Mississippi.

1921-1922

JLH's parents separate. William remarries to Anna (possibly aged 42) and John's mother remarries to sharecropper and spare-time blues singer William Moore.

1928-1930

Starts to play the guitar seriously. He had been given a guitar as a present from Delta blues singer Tony Hollins (born 1909) earlier and a new guitar from Moore now. John Lee is the only child of the Hooker's who moves with his mother to Moore's farm in Lambert, Quitman County, Mississippi (again not far from Clarksdale, Coahoma County). According to the Bob Eagle findings (due to the 1930 census) John did not move to his mother's until after 1930. John is inspired by Moore (who played with Charley Patton, Blind Lemon Jefferson and Son House).

1933-1934

It is often stated John left the Clarksdale area for the first time already at 14 years of age. After a couple of earlier trips to Memphis (to stay with an aunt), Hooker leaves Mississippi for Memphis, Tennessee.

1935

Arrives in Cincinnati, Ohio - singing the gospel and the blues (after a short spell in Knoxville, Tennessee).

1939-1942

Joins the Army forces near Detroit for a short spell - and later probably traveling South again (possibly visiting Alabama and New Orleans. John was registered in Lambert, Mississippi in October 1942). Short-lived marriage with Alma Hopes - one daughter, Frances, in circa 1941. Yet another failed marriage with Sarah Jones.

1943

Settles in Detroit, Michigan, working as janitor at a receiving hospital and later in steel and car industries - and playing the blues at night.

1944

Meets and soon marries Maude Mathis (around 19 at the time) - a marriage lasting for 25 years. Their first child, Diane, born on November 24, 1946 - the second Vera Lee (later known as Zakiya), born on April 1, 1948 - and more to come, including John Lee Jr (on January 15, 1952) and Robert (on July 25, 1953). Later came daughters Karen, Shyonna, and Lavetta.

1947

Receiving yet another guitar - this time from T-Bone Walker, who like many others called Johnnie, "the Kid". Settles in a rooming house on Madison Street and finds more club works around Hastings Street, jamming with Eddie Burns and his partner John T. Smith, and with guitarist Andrew Dunham in clubs like the Forest Inn and Club Basin, and with his own small combo featuring James Watkins, pno and Curtis Foster, dms.

1948

Hooker's first manager, Elmer Barbee, records several demos during the summer in Barbee's record shop (and also "Miss Sadie Mae" in Toledo, Ohio). Barbee (or probably Hooker himself) brings the demos to record producer Bernie Besman and Besman produces Hooker's first commercial recordings at United Sound Systems on 5840 2nd Blvd (on the 3rd of September according to late information) - with Joe Siracuse the engineer (a total of 10 tracks - plus alternates - are cut at this first regular session). Besman leases the recordings to the Bihari Brothers' Hollywood-stationed label Modern Records as John Lee Hooker & His Guitar. On November 3, the first Hooker single is issued, titled "Boogie Chillen'" - which actually is the B-side of "Sally May". That same month Hooker starts "moon-lighting", as manager Barbee sells several recordings to Detroit producer Joe Von Battle - the first pseudonym record being "Black Man Blues", released as Texas Slim on King Records around December - other recordings, which Barbee sells to Battle are resold from Battle to Savoy and its subsidiary Regent. Regent's "Goin' Mad Blues" as by Delta John and Savoy's "Low Down-Midnite Boogie" as by Birmingham Sam are issued during February and March the following year. Hooker lives with his family at Jameson Street off of McClellan and Charlevoix in Detroit.

1949

"Boogie Chillen'" hits the Race Records Juke Box Chart #1 in February. "Hobo Blues" b/w "Hoogie Boogie" (the latter cut at Hooker's second session for Besman in February), issued in March (both hit the Race Records Chart, #5 and #9), "Weeping Willow Boogie" and later "Crawlin' King Snake" become Hooker's Modern Records three follow-up 78s. The latter, peaking at the new R&B Chart #6 in December, is coupled with "Drifting From Door To Door" (which is actually a re-titling of one of Barbee's first demos, "When My First Wife Left Me", which in turn was based on Tony Hollins' "Traveling Man Blues"). Barbee's production for the tiny Danceland label is issued (as by Little Pork Chops), but noone recognizes the record (Barbee also cuts a Hooker demo of "Cotton Pickin' Boogie" with James Watkins at the piano - as all Barbee-recordings waxed at 609 Lafayette Street). In April a Barbee-produced single on Acorn titled "Do The Boogie" is released as by The Boogie Man. Around August Joe Von Battle (who records Hooker in his shop - Joe's Record Shop at 3530 Hastings Street) cuts several Hooker tracks as Texas Slim for King Records (the first issues being "The Numbers" and "Nightmare Blues"). In November and December Besman issues the first two of several singles on the local Detroit label Sensation Records, "Burnin' Hell" (featuring Eddie Burns on harmonica) and "Huckle Up Baby" (the latter record peaks at the R&B Chart #15 in February 1950). The first of several Idessa Malone productions, "Miss Rosie Mae" b/w "Highway Blues", is issued on her labels Prize and Staff during the latter part of 1949 as by Johnny Williams. Pseudonym and pirate records will continue to appear on the market during Hooker's years with Modern Records (even more than the regulars). (Time-Line continued on page 60)

Note: Although Clarksdale, Vance, Lambert, Tutwiler, and Glendora are situated in three different counties they all are within a "stone's throw" distance in the heart of the Mississippi Delta (where so many of the famous Delta blues singers were born). - Heading images: 1959 and 1954.

JOHN LEE HOOKER'S ORIGINAL R&B HITS

Year	Chart entry	Peak	Title	Weeks charted
1949	Jan	# 1	Boogie Chillen' (#1/ 1w)	18
1949	Apr	# 9	Hoogie Boogie	4
1949	May	# 5	Hobo Blues	8
1949	Dec	# 6	Crawlin' King Snake	5
1950	Feb	# 15	Huckle Up Baby	1
1951	Oct	# 1	I'm In The Mood (#1/ 4w)	15
1958	Dec	# 29	I Love You Honey	1
1960	July	# 21	No Shoes	2
1962	June	# 16	Boom Boom	8

JOHN LEE HOOKER - ONE+ PER YEAR CHRONICLE

1947	Drifting From Door To Door	(Modern)	1960	No Shoes	(Vee-Jay)
1948	Boogie Chillen'	(King)	1961	I'm Going Upstairs	-
1948	Black Man Blues	(King)	1961	You Lost A Good Man	(Alco)
1949	Low Down-Midnite Boogie	(Savoy)	1962	Boom Boom	(Vee-Jay)
1949	Crawlin' King Snake	(Modern)	1962	Let's Make It Baby	(Brunswick)
1949	Hoogie Boogie	-	1963	Birmingham Blues	(Vee-Jay)
1950	Wandering Blues	(King)	1964	It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)	-
1950	House Rent Boogie	(Staff/Gotham)	1965	Bottle Up And Go	(Impulse)
1951	I'm In The Mood	(Modern)	1966	One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer	-
1952	Sugar Mama	(Chess)	1967	I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive	-
1952	Blues For Big Town	(Fortuna/Chees)	1968	Hot Spring Water	(Bluesway)
1953	Down Child	(Modern)	1969	I Wanna Be Your Puppy, Baby	-
1954	Boogie Rambler	(Sceptic)	1970	Burning Hell	(Liberty)
1955	Hug And Squeeze / The Syndicator	(Modern)	1971	Don't The Shout	(ABC)
1956	Dimples	(Vee-Jay)	1972	House Rent Boogie (Blues)	-
1957	I See You When You're Weak	-	1973	Younger Stud	-
1958	I Love You Honey	-	1974	Homework	-
1959	Hobo Blues	-	-	exit Bluebird	-
1960	Gonna Use My Rod	(Riverside)	-	-	-

Songs 9-10 (Chess and Bluesway)

The John Lee Hooker Session Discography

- revised and compiled by Claus Röhnisch.

April 7, 2019



The session details in this discography are based on Les Fancourt's Hooker-entry in "The Blues Discography 1943-1970" - The Classic Years - (revised and expanded 3rd edition) by Les Fancourt and Bob McGrath, Eyeball Productions, printed in January 2019 (all editions are reviewed).
- checked in detail (with corrections), updated, and completed with representative LP and CD issues by Claus Röhnisch.

"Boogie Chillen" - a guide by Les Fancourt, and information from Scot Pell, Neil Slaven, Dave Sax, Mike Rowe, Charles Shaar Murray, and Gary Hearn has also been valuable; and inspiration from Frank Scott, Alan Balfour, and Colin Escott. The Michael J. Sweeney and Robert Pruter discography in Goldmine has been studied. The four volumes of the second edition of "The R&B Indies" by Bob McGrath have also been very useful. Original master numbers are given after track title (when known). Master/matrix numbers, which lack sufficient discographical significance, are not noted. All 101 tracks from Hooker's singles on Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay 1948-1962 are featured on Acrobat ACQCD7103 4CD-set "**Singles Collection**", issued on August 5, 2016 (none of the Sensation/Regal recordings and no pirate recordings). Recordings issued on Shout!Factory 4CD Box 826663-10198 "**HOOKER**" (2006) listed for overview (SFBox), and so are the tracks of Craft Recordings 5CD CR00015 (2017) "**King of the Boogie**" marked (CB). The tracks of Charly 4CD "digibook" DIG 5 "**The Boogie Man**" (1994), featuring 1948-1966, are marked (DIG). That box is not identical to the Properbox 4CD (2006) with the same name (featuring 1948-1955). All tracks of Charly CDGR 176 "**Rare Hooker**" (1997) are listed. The tracks of the British INTROTCD01 "**The Very Best of The King of Blues Guitar**" on UnionSquare 3CD (2008) are marked (UI) for overview, and 2CD "**Simply John Lee Hooker**" on Union Square SIMPTNCD026 (2016) marked (UT). For the tracks of the three best "whole career" double-CDs, "**The Ultimate Collection**" (Rhino), "**Gold**" (Hip-O/Universal), and "**Anthology: 50 Years**" (Shout!Factory), see (Part II) page 137.
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr plus accomp as shown. For pseudonym credits, see Singles Discography.

Part One: John Lee Hooker 1948 - 1955 Johnnie Lee's Definitive Detroit

Original singles marked in red

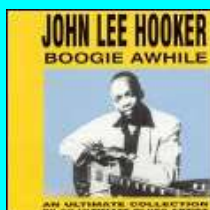
Tracks - not in order of Body & Soul chronological CD issues - but based on the Les Fancourt discography - revised by Claus Röhnisch.
This means the tracks are not in the playing order of the six "public domain" Body & Soul "**The Complete John Lee Hooker**" double CDs, but in a revised and more accurate chrono-order. The Body & Soul CDs (issued 2000-2005), produced by Gilles Pétard, are packed in nice traditional 2CD-sets with extensive inlay booklets including comments and discography by Neil Slaven (and in track order based on the Leadbitter/Slaven "Blues Records" discography 1987). Each session in this part of the discography starts with producer and date of recording - with original vinyl issues and representative CDs. **aaa = alternate of above**. Crown LP 5157 reissued on Kent LP 559 "**The Greatest Hits of...**". All tracks on Bernie Besman's DCC LP/CD DZL 042 "**40th Anniversary Album**" (reissued on Demon FIEND LP and CD 154 "The Detroit Lion") are indicated due to the retitlings (that album also includes "Blues For Abraham Lincoln" from Besman's 1961 California session). The 33 tracks of Krazy Kat KK LP 200 "**Boogie Awhile**" (1990) are noted with the tracks not on the later KrazyKat CD 05 marked (not CD). All tracks on United Artists LPs UALA-127 (3-set) and 5512 also on Capitol 3CD 33912-2 "**Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings**". The tracks on the highly recommended Proper 4CD box PROPERBOX 111 "**The Boogie Man**" (2006) are indicated (P) for overview. The tracks of the "bootleg" LPs on Advent "And His Guitar" and Red Lightnin' (RL) "No Friend Around" are listed, but not those on Danish Official (except for "Too Much Boogie", "Need Somebody", and "Rock Me Mama"). The 26 tracks on the nice "public domain" Southern Routes CD SR-2505 "**The Great John Lee Hooker**" (2016) are marked (SR). The 52 tracks compiled by Neil Slaven and Bob Fisher on Jasmine 2CD JASMCD 3084 "**Gotta Boogie Gotta Sing**" (2017) are marked (J). All Modern singles up to (an incl) 823 had a 20-prefix. *All entries/songs recorded in Detroit, unless otherwise indicated. Besman's sessions done at United Sound Systems with Joe Siracuse, engineer.*

The Greatest Blues: Detroit 1948



The first Body & Soul CD volume, the first Crown LP 5157 "The Blues" (1960), the United/Superior US-7725 reissue of Crown (ca 1970) and an artwork difference on United pressing. The first Specialty LP 2125 "Alone" (1970), issued in UK on Sonet SNTF 5005 (imaged below), and the Kent LP 559 repackaging of Crown 5157 titled "The Greatest Hits of John Lee Hooker" (1971) with similar cover on United 7769 in ca 1974 imaged above.

ULTIMATE CDs SHOWN BELOW



Boogie Awhile on Krazy Kat CD 05 (UK 2000) with similar cover as the 2LP from 1990 (although eleven lesser tracks), featuring 20 early rare Hooker.

Elmer Barbee demo, rec. June 12, 1948

w. unkn,pno; prob J. Scarber,gtr
Rocks (aka Miss Sassy Mae) - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT
Note: "Dupree" with Scarber, vcl also recorded at this session.

Barbee demos, rec. ca August/September, 1948

Leavin' Chicago (aka War Is Over) - KK LP 200, UT
Wednesday Evening Blues - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT
Note: Hooker also recorded demos of "(When) My First Wife Left Me" at the above session, listed as "When My Wife Quit Me" and "When My First Wife Left Me". German 10CD Box-set "Portrait" lists "My First Wife Left Me" and an alternate of "Do The Boogie" from later session - "My First Wife Left Me" is the Vee-Jay/Prestige recording of 1960 (also issued on several other public domain CDs). "War Is Over" and "She Was in Chicago" below are remakes of the two above.
(Imaged above right: the 2-set British LP Krazy Kat KK 200 of 1990).

Barbee "demo", rec. in Toledo, Ohio 1948 (or poss early 1949 - or even later)

w. James Watkins,pno; Curtis Foster,dms
(Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby's Hair (Miss Sadie Mae*) - Fortune 846, Fortune LP 3002*, CB
Note: This is possibly the "combo" recording Besman "rejected" when Barbee presented it to Besman. It is listed as a 1949 recording on the Craft book-box (around the Danceland recordings). It may have been recorded even later. The Fortune single was issued in 1958 (with flip "609 Boogie" - see 1954). Hooker said in an interview in NME in 1982 that "Guess I'm On My Own" for Staff Records was his very first recording (no trace found).



Bernie Besman session, September 3, 1948 (leased to Modern. Modern 627 issued on November 3)

Sally May (Sally Mae* or There Is A Day Comin' Baby** aka Sallie Mae) (7003) 3:06 - Modern 627, Crown LP 5353*, UA LP 127**, Rhino CD R2 70572*, Ace CD 799*, J (see note below)

Sally Mae (aoa - Sally May* aka Sallie Mae) 3:13 - Crown LP 5157, ModernOldies 45-MX4 (prob), Kent LP 5025, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBBox, CR*

War Is Over (Goodbye California) (originally Highway Blues, aka Highway 51) (B 7004) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, UT

See, See Baby (aoa) - GB LP 3130

She Was In Chicago (originally Wednesday Evening Blues) (B 7005) - UA LP 5512, P

Crazy 'Bout That Woman (aoa) - GB LP 3130, UT

Boogie Chillen' (Boogie Chillen*, Boogie Chillun** - originally known as Boogie Woogie - aka Boogie Children) (7006) 3:07 - Modern 627, ModernOldies 45-MX4, Crown LP 5157*, Kent 45-332*, LP 5025*, DCC LP 042*, Mainstream MDCD 903*, Ace CDCHD 315*, Ace CDCHD 405*, Virgin CD 82741, P*, UI**, UT*, SR, J, SFBBox, CB

Henry's Swing Club (aoa - totally different) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Johnny Lee's Original Boogie (aoa - prob the first take - very different) - UA LP 127, UT

Note: The original single version "Sally May", which was the *plugsided* of Modern 627, has an early slight guitar scar, and the phrase "there's a day coming". The alternate on the first Crown LP 5157 does not have that phrase. The flip of that record reedited with echo as "New Boogie Chillen'" on Grand 109 and Modern 893 with "I Tried" (B 7034) by Sylvester Cotton on its flip. The only album issues with the original spelling (of Chillen') are the Rhino anthology CD, the Audio Fidelity CD, and the "Hooker" and "King of the Boogie" CDboxes. Eleven of the 15 tracks on DCC LP/CD also on Audio Fidelity CD AFZ 005 Boogie Chillen', which also has further tracks from Mainstream CD, marked (AF). All tracks of Kent LP 5025 also on Ace CDCHM 530 Original Folk Blues-Plus, also including listed bonus tracks below. Mainstream CD Half A Stranger, SPCD 7018 Graveyard Blues also on Ace CDCHD 421, CDCHD 315 The Legendary Modern Recordings, CDCHD 405 Blues Brother - 24 Vintage Sensation Recordings, CDCHD 799 House Rent Boogie, Virgin CD Blues Kingpins-Blues Immortal. Most tracks of Greene Bottle LP GBS 3130 Johnny Lee 2-set not issued on any regular US CD. "Boogie Chillen'" originally intended for Sensation Records (none found) with the title "Boogie Woogie". Sensation was by then owned by John Kaplan and Besman.

Same session

Drifting From Door To Door (Driftn' From Door To Door* aka When My First Wife Left Me) (B-7007)

- Modern 714, Crown LP 5232, Kent LP 5025*, Ace CDCHD 315, P, UT, SR, J, SFBBox*,

Hobo Blues (7008-B) - Modern 663, Crown LP 5157, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBBox, CB

Long, Long Way From Home (aoa) - UA LP 127, UT

Numbers Blues (aka Playin' The Numbers) (B 7009) - Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul)

She Ain't Good For Nothin' (aoa) - GB LP 3130

Alberta (B 7010?) - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Howlin' Wolf (I'm A Howling Wolf*) (B-7011) - Modern 730, Crown LP 5353*, Modern 45 MX52,

Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, SR

Crawlin' King Snake (Crawling King Snake* or Crawling Kingsnake** aka Crawling King Snake Blues) (B-7012)

- Modern 714, Crown LP 5157*, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903*, Ace CDCHD 315**, Virgin CD 82741, P*, UT, SR*, J, SFBBox, CB

I Rule My Den (aoa) - UA LP 127, UT

Note: "Drifting..," and "Hobo Blues" may be Barbee recordings from mid 1948 handed over to Besman. When Besman sent his first tapes to Modern in September 1948 he offered the "Boogie Chillen'" -session plus the tracks above. Some evidence point to the fact that the alternate of "Numbers Blues", "Well I Got To Leave" (see session from ca. December 1949) is actually the alternate of the above and the alternate listed here is from the 1949 session. The CDCHD 405 lists James Taylor as lead gtr on "Alberta". The nine recordings listed here often reported as recorded February 18, 1949 - see below. The sound quality on Mainstream CD MDCD 903 is superb (mostly mastered from original acetates).

Barbee, rec. ca early November 1948 (sold to Joe Von Battle, resold to Savoy in December)

Mercy Blues (D 1100) - KK LP 200, UI, UT

Boogie Woogie (D 1101) - KK LP 200, J

Helpless Blues (D 1102) - Regent 1001, RL LP 003, P, UI, UT

Good Business (D 1103) - KK LP 200, UI

Goin' Mad Blues (D 1104) (aka Mad Boogie) - Regent 1001, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, DIG, P, UI, UT, CB

Grievin' Blues (D 1105) - Savoy LP 2255

Low Down-Midnite Boogie (Lowdown Midnight Boogie* or Low Down Midnite Boogie**

or Lowdown Midnite Boogie*** aka Talking Boogie) (D 1106) - Savoy 5558, RL LP 003,

Savoy LP 2255*, Charly CDGR 176**, DIG**, P, UI**, J*

Landing Blues (D 1107) - Savoy 5558, RL LP 003, Savoy LP 2255, P, UI

Twister Blues (D 1108) - Savoy LP 2255, J

Shady Grove Blues (D 1109) - Savoy LP 2255, J

Goin' Home Blues (aka Goin' Down Slow) (D 1110) - Savoy LP 2255, UT

Like A Woman (aka Just Like A Woman Blues) (D 1111) - Savoy LP 2255, UI, UT

Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor Slim". All twelve tracks issued on SavoyJazz-Atlantic CD 92910 and Savoy 17078 Savoy Blues Legends -Detroit 1948-1949, and on Metro Doubles CD METRD532 Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions, which also features Hooker's twelve 1961 recordings for Savoy. (Check for [detailed info](#) on the Savoy/Atlantic CD).

Barbee, rec. ca November 1948 (or poss ca December - sold to Battle and resold to King)

Stomp Boogie (Flub*) (K 5590 / K 5594) - King 4283, King 4504, LP 859*(v.a.), RL LP 003,

Polydor LP 2310 256, P, J

Who's Been Jiving You (K 5591) - King LP 885, Pol LP 2310 256, P, UT, CB

Black Man Blues (K 5592) - King 4283, RL LP 003, Pol LP 2310 256, P, UT, SFBBox, CB

Poor Joe (K 5593) - King LP 885, Pol LP 2310 256, UT

Note: King 4283 was the first release of JLH pseudonym recordings (issued around December, 1948 - as by "Texas Slim"). Originally planned to be issued as by "Poor Joe & His Boys" and later intended for King LP 727 John Lee Hooker Sings Blues - Everyone A Pearl (the "Texas Slim" recordings). The American original LP had four Earl Hooker recordings incl "Race Track" together with the other 12 "Texas Slim" recordings. "Flub" credited to Memphis Slim on LP 859 and titled "Unissued, Untitled Instrumental" (as K 5594 on Collectables CD 2877). That CD lists "Black Man Blues" as "Black Man's Blues" and the CD suggests the King 4504 issue actually has "Slim's Stomp" from the Battle session below, re-titled "Stomp Boogie". LP 885 is a Memphis Slim LP of 1964. All 16 King tracks on Polydor LP Slim's Stomp and on Varèse Sarabande CD 302066597-2 I'm A Boogie Man. Other track "confusions" appear on several presentations of LP 727 and on the public domain issues on Real Gone and Soul Jam in 2014.

Same session or poss. as below

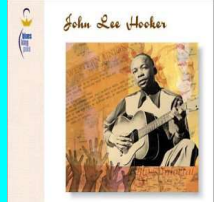
Shake Your Boogie - African Folk Society (Fr) LP 452, KK LP 200, UT

Poor Slim - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT

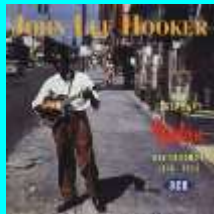
Poor Slim (aoa) - KK LP 200, UT

Down So Long - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT

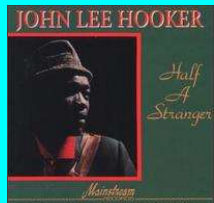
Note: The last track includes conversation with Barbee (and the first track below features a Barbee speech). The first track originally issued on a French bootleg album Down South Blues (v.a.) in the '70s. The two sessions above listed as the first pirate recordings in early Hooker discographies.



Blues Kingpins-Blues Immortal, chronology on Virgin CD 82741-2 (2003) covering 1948-1955.



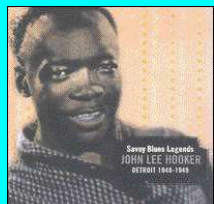
The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954 on Ace CD CHD 315 (UK 1993) - in US Flair CD 39658.



Half A Stranger on Mainstream CD MDCD 903 (UK 1991) featuring superb sounding Detroit recordings ('48-'55).



Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions on MetroDoubles 2CD METRD532 (UK 2004) featuring the 20 "Savoy Blues Legends" tracks plus the 12 Savoy's from ca 1961. Great liner notes and discography by Neil Kellas.



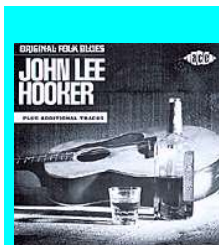
Savoy Blues Legends - Detroit 1948-1949 on Savoy/Atlantic CD 92910-2 (2000); reissued on Savoy 17078 (2002), compiled by Dave Sax with liner notes by Colin Escott.



Johnnie Sings Blues: Detroit 1949



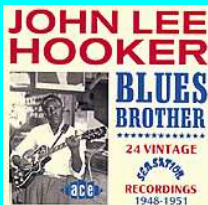
The second Body & Soul CD volume, the King LP 727 "Sings Blues" (late 1960), the British "Sings Blues" on Ember LP 3356 (12 Texas Slim recordings) of 1964, the second Specialty LP 2127 "Goin' Down Highway 51" (1971), King reissue LP KS-1085 (1970) "Moanin' and Stompin' Blues" (12 tracks) and British Polydor LP 2310 256 "Slim's Stomp" (1973) with all 16 Texas Slim recordings.



Original Folk Blues Plus on Ace CD CHM 530 (UK 1994) with Modern recordings (reissue of the LP), plus the following six bonus tracks: Cold Chills, Cool Little Car, I Wonder Little Darling, Jump Me One More Time, Lookin' For A Woman, Ride 'Til I Die.



Pointblank Classics "Danceland Years" CD 40116 (1995) feat five John Lee Hooker 1949 recordings.



Blues Brother on Ace CD CHD 405 (UK 1992) with Besman recordings (mostly for Sensation).



Graveyard Blues on Specialty SPCD 7018 / Ace CDCHD 421 (1992) with 20 tracks from the '70s Specialty albums.



40th Anniversary Album on DCC CD DZS 042 (US 1989).

Barbee, rec. prob. ca February 1949 (or poss. ca December 1948)

Miss Pearl Boogie (JB 1402) - KK LP 200, J

Morning Blues (JB 1403) (*aka Sittin' And Thinkin' JB 1408*) - Acorn 308, RL LP 003, KK LP 200, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P

Boogie Awhile (JB 1407) (*aka Boogie Baby JB 1460*) - KK LP 200, P, J

Tuesday Evening (Tuesday Evening Blues* *aka Miss Lorraine* version 1) (JB 1461) - KK LP 200, P*, UI

Miss Lorraine (U 1943) - Chance 1108, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P

Note: Hooker calls himself "Slim" (incl. "Miss Lorraine") and plays acoustic guitar.. The first four tracks also on Savoy and Metro Doubles CDs (with JB 1461 titled "Tuesday Evening Blues"). The alternate titles on this session and next are unissued speeded-up versions. Charly CD GR 176 Rare Hooker. JB 1403 unedited on KKLP and Savoy. Last track listed by Fancourt as an alternate of "Tuesday Evening Blues" (as recorded ca. February, 1949 – wrong matrix U 1948). Thanks Dave Sax for the info on the Savoy sessions.

Barbee, rec. prob. ca February 1949 (or poss. ca December 1948)

w. James Watkins,pno; Curtis Foster,dms

Do The Boogie (JB 1404) - Acorn 308, RL LP 003, KK LP 200, Charly CD GR 176, DIG, P, UI, J

Christmas Time Blues (*aka Hard Luck Blues JB 1406*) - KK LP 200

609 Boogie (*Six O' Nine Boogie**) (U 2060) (*aka Alabama Boogie and After Hours Blues JB 1405*) - Chance 1122, Constellation LP 6, Pointblank CD 40116*, DIG, P, J

Road Trouble (U 2061) (*aka In My Father's House JB 1401*) - Chance 1122, Constellation LP 6, DIG, P
Notes: Hooker calls himself "Poor Slim" - tracks planned to be issued as "Alabama Slim". Elmer Barbee is featured with vocal comments on some of the above two sessions. All titles also on Savoy and Metro Doubles CDs (with unedited versions of 2060/2061). "Six O'Nine Boogie (take 1)" and (take 2) on Pointblank CD 40116 are identical unedited versions. An alternate version of "Do The Boogie" is listed together with the above on the 10CD box set "Portrait" (Past Perfect 10CD 205565 - German bootleg). Eight tracks from the last two sessions sold to Joe Von Battle (see "JB-masters"), and purchased by Savoy.

Barbee demos, rec. early 1949 (sold to Joe Von Battle)

w. James Watkins,pno

Cotton Pickin' Boogie - KK LP 200, Pointblank CD 40116

Low Down Boogie - KK LP 200 (not CD)

We Gonna Make Everything Alright - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT

Must I Wait Til Your Man Is Gone (Must I Wait Til Your Man Has Gone -KK CD05) - KK LP 200

Roll Me Baby - KK LP 200 (not CD)

Don't Trust Your Woman - unissued

Note: "Cotton..." found on an Audiodisc demo record. Hooker calls himself "Poor Tony".

Barbee, rec. ca February or poss March 1949

Wayne County Ramblin' Blues - Danceland 403, KK LP 200, Pointblank CD 40116, UT

w. James Watkins,pno, Curtis Foster,dms. James Watkins or poss Elmer Barbee, vcl

Grievin' Blues (1949 Grievin' Blues – Part One*) - Danceland 403, KK LP 200 (not CD), Pointblank CD 40116*

Note: The Danceland issues are speeded-up. No Hooker vocals on "Grievin' Blues".

Idessa Malone - Prize session, early 1949

Miss Rosie Mae - Prize 704, Staff 704, KK LP 200 (not CD), UI

Miss Rosie Mae (aoa) - Prize 704 (repressing), KK LP 200

Highway Blues - Prize 704, Staff 704, KK LP 200, UI

Besman session, prob. February 16 or 18, 1949 (also see note)

Whistlin' And Moanin' Blues (Whistling And Moaning* or Hummin' The Blues**) (7033)

- Modern 688, Crown LP 5157*, Kent LP 5025, UA LP 127**, P, J

Hoogie Boogie (7036-A) - Modern 663, Crown LP 5157, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, SR, J, SFBBox, CB

Hastings Street Boogie (aoa) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, UT

My Own Boogie (aoa) - GB LP 3130

Snap Them Fingers Boogie (*aka Rhythm No. 2*) (aoa) - UA LP 127

Build Myself A Cave - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7018, UT, J

Build Myself A Cave (aoa) - Ace CD 799 (not on Body&Soul)

Momma Poppa Boogie - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Graveyard Blues - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Note: Master nos. B 7033 and B 7036 also used for Sylvester Cotton; actually B 7021-B 7038 (Sept 30 and Oct 1, 1948 - also previously listed as Dec 20, 1948).

Besman session, poss as above - or March/April 1949

w. Eddie Burns,hca-1, Andrew Dunham, JamesTaylor or John T. Smith,gtr-2

Miss Eloise (Miss Eloise, Miss Eloise*) -1 (B-7039) - Sensation 34, Regal 3295, Advent LP 2801, UA LP 5512*, P, J

Burnin' Hell -1 (B-7040) - Sensation 21, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, UT, CB

Sailing Blues -1 - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Black Cat Blues -1/2 - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7018, UT

I Had A Dream -2 (aoa) - UA LP 127

Note: Last three titles poss. April 2, 1951 recordings. John T. Smith or Sylvester Cotton are listed as guitarists on some Besman reissues (although the latest information is James Taylor).

Barbee - Chance recordings, early 1949

Talkin' Boogie (*aka Slappin' The Boogie*) (U 1949) - Chance 1108, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P, J

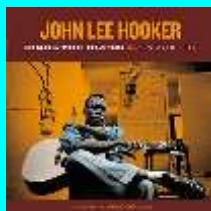
I Love To Boogie (*aka Boogie Baby*) (U 1986) - Chance 1110, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P, UT

I Love To Boogie (aoa) - KK LP 200 (U 1986 titled Love To Boogie on original 78 rpm Chance 1110)

Graveyard Blues (U 1987) - Chance 1110, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P

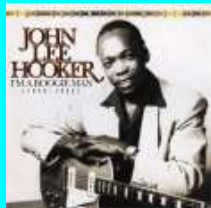
Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor John". All Chance tracks appear on Charly LP 1067 "Chicago Blues Masters Vol. 3".



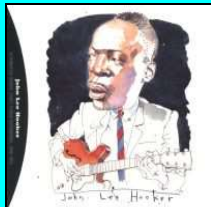


Sings The Blues plus Sings Blues - two LPs on one CD - SoulJam 60083, issued late 2014. Crown LP 5232 + King LP 727 and some bonus tracks.

Please note that "Don't You Remember Me" (the King version) is wrongly omitted.



I'm A Boogie Man - The Essential Masters 1948-1953 on Varese Sarabande CD 302066571-2 (2004) with all 16 King Texas Slim plus three rare DeLuxe recordings.



Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings, 1948-1952 on Capitol 3CD 33912-2 (1995) featuring the 56 tracks from the '70s United Artists albums (including seven from 1961).

Besman session, ca July 1949

w. *Bernie Besman, alternate percussions -1*

Weeping Willow Boogie (Weeping Willow*) -1 (7053) - Modern 688, Crown LP 5157*, Modern 45 MX24*, Kent LP 5025, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, J, SFBox, CB

My Baby She's Long And Tall (aoa) -1 - UA LP 127

Miss Sadie Mae (B-7054) - Sensation 21, Specialty LP 2127, SPCD 7018

Forgive Me - UA LP 5512, P

Sometime - UA LP 127, P

Sail On Little Girl (Sail On Little Girl Sail On*) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018*

Alberta Part 2 - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, UT

Note: Modern 688 issued in July, 1949. "Alberta Part 2" noted as recorded February 18, 1949 or February 27 on some Specialty issues. "Sail On Little Girl Sail On" also listed as recorded February 27, 1950.



Joe Von Battle - King session, ca August 1949

Nightmare Blues (K 5769) - King 4323, LP 727, P, UT

Late Last Night (aoa, K 5770-3) - King 4366, LP 727, Federal 12377, P

Wandering Blues (K 5771) - King 4334, LP 727, P, SFBox

Don't Go Baby (K 5772) - King 4334, King 6298, LP 727, P

Devil's Jump (K 5773) - King 4315, LP 727, P

I'm Gonna Kill That Woman (K 5774) - King 4323, LP 727, P

Moaning Blues (Moaning And Stomping Blues*) (K 5775-2) - King 4377, King 4504, King 6298*, LP 727, P, CB

The Numbers (K 5776) - King 4315, LP 727, P

Note: Drums dubbed on Federal and several later issues, including Pulse PLS CD 349, which has all 16 Texas Slim recordings. All 16 King tracks on Varese Sarabande CD 302066597-2 I'm A Boogie Man. Echo added to LP 727 and reissues, except on the UK Polydor LP 310 256 Slim's Stomp.

Battle - King session, ca September 1949

Heart Trouble Blues (K 5790) - King 4329, LP 727, P, UT

Slim's Stomp (K 5791) - King 4329, LP 727, P, J

Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor Slim". Fancourt notes these two King sessions may be Barbee recordings, sold to Battle.

Besman session, ca December 1949

No Friend Around (TB's Killing Me*) (B8010) - Modern 746, RL LP 003, UA LP 127*, P, UT, SR*

Wednesday Evening (She Left Me On My Bended Knee* or She Left Me**) (B8011) - Modern 746, Crown LP 5232*, Crown LP 5353**, UA LP 127 (edited versions - see note), Ace CDCHD 315, P, J

Canal Street Blues (B-8012) - Sensation 26, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Playing The Races (Dream A Number*) (B-8013) - Modern 730, Kent LP 9006, GB LP 3130*, Ace CDCHD 315, P, UT, SR

Well I Got To Leave (aoa) - UA LP 127

Huckle Up Baby (B-8014) - Sensation 26, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, SFBox, CB

Note: B 8011 issued in two edited versions on UA LP 127 as "Baby Please Don't Go" and "I Was Beggin' My Baby". Above session definitely late 1949, since "Huckle Up Baby" was released in December, 1949. "Huckle Up Baby" and "Canal Street Blues" noted as recorded February 8, 1950 (and February 27, 1950) on Specialty issues.

Johnny Lee Sings the Blues: Detroit 1950



The third Body & Soul CD volume, the Crown LP 5232 "Sings The Blues" (1961), the Custom CM-2048/CS 1048 (1966 and 1972) reissue and the United reissue US-7710 (in 1969) of the Crown LP - now titled "Driftin' Thru The Blues" (also issued on British Ember 3371 in 1966 - image below) with the same cover - plus a later version imaged above top right, labeled *United/Superior*, the first United Artists Hooker LP 5512 "Coast To Coast Blues Band - Any where Any time Any place" (1971), and the Greene Bottle 2-set LP GBS 3130 "Johnny Lee" (1972 - [tracks list and label images](#)).



"John Lee Hooker" on Castle Pulse PLSCD 349 (UK 2000), featuring the 16 Texas Slim tracks, with overdubbed drums on some tracks.



"Gotta Boogie Gotta Sing" on Jasmine 2CD JASDCD3084 (2017) with 52 Modern and other labels' classic tracks 1948-1954

Besman session, poss. February 8 or 27, 1950

w. *James Watkins, pno-1*

Let Your Daddy Ride (Slow Down Your Chatter Baby*) -1 (8017) - Sensation 30, UA LP 127*, P, UT, SFBox, (see note)

Let Your Daddy Ride -1 (aoa, B-8017) - Modern 790, Crown LP 5232, Kent LP 5025, Ace CDCHD 315, SR

Goin' On Highway 51 (Goin' Down Highway 51* or Goin' On Highway #51**) (B-8018)

- Sensation 30, Specialty LP 2127*, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018*, UT*, CB**

The Moon Above - GB LP 3130

She Left Me By Myself - UA LP 127, P

No Mortgage On My Soul -1 - UA LP 127, P, UT

Note: All tracks of Kent LP 5025 (except possibly the Modern single version of above) also on Ace CDCHM 530 (which has B-8017 listed as an alternate). The bonus tracks on that CD are listed separately. "The Moon Above" poss a recording from c. Sept -49 or even 1952/53. "Goin' Down Highway 51" listed as recorded February 27, 1950 on Specialty issues and titled "Goin On Highway #51" on the Craft Recordings box.



Malone - King recordings, ca March 1950 (sold from Staff to King in August)

Thinking Blues (K 5890-2) - King 4377, LP 727, P

Don't You Remember Me (K 5891-1) - King 4366, LP 727, Federal 12377, P, SFBox

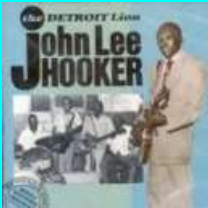
Note: Drums dubbed on Federal and several later issues including Pulse PLS CD 349. John calls himself "Johnny" (prob intended to be issued as by Johnny Williams).

Battle - Gone recordings, prob. early-mid 1950

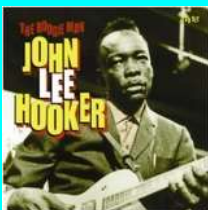
Mad Man Blues - Gone 60/61, Chess 1462, LP 1454, Chess MCD 09391, DIG, P

Boogie Now (Hey Boogie*) - Gone 60/61, Chess 1462, LP 1454*, Chess MCD 09391*, P*, J

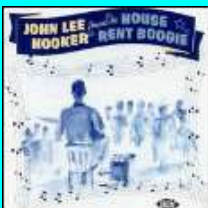
Note: Hooker calls himself "Sam". Echo added on Chess LPs. Intro on "Hey Boogie" omitted on LP 1454.



The Detroit Lion on Demon FIEND CD 154 (UK 1990) British version of the DCC album



The Boogie Man on Proper 4CD Properbox 111 (UK 2006) with several rare and several famous early Detroit recordings – for Modern, Chess, King and other labels (98 tracks, great inlay booklet and a nice price).



House Rent Boogie on Ace CDCHD 799 (UK 2001) with rare and previously unissued Modern recordings.

Besman session, April 28, 1950

- My Baby's Got Somethin'** (B-8035) - Sensation 33, RL LP 003, Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P
- Decoration Day Blues** (Lord Taketh My Baby Away*) (B-8036) - Sensation 33, RL LP 003, UA LP 5512*, P, SR*
- Boogie Chillen' #2** (I Gotta Be Comin' Back* aka Boogie Chillen 2) (B-8037) - Sensation 34, Regal 3295, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, UA LP 127*, Ace CDCHD 405, P* SR*
- 21 Boogie** (aoa) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, J
- Jump Chillun** (aoa) - GB LP 3130
- Roll 'n' Roll** (I Cried The Whole Night Long*) (B-8040) - Modern 767, RL LP 003, GB LP 3130*, Ace CD 799
- Rollin' Blues** (aoa) - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018
- Crying All Night** (aoa) - UA LP 5512, P
- One More Time** (Lets Talk It Over* or Come Back Baby** aka Let's Think It Over) (B-8042) - Modern 790, Crown LP 5353*, UA LP 5512**, P**, J
- Three Long Years Today** - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P
- Strike Blues** - Specialty LP 2127, SPCD 7035, P
- Welfare Blues** (aoa) - UA LP 5512
- Lord What More Can I Do** (aoa) - UA LP 127
- Turnin' Gray Blues** - UA LP 5512, P

Note: B-8037 has first line omitted on LP 2125. "Do My Baby Think Of Me" and its alternate listed at April 2, 1951 session below. Session date on Body & Soul incorrect. "My Baby's Got Something" noted as recorded February 8, 1950 and as April 28, 1950 on different Specialty issues. Greene Bottle LP 3130 Johnny Lee, 2-set, never issued on CD. Regal is a New Jersey label. Several of the given Specialty recording dates seem very approximate (but DCC has been more accurate).

Besman session, ca August, 1950

- Give Me Your Phone Number** (It's A Crime And A Shame*) (B-8047) - Modern 767, UA LP 127*, P*, SR*
- You Sure Look Good To Me** (aoa) - GB LP 3130
- Notoriety Woman** (No Place To Stay*) (B 8048) - Regal 3304, GB LP 3130*, J, SFBBox
- Throw This Old Dog A Bone** (aoa) - UA LP 5512, P
- Never Satisfied** (Just Like A Woman*) (B 8049) - Regal 3304, UA LP5512*, P*, SR*, J
- The Story Of A Married Woman** (aoa) - UA LP 127, P
- Moon Is Rising** - UA LP 5512, P
- Please Have Mercy** - GB LP 3130



tracks of Official LP 6029

Note: Session date on Body & Soul incorrect; Modern 767 issued in August..

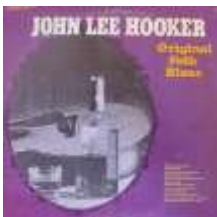
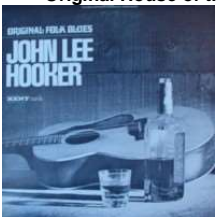
Malone - Staff recordings, ca October, 1950

- Wandering Blues** - Staff 710, Gotham 506, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, Collectables LP/CD 5151, DIG
 - House Rent Boogie** - Staff 710, Gotham 506, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, Collectables LP/CD 5151, DIG, P
- Note: Gotham 506 issued in December, 1950. There is a Johnny Williams single on Staff 711 with Sunnyland / Bull Headed Woman rumoured to be John Lee Hooker recordings.

Besman session, November 16, 1950

- John L's House Rent Boogie** (House Rent Boogie* or Out The Door I Went** aka John Lee's House Rent Boogie) (B-9001) - Modern 814, CLP 5157*, Modern 45 MX52, UA LP 127**, SR**, J, SFBBox, CB
 - House Rent Boogie** (Hey, 'S The House Rent Boogie**) (aoa) – DCC LP 042**, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCHD 799 (the alternate not on Body & Soul)
 - Queen Bee** (B-9002) – Modern 814, Crown LP 5157, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, SR, J
 - Don't You Remember Me** (Can I Say Hello*) – Crown LP 5232, UA LP 127*, P*, SR*, J
 - You've Got Another Man** (Hello Baby*) (aoa) – GB LP 3130, DCC LP 042(not AF)*
 - Grinder Man** – Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P
 - If You Need My Lovin' Baby** (aoa) – GB LP 3130
 - I Met The Grindin' Man** (aoa) – UA LP 127
 - Nobody To Talk To Me** (aka Mean Old Train) - UA LP 127, Ace CD 799
 - Walkin' This Highway** – Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7035
- Note. "Grinder Man" noted as recorded on February 8, 1950 on the Specialty issues. Last title may be of slightly diff. date. Specialty SPCD 7035 Everybody's Blues also on Ace CDCHD 474.

Original House of the Blues: Detroit 1951



The fourth Body & Soul CD volume, the first Chess LP 1438 "House of the Blues" (1959), the Kent LP 5025 "Original Folk Blues" (1967), the UA 3-LPset UA-LA 127-J3 "John Lee Hooker's Detroit" (1973), the United US-7746 reissue of the Kent LP (released ca 1972), and the British Ace CH 37 LP "John Lee Hooker volume one" (1981 – see tracks). There was not to be a volume two.

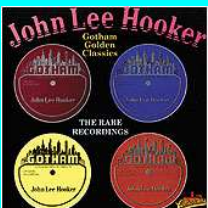
Prob Detroit, for Gotham, ca March 1951 (possibly Battle recordings; often listed as recorded in Philadelphia)

- Questionnaire Blues** (BL-1) – Gotham 509, Advent LP 2801, P
- Real Gone Gal** (aka Real Gone Guy) (BL-2) – Gotham 509, Advent LP 2801, P
- Little Boy Blue** (BL-3) – Gotham 513
- My Daddy Was A Jockey** (BL-4) – Gotham 513, Advent LP 2801, P
- Mean Old Train** (BL 6-1)– Gotham 515, Advent LP 2801
- Catfish** (aka Cat Fish) (BL 7-1) – Gotham 515, Advent LP 2801, P
- Feed Her All Night** – KK LP 816
- Feed Her All Night** (aoa) – unissued
- How Long Must I Be Your Slave** – KK LP 816, J
- Ground Hog** – KK LP 816
- Union Station – Jail House Blues – Looking For My Baby** – unissued



Flyright FLY CD 23

Krazy Kat KK 816

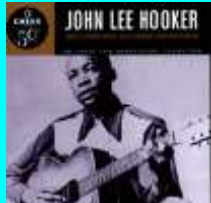


Gotham Golden Classics – The Rare Recordings on Collectables CD COL 5151 (1998).

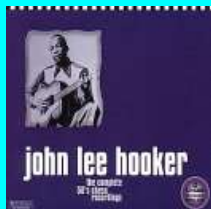
Note: Gotham is a Philadelphia label. Neil Slaven lists these as 1950 recordings. Gotham 509 issued in early 1951 and 515 in March, 1952. All the 9 issued titles (plus the earlier Gotham single) are featured on Krazy Kat KK LP 816 (the British Detroit Blues 1987), and on Collectables CD 5151 in 1998 - Gotham Golden Classics / The Rare Recordings – 11 tracks; and on UK Flyright FLY CD 23 in 1990 Detroit Blues, which also features Eddie Burns and Baby Boy Warren – 19 tracks. KK LP 816 with extra tracks by Eddie Burns, is identical to Collectables CD 5316 – 16 tracks. "How Long Must I Be Your Slave" has ? in title on Jasmine.



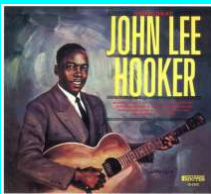
Specialty Profiles on Specialty SPCD 30053 (2006) with tracks from the previous Specialty CDs.



The Complete 50s Chess Recordings on US Chess/MCA 2CD MCD 2-9391 (1998).



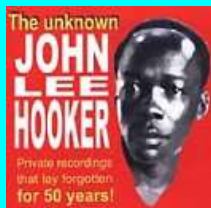
European version of The Complete 50s Chess Recordings on Chess/Universal 2CD 09391 (UK 1998) - all the tracks from the '60s Chess LPs plus the alternate "Walkin' The Boogie" and six further Fortune recordings - a total of 31 tracks.



The Great John Lee Hooker On Southern Routes CD SR-2505 with 26 great Besman / Modern tracks 1948-1953 (issued March 2016)



Jack O' Diamonds on Eagle CD 20024 (2004).



The Unknown on Flyright FLYCD 57 (UK 2000).

By Eddie Burns, vcl/hca; 1951 (Hooker, speech and gtr), unknown extra gtr, dms

Where Did You Stay Last Night - KK LP 816 (Body & Soul Vol 5)

Note: This track was sold to Gotham by Battle on July 25, 1951. Flyright CD 23 (Detroit Blues) has a bonus track, "Decoration Day Blues", by Eddie Burns, featuring John T. Smith, gtr (not Hooker), although the CD states it's Hooker.

Malone - Staff recordings, ca early 1951 (or possibly late 1950)

w. Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison, pno; Curtis Foster, dms

Prison Bound - Staff 718, SwingTime 266, Polydor (v.a) LP 423242, KK LP 200 (not CD), Charly CD GR176

Bumble Bee Blues - Staff 718, SwingTime 266, LP 423242, KK LP 200 (not CD), Charly CD GR176. SFBBox

Note: There is a Polydor LP, "All Star Blues", which mistakenly credits two West Texas Slim recordings as by John Lee Hooker, and the Staff single 717 ("I Got Lucky") by Johnny Williams is Baby Boy Warren with Harrison and Foster (not Hooker). LP 423242 (1967) titled "California Blues".



Besman recordings, prob. April 2, 1951

Do My Baby Think Of Me? - Specialty LP 2125, DCC LP 042, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P

I Don't Be Welcome Here (aoa) - UA LP 127, P

Note: Date above given on Besman's DCC LP - and probably correct, although Slaven, Sax and Fancourt list the tracks together with the "Strike Blues" session of 1950. "Do My Baby Think Of Me" wrongly noted as recorded April 2 (and April 28), 1950 on some Specialty issues.

Besman session, April 2, 1951

w. Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1

Woman In My Life (Four Women In My Life*) -1 (1560) - Modern 829, Kent LP 9006, Specialty LP 2127*,

Ace CDCHD 315, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035*, P*, SR, J*

I'm Going Away (Four Women In My Life*) -1 (aoa) - UA LP 127, DCC LP 042*

Tease Me Baby (Tease Your Daddy*) (1561) - Modern 829, Crown LP 5353*, Ace CDCHD 315, J

I Need Lovin' (aoa) - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035

Tease Me Baby (aoa) - GB LP 3130

Looking For Romance (Movin' On Down The Line*) -1 - Kent LP 9006, GB LP 3130*

Streets Is Filled With Women (aoa) -1 - UA LP 5512

Reach My Goal (Find Me A Woman*) - Kent LP 9006, Specialty LP 2127*, Ace CDCHD 405*, SPCD 7035*

Me And A Woman (I'm Gonna Get Me A Woman*) (aoa) - UA LP 127, DCC LP 042*

Whistle Done Blown -1 - UA LP 5512

Note: The Specialty edition of the first track has an intro not on the earlier issues; and the last track may be of slightly diff. date.

Chess session, Chicago April 26, 1951 (Joe Von Battle or Leonard Chess, producer?)

w. Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1

Louise -1 (U 7326) - Chess 1482, Modern 852 (BS 7551), Chess LP 1438, DIG, P

High Priced Woman -1 (U 7327) - Chess 1505, LP 1438, DIG, P

Union Station Blues (U 7328) - Chess 1505, LP 1438, DIG, P

Just Me And My Telephone (aka Me And My Phone) -1 (U 7329?) - Chess LP 1454, DIG, SFBBox

Ground Hog Blues (U 7330) - Chess 1482, Modern 852 (BS 7550), Chess LP 1438, DIG, P

Leave My Wife Alone (U 7331) - Chess 1467, LP 1438, DIG, P, J, SFBBox

Dreamin' Blues (U 7332? -also listed as U 7334) - Chess LP 1454, DIG

Ramblin' By Myself (U 7333) - Chess 1467, LP 1438, DIG, P, J

Note: All Chess recordings issued on MCA/Chess CD MCD 09391 The Complete 50's Chess Recordings.



Besman session, August 7, 1951

w. Hooker extra dubbed gtr on -1, and Little Eddie Kirkland, second gtr (plus vcls on -2)

How Can You Do It -1 (1635) - Modern 835, Crown LP 5353, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, J

I Work For Her Every Day (Baby How Can You Do It?*) -1 (aoa) - GB LP 3130, DCC LP 042*

Throw My Money Around (undubbed version of above) - UA LP 127 (not on Body & Soul)

Johnny Lee's Mood (Original One Voice aka I'm In The Mood) - UA LP 5512, J

Two Voice Original Mood - UA LP 127

I'm In The Mood -1 (Three Voice Original Mood*) (1636) - Modern 835, Crown LP 5157, Kent 45-332,

Modern 45 MX24, UA LP 127*, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBBox, CB

I'm In The Mood (aoa - one voice) - DCC LP 042, Mainstream MDCC 903

I'm In The Mood (with Hooker hca dub on MM 1636) - Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul)

Anybody Seen My Baby (Johnny Says Come Back*) (1637) - Modern 847, Crown LP 5157, UA LP 127*,

Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741

I Did Everything (aoa) - UA LP 127

Turn Over A New Leaf (This Is 19 and 52, Babe* aka 1952 Blues) (1638) - Modern 847, Crown LP 5232,

DCC LP 042* (not AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, J

Let's Talk It Over -2 - Modern 935, Crown LP 5295, Kent LP 5025, DCC LP 042 (see note), Ace CD 799, J

Note: Dbl track Hooker vcls on original issues (triple on 835), also dbl track vcls (both Hooker and Kirkland) on original 78 of Modern

935 July, 1954. That last title often listed as a 1952 recording together with the "Rock House Boogie" session or as May 22, 1952; but

listed as being recorded as above on DCC LP - and has the title "Let's Talk It Over (One More Time)" on Audio Fidelity CD (which also

has a comma on "Baby, How Can You Do It?").

Gene Deitch private recordings, August, 1951 Pleasant Ridge, Michigan (not on Body & Soul)

Two sessions in Detroit - one of the sessions listed as **August 16** (the original statement was **October 18, 1949**)

(issued on Flyright FLYCD57 - "The Unknown" - and reissued on Eagle CD 20024 as "Jack O' Diamonds").

First session:

Guitar Blues Instrumental

Two White Horses

Trouble In Mind

Catfish Blues

John Henry

How Long Blues

Ezekiel Saw The Wheel

Jack O' Diamonds

Water Boy (Bring That Water 'Round)

Six Little Puppies And Twelve Shaggy Hounds

In The Evenin' When The Sun Goes Down

Old Blind Barnabus

Moses Smote The Water

Spoken Interlude (Thinking About Death)

Rabbit On The Log

Come And See About Me

Second session (with audience):

33 Blues (God Knows I Can't Last Long!)

She's Real Gone

I Wonder

Untitled Slow Blues (aka Anybody Seen My Baby)

Unissued from first session: John Henry (2nd version), Child's Prayer, I Wonder (1st version), and unknown title.

"Catfish Blues" and "Moses Smote The Water" issued on SFBBox. "Two White Horses" and "33 Blues" issued on CB.

John L. Plays & Sings Folk Blues: Detroit 1952



The fifth Body & Soul CD volume, the second Chess LP 1454 "Plays & Sings the Blues" (1961), the Crown LP 5295 "Folk Blues" (1962), the United/Superior US-7729 reissue of "Folk Blues" (ca 1971), with the later re-covered United issue, and the Savoy v.a. 2-LP S.J.L. 2255 "Southern Blues" including seven early Barbee-produced Hooker tracks (issued 1981).



Danish Official CD 86065 (1990)
Cold Chills with 16 rare Modern tracks.



The EP Collection ..Plus on See For Miles CD 402 (UK 1994) with 24 Chess sides (mostly '50s).



Blues Greats (from the Gefen series of 2011) 100YearsOfBlues 34575, with 20 tracks covering 1950-1968 from Chess, and ABC-BluesWay-Impulse.



The Boogie Man on 4-set CD Charly DIG 5 (UK 1994) with a total of 80 tracks covering 1948-1966 (excluding Modern), Hard-to-find!

Besman session, ca January, 1952

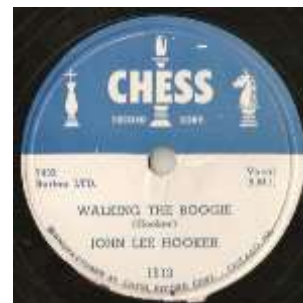
w. *Bernie Besman* (or poss *Buddy Johnson*), org; and *dubbed extra vcls* (Hooker) and *instruments* (xylophone on -1)
Cold Chills All Over Me (Cold Chills* or I Got Drunk**) - Modern 862 -1, Crown LP 5157* -1, GB LP 3130**, UT**
Cold Chills (aoa or poss unedited "take 3") - Ace CDHCD 530; **above titled "I Got Drunk (Sonny Boy's Cold Chills)" on UT
Rock Me Mama (Good Rockin' Mama*) - Modern 862, Crown LP 5232*, GB LP 3130, Official CD 86065
I Came To You Baby - UA LP 127
Someone To Love - UA LP 127 (w. *dubbed extra gtr*)
 Note: "Cold Chills" and "Rock Me Mama" issued in three editions each on GB LP 3130 (*titled* take 1,2,3) and "Someone To Love" issued in alternate editions on UA LP 127 - take 1 and 2. Body & Soul Vol 5 has all versions.

Chess session (prob. Detroit), April 24, 1952 (Besman, producer?)

Dbl track vcl and extra dubbed (speeded-up) gtr and poss dms on -1
Walking The Boogie (Walkin' The Boogie*) -1 (U 7432) - Chess 1513, LP 1438*, P*

Walkin' The Boogie (unedited) - Chess LP 8203, LP 9102, DIG, J
Sugar Mama (U 7433) - Chess 1513, LP 1438, DIG, P, UT, CB
I Don't Want Your Money - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P
Hey, Baby - Chess LP 1454, DIG
The Journey (aka Sentimental Journey) - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Bluebird (aka Bluebird Blues) - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P
Love Blues - Chess LP 1438
Apologize - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Lonely Boy Boogie (aka New Boogie) - Chess LP 1454, DIG, J
Please Don't Go (aka Baby Please Don't Go) - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Worried Life Blues - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P
Down At The Landing - Chess LP 1438, DIG

Note: All Chess recordings issued on MCA/Chess MCD 09391. "Lonely Boy Boogie" has a slightly longer ending - and "The Journey" a longer intro on that CD (unedited). Jasmine has the spelling "Walking The Boogie".



Besman session, May 22, 1952

w. *Little Eddie Kirkland*, gtr (and vcl-1); *Bernie Besman*, org-2
It Hurts Me So -1/2 - Modern 876, Crown LP 5353, DCC LP 042
I Got Eyes For You (Yes, Baby, Baby, Baby* or Yes, Baby, Baby**) - Modern 876, Crown LP 5353, DCC LP 042*, Audio Fidelity CD AFX005**, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, CB
I Got Eyes For You (aoa) - Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul)
Key To The Highway -1/2 - Modern 886, Crown LP 5353, UT
I Got The Key (aoa) (Key To The Highway*) -1/2 - DCC LP 042(not AF), Ace CDCHD 799*, J
Bluebird Blues (Bluebird, Bluebird Take A Letter Down South* or Bluebird, Take A Letter Down South** or Blue Bird Blues***) - Modern 886, DCC LP 042*, Audio Fidelity CD AFX005**, Ace CD 799***
 Note: Double-track voice on several issues of the above titles.

By "Little" *Eddie Kirkland*, vcl/gtr with Hooker guitar
It's Time For My Lovin' To Be Done - RPM 367, Kent LP 9006
That's All Right - RPM 367, Kent LP 9006

Besman recordings, mid/late 1952

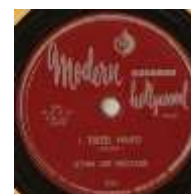
w. *Bob Thurman*, pno; *Eddie Burns*, dbd hca-1; *Kirkland* or *Hooker*, extra gtr-2; *poss unkn dubbed bs-3; unkn celeste* (no pno, no hca) -4
It's My Own Fault (aka It's My Fault) -3 - Chess 1562, LP 1438, Chess MCD 09391 (video)
It's My Own Fault -1 (edited version of above) - Fortune LP 3002
Baby I Prove My Love To You (unedited version of above) - GB LP 3130
Blues For Big Town -2 - Fortune LP 3002, Chess LP 8119, Chess MCD 09391, DIG, P, SFBox
Juke Bug -1 (instrumental) - Fortune LP 3002
You Have Two Hearts -4 - Chess MCD 09391 (not on Body&Soul)
 Note: "It's My Own Fault" has dbl track vcl on Chess/MCA issues; hca dubbed on Fortune issue; GB issue no double track and no hca (unedited original recording) - the alternate versions not on Body & Soul.

Fortune Records, ca 1952 (sold to Chess)

w. *Bob Thurman* or *Boogie Woogie Red*, pno; *unknown*, gtr (poss overdubbed or *Eddie Kirkland*); *prob Tom Whitehead*, dms
Women And Money (aka Money And Women) - Chess 1562, LP 1438, Chess MCD 09391

Joe Bihari - Joe Siracuse productions, December 3, 1952

w. *Johnny Hooks*, tens; *Boogie Woogie Red*, pno; *Jimmy Turner*, dms; (*dbl track vcl on-1*)
It's Been A Long Time Baby -1 - Modern 897, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741
Ride 'Til I Die - Modern 907, Ace LP 37, Ace CDCHM 530
I Tried Hard -1 - Modern 935, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741



Bihari - Siracuse productions, 1952

w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr
Rock House Boogie - Modern 897, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, J
It's Stormin' And Rainin' - Modern 901, Ace CD799, J
Cool Little Car - Modern 942, Ace LP 37, Ace CDCHM 530
Lookin' For A Woman - Modern 978, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHM 530
 Note: Dbl track vcl on Modern 897, 901, 978 singles - the Mainstream CD has the original unedited masters.

The Great JLH Sings His Blues: Detroit 1953 – 1955



The sixth Body & Soul CD volume, the Crown LP 5353 "The Great JLH" (1963), the Atco LP 33-151 "Don't Turn Me From Your Door - JLH Sings His Blues" (1963), the United/Superior US-7731 reissue of Crown 5353 titled "The Great Blues Sounds of JLH" (ca 1971), and the later United cover; plus the v.a. LP "Hooker Hopkins Hogg" on Specialty SNFT 5013 (Europe 1973).



Don't Turn Me From Your Door - John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues on Atco/Atlantic CD 7-82365-2 (1992) now with all 16 tracks from the Atlantic "Detroit Special" LP 7228 (imaged right) of 1972 - the 12 listed here from 1953, plus 4 from 1961.



The Great John Lee Hooker (the Japanese version of Legendary Modern Recordings - 24 tracks) on P-Vine CD 3035.



Boogie Chillen' on Audio Fidelity CD AFZ 005 (2003). Besman and Siracuse recordings 1948-1955 with tracks from the "40" Anniversary and "Half A Stranger" CDs.



Everybody's Blues on Specialty SPCD 7035 / Ace CDCHD 474 (1993) featuring the remaining eight tracks from the '70s Specialty LPs plus almost a complete 1954 Specialty chronology.

Bihari - Siracuse productions, June 26, 1953
w. *Boogie Woogie Red*, pno; *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr; *Tom Whitehead*, dms
Love Money Can't Buy - Modern 908, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, J
Please Take Me Back - Modern 908, Ace CDCHD 315, SR

Henry Stone session, prob. Cincinnati (or poss Miami), July 1953
w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr-1 (and sec.vcl-2)
Please Say You're Mine (GR 15117) - unissued (poss. not Hooker)
My Baby Don't Love Me (15118) - DeLuxe 6046, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877
Blue Monday (I Ain't Got Nobody*) -1 (15119) - Rockin' 524, DeLuxe 6004, Chart 614*, Atlantic LP 7228, Collectables CD 2877*, J
Misbelieving Baby (My Baby Put Me Down*) (15120) - Chart 614, Atlantic LP 7228*
Love My Baby (aoa) (15121) - Atco LP 151
Wobbling Baby -1 (15122) - Chart 609, Atlantic LP 7228, CB
Pouring Down Rain (Wobblin' Baby*) -1 (aoa) (15123) - Rockin' 525, DeLuxe 6032, Atco LP 151*, J
Goin' South (15124) - Chart 609, Atlantic LP 7228
Real, Real Gone (aoa) (15125) - DeLuxe 6046, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877
Lovin' Guitar Man (Guitar Lovin' Man*) -1/2 (15126) - Rockin' 524, DeLuxe 6004*, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877, J
Stuttering Blues (Stutterin' Blues*) (15127) - Rockin 525, DeLuxe 6032, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877*, SFBBox, CB
Hook's Boogie (I Ain't Got Nobody*) (A 5626) - Atco LP 151* (see note)
Sleepy Blues (Misbelieving Baby*) (A 5627) - Atco LP 151* (see note)
Note: Rockin' and DeLuxe matrix prefix GR-, Chart-prefix C-. Last two tracks are instrumentals most certainly recorded in 1961 (listed here due to overview of mistitlings). All 12 tracks issued on Atlantic LP 7228 Detroit Special (1972 - imaged above) and on Atco CD 7-82365-2 Don't Turn Me From Your Door. Collectables COL CD 2877 I'm The Boogie Man has 15 of the 16 Texas Slim recordings, and also the three DeLuxe recordings from below plus the tracks listed above.



Atlantic LP 7228 (1972)



Bihari - Siracuse productions, ca August 1953
w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr
Too Much Boogie - Modern 916, Official LP 6029, Ace CDCHD 315, J
Need Somebody - Modern 916, Official CD 86065, Ace CDCHD 315, P

Battle recordings, September 1953
w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr
I Came To See You Baby (GV-2-113) - DeLuxe 6009, Collectables CD COL2877
I'm A Boogie Man (I'm The Boogie Man*) (GV-2-114) - DeLuxe 6009, Collectables CD COL2877*, J, CB
My Baby Left Me (GV-2-115) - originally unissued, CD COL2877, Varèse Sarabande CD 301066597-2
Note: Last track only issued on Collectables and Varèse Sarabande. Varèse I'm A Boogie Man has all the original 16 Texas Slim recordings plus the three recordings above. Last track not on Body & Soul. 113 and 114 also issued on the French version of Crazy Kat CD 05.



Battle recordings, ca mid/late 1953 (rec prior to above acc to Dave Sax - in some files listed as rec ca May, 1955)
w. *Jimmy Miller*, tpt; *Johnny Hooks*, tens; *Joe Woods*, pno; *Tom Whitehead*, dms
Boogie Rambler (SO-48) - JVB 30, KK LP 200, DIG
No More Doggin' (SO-49) - JVB 30, KK LP 200
Note: JVB single issued either late 1953 (R&B Indies and KK) or ca 1955 (Fancourt).

Bihari - Siracuse productions, late 1953
w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr
Down Child - Modern 923, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, SFBBox, CB, J
Gotta Boogie (Gonna Boogie*) - Modern 923, Crown LP 5295*, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF)*, Ace CDCHD 315, SR, J



Bad Boy - Modern 942, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR
Note: Louisiana Red reported to be present on "Down Child" according to (early) Les Fancourt. "Boogie Woogie All Night Long" on Crown LP 5232 is by Louisiana Red (calling himself Rockin' Red on that track, and prob features John on guitar - recorded 1953).

Bihari - Siracuse productions, February 6, 1954
w. *Eddie Kirkland*, gtr -1
I Wonder Little Darling - Modern 931, Ace CDCHM 530
Jump Me (One More Time) -1 - Modern 931, Ace CDCHD 315, Ace CDCHM 530, SR

Johnny Vincent session (Esquire Rec. Studios) - Specialty, May 12/13, 1954
w. *Johnny Hooks*, tens; *John Griffith*, pno; *Theophilus Roosevelt*, b; *Tom Whitehead*, dms
I'm Mad - Specialty 528, SPCD 7035
I Been Done So Wrong (tk 1) - Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013
I Been Done So Wrong (tk 2) - PeaVine (J) PCD1854/55 (not on Body&Soul)
I Been Done So Wrong (aoa) - Specialty SPCD 7035 (not on Body&Soul)
Boogie Rambler - Specialty SPCD 7035, SFBBox
I Keep The Blues - Specialty SPCD 7035
No More Doggin' aka No More Foolin' - Specialty SPCD 7035
I Do Like I Please - Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013 (not on Specialty CD, only on Body&Soul)
w. *Roosevelt*, b; *Whitehead*, dms
Anybody's Blues (I Love You Baby) - Specialty SPCD 7035
Everybody's Blues - Specialty 528, Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013, SPCD 7035
Locked Up In Jail (aka Prison Blues) - Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013, SPCD 7035, UT





From Detroit to Chicago 1954-1958 on Sagabluets (46) 532 122-3 (France 2009).



Rare Hooker on Charly CDGR 176 (UK 1996), featuring 12 early pirate recordings, 3 rare Vee-Jay and 2 Fortune recordings (1960), plus 5 Newport bootlegs. The CD was later a third of the Dressed To Kill 3-CD DTKBOX90.



Simply John Lee Hooker on Union Square SIMPTNCD026 (UK 2016), 3CD TIN (54 tracks), featuring many rare early recordings (pirates and Modern) plus a couple of Vee-Jay (and She's Long, She's Tall... from Riverside 1959). No liner notes.

Siracuse session (United Sound Studios) - Specialty, October 18, 1954

Hooker, vcl/gtr

Don't Trust Nobody (I Had A Good Girl*) - Specialty LP 2117, Ace LP 232*(v.a.), Specialty SPCD 7035
Nothin' But Trouble* (Don't Take Your Wife's Family In) - Specialty LP 2149*, SPCD 7035, J
I Need Love So Bad - Specialty LP 2149, SPCD 7035
Odds Against Me (aka Backbiters and Syndicators) – Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013, SPCD 7035, CB

Bihari (Siracuse) recordings, late 1954

w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr/leadgtr-1

Half A Stranger - Modern 948, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF), Ace CD 799
Baby You Ain't No Good (Baby, You Ain't No Ugly Good*) - Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD 903, Audio Fidelity CD AFZ005*, Ace CD 799, SFBox
Baby I'm Gonna Miss You (Baby, I'm Gonna Miss You*) - Crown LP 5295, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF)*
You Receive Me -1 - Modern 958, Ace CD 799

Bihari (Siracuse) recordings, prob. ca November 1954

w. Otis Finch, tens; Bob Thurman or John Griffith, pno; Eddie Kirkland, gtr/leadgtr-1; prob. unknown bs; Tom Whitehead, dms. Add on -2: Johnny Hooks, tens plus prob. unknown baritone sax.

Shake, Holler And Run (aka Shake Holler & Run) -2 - Modern 948, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD903, CB
I Need Love So Bad - Crown LP 5353, Kent LP 5025
Taxi Driver -1 - Modern 958, Ace CD 799
I'm Ready - Modern 978, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, UT, SFBox

Note: Above titles prob rec. at more than one session. "Shake Holler And Run" listed on Body & Soul but on early pressings "Boogie Chiller" wrongly appears instead, "Shake, Holler And Run" appears on the French "public-domain" CD of 2009 From Detroit to Chicago 1954-1958 (Sagabluets 46 - 532 122-3) together with "Taxi Driver", "Hug And Squeeze You" and "I'm Ready" (the last four Modern A-sides) plus the JVB single 30 and the first eight Vee-Jay singles (22 tracks total).

Fortune recordings, ca 1954

w. Johnny Hooks, tensax, pno, dms; Devora Brown, intro speech

609 Boogie - Fortune 846, HiQ 5018X, (Body & Soul Vol 3)
w. Jimmy Miller, tpt; Johnny Hooks, tens; Bob Thurman, pno; Tom Whitehead, dms
Big Fine Woman - HiQ 5018, Elmor 303, Fortune LP 3002, Chess MCD 09391, DIG
Cry Baby (Cry Baby Cry*) - Fortune 853, Chess MCD 09391*, DIG
Love You Baby (Tell Me, Baby*) - Fortune 853, Chess MCD 09391*, DIG
Blues For Christmas - HiQ 5018, Elmor 303, Chess MCD 09391

Note: Last four not on Body & Soul. "Big Fine Woman" unedited on Chess. "609 Boogie" may be of an earlier date; and was reissued as flip of some Hi-Q 5018 "Blues For Christmas" releases (see *Singles Discography*).



Bihari (Siracuse) recordings, prob. mid 1955

w. Otis Finch, tens; Bob Thurman, pno; prob unknown bs; Tom Whitehead, dms

Hug And Squeeze (Hug And Squeeze You* or Hug & Squeeze** - Modern 966, Crown LP 5232*, Mainstream MDCD 903**, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741
I Love You Baby (I Love Ya Baby*) (aoa) - Crown LP 5232, Mainstream MDCD 903*
The Syndicator (The Syndicate* aka Backbiters And Syndicators) - Modern 966, Crown LP 5232*, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF), Virgin CD 82741



The John Lee Hooker Session Discography - revised and compiled by Claus Röhnisch

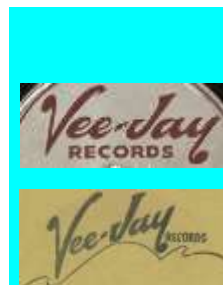
The session details in this discography are based on Les Fancourt's Hooker-entry in "The Blues Discography 1943-1970" - The Classic Years - (revised and expanded 3rd edition) by Les Fancourt and Bob McGrath, Eyeball Productions, printed in January 2019 (all editions are reviewed).
- checked in detail (with corrections), updated, and completed with representative LP and CD issues by Claus Röhnisch.

"Boogie Chillen" - a guide by Les Fancourt, and information from Scot Pell, Neil Slaven, Dave Sax, Mike Rowe, Charles Shaar Murray, and Gary Hearn has also been valuable; and inspiration from Frank Scott, Alan Balfour, and Colin Escott. The Michael J. Sweeney and Robert Pruter discography in Goldmine has been studied. The four volumes of the second edition of "The R&B Indies" by Bob McGrath have also been very useful. Master/matrix numbers, which lack sufficient discographical significance, are not noted. Recordings issued on Shout!Factory 4CD Box 826663-10198 "HOOKER" (2006) listed for overview (SFBBox), and so are the tracks of Craft Recordings 5CD CR00015 (2017) "King of the Boogie" marked (CB). The tracks of Charly 4CD "digibook" DIG 5 "The Boogie Man" (1994), featuring 1948-1966, are marked (DIG). That box is not identical to the Properbox 4CD (2006) with the same name (featuring 1948-1955). All tracks of Charly CDGR 176 "Rare Hooker" (1997) are listed. The tracks of the British INTROTCD01 "The Very Best of The King of Blues Guitar" on 3CD UnionSquare (2008) are marked (UI) for overview, and 2CD "Simply John Lee Hooker" on Union Square SIMPTNCD026 (2016) marked (UT). Original master numbers are given after track title (when known). All 101 tracks from Hooker's singles on Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay 1948-1962 are featured on Acrobat ACQCD7103 4CD-set "Singles Collection", issued on August 5, 2016 (none of the Sensation/Regal recordings and no pirate recordings).
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr plus accomp as shown. For pseudonym credits, see *Singles Discography*.

Part Two: The Complete 1955 - 1964 Vee-Jay Sessions Johnnie Lee Hooker in Chicago

- compiled by Claus Röhnisch (based on Les Fancourt's entry in "The Blues Discography 1943-1970", and on my own record collection). **aoa** = alternate of above. Original title followed by master number. Only **original vinyl issues** are listed (e.g. Charly and DJM tracks listed when not on any previous VJ album). Please note that the discography **not** has the completely identical track order of the Charly 6-set CD RED Box 6 "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964" (1992), although most of the tracks are included in that CD-box (126 titles). The first four Vee-Jay LPs (1007, 1023, 1033 and 1043) reissued on Charly CDs GR 281 (1998), 284 (1999), 300 (2000) and 298 (2000) - stereo - and with bonus tracks as noted (reissued with SNAP catalogue numbers in 2003). Nine of Hooker's Vee-Jay LPs also reissued on Collectables CDs. All tracks on Tomato 2CD-set TOM 9906/7 "The Early Years" (1994) are marked (TOM) for overview. All tracks on Charly 3CD-set SNAJ 705 CD "Testament" (2001) are listed, marked (Te), and the tracks of Italian FruitTree 2CD-set ft821 "Giant of Blues" (2002) are marked (F). All 40 (F)-marked tracks also on "Testament" (Te), which has a total of 60 tracks. Tracks on the 3CD Metro TIN METRTN014 "The Essential Collection" (2010 - 60 tracks) are marked (MT). Tracks on MetroDoubles 2CD METRD0644 "At His Very Best" (2010 - 50 tracks), which are not on the TIN-set are marked (MD). Unless otherwise indicated, all recordings done in Chicago - mostly Universal Recording Studios, produced by Jimmy Bracken (and possibly Ewert Abner) early on, but especially by Calvin Carter and soon Al Smith (mostly engineered by Bernie Clapper). The 16 tracks featured on Vee-Jay/Craft CD 02058 "Whiskey & Wimmen - John Lee Hooker's Finest", issued in May, 2017, listed (VJC).

Original singles marked in red. **Note: Starting in 1959 Hooker also recorded several "folk sessions" for other labels - see part Three.**



ULTIMATE CDs SHOWN BELOW

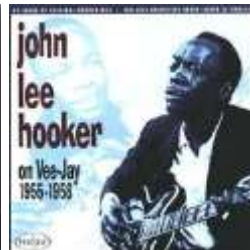
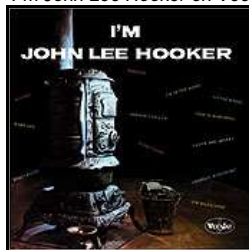


The Tomato 2-set CD "The Early Years" TOM 9906/7 (1994) with 30 Vee-Jay classics and liner notes by Pete Welding (also on Rhino 71569). Reissued as two single CDs in 2003 (TOM 2082/83)



The 3CD-set "Testament" on Charly-Snapper SNAJ705CD (UK 2001) - two diff. covers. Featuring 60 classic Vee-Jay recordings.

I'm John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay



Vee-Jay LP 1007 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (1959, reissued on Collectables CD 7100 in 2000), the British DJM 2-set LP 28026 "Dimples" of 1977 (chronol1955-1958), Vee-Jay CD NVD2-713 "On Vee-Jay 1955-1958" (issued 1993), and two late 1959/early 1960 EPs on Top Rank, TEP 130 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (Sweden very rare), and the French RES 136 "John Lee Hooker".

October 19, 1955

w. Jimmy Reed, hca; Eddie Taylor, gtr; George Washington, b; Tom Whitehead, dms

Unfriendly Woman (aka Stop Now) (336) - VJ 265, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDGR281, Te, MT, CB (see note)

Wheel And Deal (337) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, MT

Mambo Chillun (aka Mambo Children) (338) - VJ 164, DJM LP 28026, MD, UI, UT, CB

Time Is Marching (Time Is Marching On* or Time Is Marchin**) (339) - VJ 164, LP 1007, LP 8502, TOM*, DIG, Properbox111**, F**, MT, UI, UT, VJC, CB

Note: 336 presented as an alternate take on the Craft book-box as 3:28 (not issued on single - but it is the same 2:50 as on Charly and Te). The DJM-version is presented as 2:13, and the single is presented as 2:48. (TEP 130 is missing in the EP section of Part II).

March 27, 1956

w. Taylor, Washington, Whitehead

I'm So Worried Baby (443) - VJ 233, VJCD 713, Charly CDGR176 (not on RED 6)

I'm So Worried Baby (I'm So Worried, Baby*) (aoa) - DJM LP 28026, VJ Japan Box, (and on CD RED 6), CDGR281, F*

Baby Lee (444) - VJ 205, LP 1007, TOM, DIG, F, MT, UI

Dimples (445) - VJ 205, LP 1007, TopRank TEP 130, VJ LP 1049, Stateside 45 SS297 (1964), Trip 169, TOM, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, UI, UT, MT, SFBBox, VJC, CB

Every Night (446) - VJ 188, LP 1007, DIG, Te, SFBBox

The Road Is So Rough (aka When I Started Hoboing) (447) - VJ 233, TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, F, MT

Trouble Blues (448) - VJ 188, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDGR281, F, MT

Note: There are two alternates of "Dimples" listed (a piano and an instrumental version) on a JH 22 track bootleg CD on Members Edition issued in 2002. Imaged below: The GNP Crescendo GNPS 2-10007 2-set LP of 1974.

June 7, 1956

w. Otis Finch, tens; plus unknown pno; Taylor, Washington, Whitehead

Done Got Tired (479) - unissued

Stop Talking (480) - DJM LP 28026, Vee-Jay CD NVD2-713, MT

Time And A Half (481) - unissued

Lonely Blues (482) - unissued

March 1, 1957

w. Taylor, Quinn Wilson, b; Whitehead

Everybody Rockin' (633) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, F, MD

I'm So Excited (634) - VJ 245, LP 1007, TOM, DIG, F, UI, SFBBox

I See You When You're Weak (635) - VJ 245, Vee-Jay CD 713, Charly CDGR 176 (not on RED 6), UI

I See You When You're Weak (I Can See You When You're Weak*) (aoa) - DJM LP 28026,

VJ Japan Box (and on CD RED 6), MT*

Crawlin' Black Spider (aka Mean Old Snake) (636) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, Te, MD

June 23, 1957

w. Frankie Bradford, pno; Taylor, gtr; Everett McCrary, b; Richard Johnson, dms

Little Wheel (717) - VJ 255, LP 1007, LP 1049, F, MT, UI, CB

Little Fine Woman (718) - DJM LP 28026, Te

Rosie Mae (aka Nothing But Trouble) (719) - VJ 255, DJM LP 28026, Te, MT

You Can Lead Me Baby (aka Lead Me On) (720) - VJ 265, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDGR281, Te

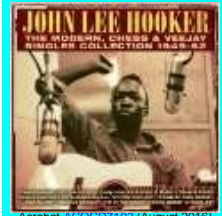




"I'm Going Home" (released October 2014) covering the ten "rehearsal" recordings of June 10, 1958 on LP, plus 927 and 928 on Devil's Tunes CD 002.



"Blues in Transition 1955-1959" – 2CD-set on Jasmine 562 (2010), featuring 25 of Hooker's 26 chronos Vee-Jay 1955-1959 plus all the 25 Riverside tracks of 1959.



Acrobat ACQCD7103 (August 2016) – a 4CD-set with 101 singles tracks from Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay 1949-1962.



(from VJ 366 and LP 1023)



The four Charly CDs SNAP 130 (GR281), 145 (GR 284), 073 (GR300), and 041 (GR 298) reissues of the first four Vee-Jay LPs, featuring several bonus tracks (originally 1998-2000 in Germany and UK and in 2003 in UK). "I'm John Lee Hooker" also reissued on US Shout!Factory (2007).

June 10, 1958

w. Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Taylor, McCrary, Johnson

I Love You Honey (I Love You, Honey*) (927) - VJ 293, LP 1007, TEP 130, DIG, F*, MT, UI, SFBBox, VJC, CB

You've Taken My Woman (928) - VJ 293, DJM LP 28026, Te

Mama You Got A Daughter (Mama, You Got A Daughter*) (929) - VJ CD 713, DIG, Charly CDGR176*, Te*, MT*, UI

I'm Gonna Love You (930) - unissued

Note: 22 original tracks of above including the three here (with the single versions of the alternates; and none of the Devil's Tunes tracks) issued on Vee-Jay CD NVD2-713 in 1993. Master 929 not on RED Box 6. Some files note Bob Porter as pianist (prob incorrectly).

"rehearsal" session, prob for Vee-Jay on June 10, 1958 (no master numbers)

prob w. McCrary and Johnson

Mama, You've Got A Daughter (Mama You Got A Daughter*) - DJM LP 28026, Chameleon LP 74794*, MD, The Devil's Tunes LP/CD002* (wrongly listed as master 929 on RED 6)

Nightmare - Charly LP 1029, CDGR284, Chameleon LP 74794, Te, MT

House Rent Boogie - Charly LP 1004, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, Te, MT

Trying To Find A Woman - Charly CD RED Box 6

Drive Me Away - Charly LP 1029, CDGR284, Te, CB

I'm Goin' Home (I'm Going Home*) - Instant LP 5009, The Devil's Tunes LP/CD002*

Love Me All The Time - Charly LP 1029, CDGR284

Lou Della - Instant LP 5009, MT

Bundle Up And Go - Charly CD RED Box 6, CDGR284

Wrong Doin' Woman - Charly LP 1029

All ten above issued on The Devil's Tunes LP002 (with accomp/date as above and with track titles as on *) plus 927-928 above added as bonus tracks on the CD. Les Fancourt lists the recordings as from ca 1959/60.

January 22, 1959 (produced by Calvin Carter and Jimmy Bracken)

w. Eddie Taylor, gtr-1; Earl Phillips, dms-2 (Hooke, gtr and foot-tapping)

Maudie -1,2 (1067) - VJ 308, LP 1007, TopRank TEP 130, F, MT, CB

Tennessee Blues -1,2 (1068) - VJ 319, Charly LP 1029, MT

I'm In The Mood -1 (1069) - VJ 308, LP 1007, LP 1049, Trip 167, DIG, F, MT, UI, VJC

Boogie Chillun (Boogie Chillun*) (1070) - VJ 319, LP 1007, LP 1049, Trip 167*, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, VJC*

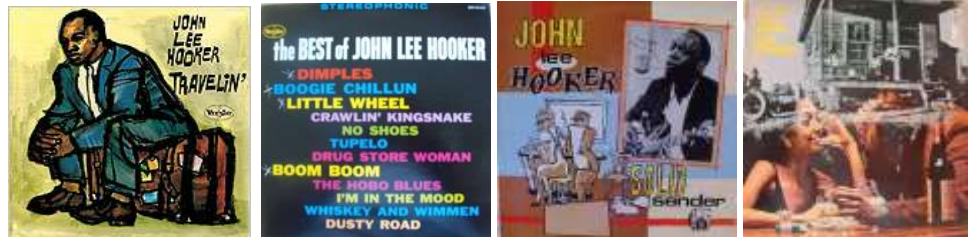
Hobo Blues (The Hobo Blues*-front cover) (1071) - VJ 331, LP 1007, LP 1049*, F, DIG, MT, UI

Crawlin' Kingsnake (Crawlin' King Snake* or Crawlin' Kingsnake**) (1072) - VJ 331, LP 1007*, TEP 130**, VJ LP 1049**, LP 8502*, DIG**, Chameleon LP 74794**, F**, MT**, UI*, VJC**

"rehearsal" (prob New York City) w. unknown dms and poss. bs (prob a Riverside Febr. 1960 recording)

When I Lay My Burden Down – originally unissued, Craft 5CD book-box (from April 1959-February 1960 Hooker was "leased" to Riverside)

Travelin' the Best



Vee-Jay LP 1023 "Travelin'" (1960, reissued on Collectables CD 7101 in 2000), LP 1049 "The Best of John Lee Hooker" (1962, reissued on SuiteBeat/Vee-Jay SB CD 2012 with same cover in 1986), the Charly LP 1081 "Solid Sender" of 1984 (reissue of the Travelin' LP plus bonus tracks), and the Buddha 4002 reissue of LP 1049 - "The Very Best of John Lee Hooker" (1970). Below: UK Stateside EP SE 1008 (1962).

March 1, 1960 (prob. Al Smith, producer – and poss also Calvin Carter)

vcl/gtr only on -1 w. William "Lefty" Bates, gtr; Sylvester Hickman, b (not -2); Jimmy Turner, dms

I Wanna Walk (aka I Want To Walk) (1373) - VJ LP 1023, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, MT

Canal Street Blues (1374) - VJ LP 1023, MD

I'll Know Tonight (1375) - VJ LP 1023

I Can't Believe (1376) -1 - VJ LP 1023, F

Goin' To California (1377) - VJ LP 1023, MT

Whiskey And Wimmen (Whiskey & Women* aka Whiskey And Wimmen') (1378) - VJ LP 1023, LP 1049, LP 8502, Goldies45 2451 single 1973, TOM*, Chameleon LP 74794*, Te, MT, UT, SFBBox, VJC (some later issues slightly longer ending)

Run On (1379) - VJ LP 1023

Solid Sender (1380) -2 - VJ 349, LP 1023, F, MD, UI

Sunny Land (aka Notoriety Woman) (1381) - VJ LP 1023, F

Dusty Road (aka Big Road) (1382) - VJ 366, LP 1023, LP 1049, Stateside EP SE 1008, TOM, DIG, F, MT, UI, CB

I'm A Stranger (1383) - VJ LP 1023, Te

No Shoes (1384) - VJ 349, LP 1023, LP 1049, TOM, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, SFBBox, VJC, CB

Note: VJLP 1023 later issued in stereo, some with SR-prefix. Stateside EP (1962) has 2 tracks by Jimmy Reed on A-side.

The Folk Lore of the World's Greatest



Vee-Jay LP 1033 "The Folk Lore Of JLH" (1961, reissued on Collectables CD 7129 in 2000) and LP 8502 "Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer" (1965, reissued on Collectables CD 7107 in 2000), the Charly LP 1029 "Moanin' The Blues" of 1981, and the British Stateside EP SE 1019 "The Blues of John Lee Hooker" (1964 – featuring "Whiskey And Wimmen", "Drug Store Woman", "Boogie Chillun", and "Little Wheel".

Purchased from Prestige, supervised by Esmond Edwards, rec. NYC April 29, 1960 (JLH, vcl/gtr)

Sally Mae (as Sadie Mae*) (1772) - Charly LP 1029, Charly LP 1081*, F, UI

I Like To See You Walk (1773) - VJ LP 1033





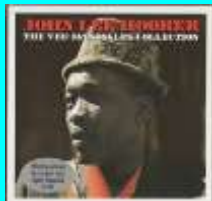
3CD-set "The intro collection - The Very Best of The King of Blues Guitar" (2008) on British Union Square INTROTCD01 with nine Savoy and 36 Vee-Jay classics packed in a nice box with presentations of each track by Joe Cushman.



"This Is Hip - (The Best of)" on Recall/Charly SMDCD 187 (1999 - 2-set CD with 36 great VJ tracks).



"Don't Look Back - The Best of the Giant of the Blues" on Charly/Snapper SBLUE CD020 (UK 2004) featuring 20 chronological Vee-Jay tracks 1955-1964.



"The Vee-Jay Singles Collection" NOT2CD518 (2-set UK Not Now CD issued 2013) featuring the 17 singles plus six bonus tracks (1955-1962).



Vee-Jay LP 1043 "Burnin'" (1962, reissued on Collectables CD 7106 in 2000) and the 2-set Vee-Jay LP 2-1004 "Gold" (issued ca 1977 - comprising the tracks of "I'm John Lee Hooker" and "The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker"), the Charly LP 1014 "Everybody Rockin'" of 1981, and the British Stateside EP SE 1023 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (1964 - featuring "I'm So Excited", "Baby Lee", "Time Is Marching", and "Maudie"). Below: the Japanese P-Vine "The Vee-Jay Box 6-CD" of 1998.



The 6CD-box "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964" on Charly RED Box 6 (UK 1992), featuring 127 tracks including "Don't Look Back" twice. Track order: chronological. Top image - CD One of six.

Take Me As I Am (1774) - VJ 397, LP 1033
You're Looking Good Tonight (1775) - VJ LP 1033
Moanin' Blues (1776) - Charly LP 1029, DIG, Charly CDGR300, Te, MT, UI
Wednesday Evening Blues (1777) - VJ LP 1033, LP 8502, F
You're Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone (1793) - Charly LP 1029, CDGR300
Dirty Ground Hog (1794) - Instant LP 5009, Charly CDGR300, F, MT
Blues Walkin' (aka untitled instrumental) (1795) - unissued (2206)
Five Long Years (1796) - VJ LP 1033, Te, MT, UI
My First Wife Left Me (1797) - VJ LP 1033, DIG, Te, MT, UI, CB
She Loves My Best Friend (1798) - Charly CD RED Box 6
Come And Ride With Me (aka Automobile Blues) - unissued (2210)
My Heart's In Misery (aka My Heart In Memory) - unissued (2211)
 Note: There is an acetate on United Artists Music Group, featuring the three unissued tracks plus an alternate, shorter Sallie Mae (2198alt?). The acetate features four J LH and four Sonny Terry tracks. Thanks for this info, Scot. 12 of above (Prestige masters 2198-2209) remastered by Vee-Jay in 1961 (1772-77 / 1793-98 series),



Purchased from Vanguard, rec. Newport, June 25, 1960

w. *Bill Lee, b*
The Hobo (Hobo Blues* aka Dusty Road) (1622) - VJ LP 1033, Vanguard LP 2087*, Vanguard CD 79703*, MT, CB*
Maudie (1623) - Vanguard LP 2087 (v.a.), VJ LP 8502, Charly CDGR300, Vanguard CD 79703, CB
Tupelo (aka Backwater Blues) (1624) - VJ 366, LP 1033, LP 1049, Vanguard LP 2087, Te, MT, UI
 Note: On June 29 Hooker recorded a speech in New York for Paul Oliver's Decca compilation LP 4664 Conversation With The Blues, given the title "Somewhere Down The Line" (issued 1965).

Bootleg recordings, live Newport, July 3, 1960 (Vee-Jay not involved)

w. *the Muddy Waters band: James Cotton, hca; Otis Spann, pno, Pat Hare, gtr; Andrew Stephens, b; Francis Clay, dms*
My Own Fault - Charly DIG 5
Maudie - Charly DIG 5
I Wanna Walk - Charly DIG 5
Tupelo - Charly DIG 5
I Wish You Were Here (aka Ain't Nobody Home) - Charly DIG 5
 Note: Above not on Charly CD RED Box 6, but all five on Charly CDGR 176 "Rare Hooker" (1997). Stefan Grossman's "Rare Performances 1960-1984" DVD features tracks one and five as "It's My Own Fault" and "Come Back Baby", wrongly recorded as on July 28.

Detroit, ca July, 1960 - Fortune Records (not Vee-Jay)

Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison, pno; Little Eddie Kirkland or poss. Roy Hooker?, gtr; Tom Whitehead, dms
Crazy About That Walk - Fortune 855, DIG 5, Charly CDGR 176, CB
We're All God's Chillun - Fortune 855, DIG 5, Charly CDGR 176, SFBBox
Have Mercy On Poor Me - Fortune LP 3012, Charly DIG 5
 Note: above not on Charly CD RED Box 6. "Have Mercy On Poor Me" has instrumental intro omitted on DIG 5.
I'm Mad Again (Hooker only vcl/gtr) - unissued

January 4, 1961

w. *William "Lefty" Bates, hca-1/gtr; Quinn Wilson, b; Earl Phillips, dms; poss. Pops Staples, gtr.*
Want Ad Blues (1715) - VJ 397, LP 1033, LP 8502, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, CB
Will The Circle Be Unbroken (1716) - Dynasty DST 4501 single 1973, LP 7301, MT, CB
I'm Going Upstairs (aka I'm Goin' Upstairs) (1717) - VJ 379, LP 1033, TOM, F, UI, SFBBox, VJC, CB
I Left My Baby -1 (1718) - Charly LP 1081
Hard Headed Woman -1 (1719) - VJ LP 1033, TOM
I'm Mad Again (1720) - VJ 379, LP 1033, DIG, F, UI, MT
 Note: Jimmy Reed definitely not on any of the above (Hooker sings "blow Lefty blow" on 1718).

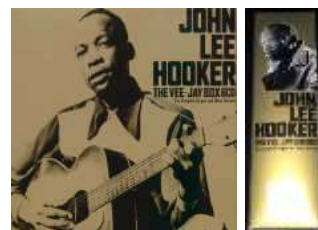
Burnin' Gold



Vee-Jay LP 1043 "Burnin'" (1962, reissued on Collectables CD 7106 in 2000) and the 2-set Vee-Jay LP 2-1004 "Gold" (issued ca 1977 - comprising the tracks of "I'm John Lee Hooker" and "The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker"), the Charly LP 1014 "Everybody Rockin'" of 1981, and the British Stateside EP SE 1023 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (1964 - featuring "I'm So Excited", "Baby Lee", "Time Is Marching", and "Maudie"). Below: the Japanese P-Vine "The Vee-Jay Box 6-CD" of 1998.

November, 1961 (prob Calvin Carter, producer)

w. *Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Hank Cosby, tens; Andrew "Mike" Terry, bars;*
Larry Veeder, gtr; James Jamerson, b; Benny Benjamin, dms
Process (2201) - VJ LP 1043, Collectables CD COL7107, F, MT
 (above track listed on LP 8502 but does only appear on later reissues. It should really have been titled "Cross Headed Fool")
Thelma (2202) - VJ LP 1043, TOM
What Do You Say (2203) - VJ LP 1043
Boom Boom (Boom, Boom*) (2204) - VJ 438, LP 1043, LP 1049, LP 8502, Trip 168, Goldies45 2451, TOM, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F*, MT, UI, UT, SFBBox, VJC, CB
Blues Before Sunrise (2205) - VJ LP 1043, LP 8502, F, MT, CB
Lost A Good Girl (I Lost A Good Girl -RED 6) (2206) - VJ LP 1043, TOM
She's Mine (Keep Your Hands To Yourself*) (2207) - VJ 453, LP 1043*, Stateside EP SE 1008 (1962), TOM*, UI, SFBBox, CB
Keep Your Hands To Yourself (slightly aoa) - SRLP 1043, Charly CDGR298
I Got A Letter (I Got A Letter This Morning -RED 6) (2208) - VJ LP 1043, F
A New Leaf (aka 1962 Blues) (2209) - VJ 453, LP 1043
Let's Make It (2210) - VJ LP 1043, poss VJ 438 on some later pressings, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, Te, MT
Drug Store Woman (2211) - VJ 438 (on early and most pressings), LP 1043, LP 1049, Trip 168, DIG, F, MT
 Note: VJLP 1043 issued in stereo with SR-prefix in 1967. Stateside EP has two Jimmy Reed tracks on A-side.





The 2-set CD "At His Very Best" on MetroDoubles METRCD 644 (UK 2010) featuring 46 Vee-Jay tracks, plus four live 1977 recordings. Liner notes by John Crosby.



"Giant of Blues" – 2CD on FruitTree European CD 921 (2002) featuring 40 great Vee-Jay tracks 1955-64 in chronological order from "Testament".



The 10CD box on Collectables, "The Legend – The Man" (featuring nine original Vee-Jay albums including "Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer?" and the Dynasty "In Person", plus the Gotham Golden Classics), Box COL 0108 (2001).



(from LP 1078 and VJ 575)



Vee-Jay/Craft "Whiskey & Wimmen: John Lee Hooker's Finest" (LP/CD of 2017 VJR00005 with 16 classic tracks)

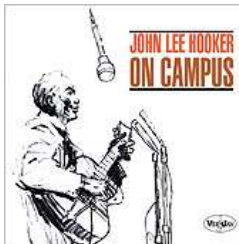


Back cover of Chameleon CD 74794.



Vanguard's CD "Live At Newport" VCD 79703 (2002) – 13 tracks remastered (plus 4 speech intros).

The Big Soul on Campus



Vee-Jay LP 1058 "The Big Soul of J.L.H." (early 1963, reissued on Collectables CD 7102 in 2000) and LP 1066 "On Campus" (1963, reissued on Collectables CD 7103 in 2000), the Charly LP 1004 "This Is Hip – As I Am" of 1980, and the Buddah 7506 reissue of "On Campus", titled "Big Band Blues" (1970). Below: the British version of "On Campus" – "I Want To Shout The Blues" on Stateside 10074 (1964).

c:a early, 1962

w. accomp as above

Old Time Shimmy (2651) - VJ LP 1058, TOM, Charly CDGR298

Onions (2652) - VJ LP 1058, TOM, Charly CDGR298, UI

You Know I Love You (2653) - VJ LP 1058, Charly CDGR298

Send Me Your Pillow (Send Me The Pillow*) (2654) - VJ 575, LP 1058, TOM*, DIG, Charly CDGR298, F, UI

January 28, 1962

w. Joe Edward Hunter, pno/org; Hank Cosby, tens, unknown tpt; plus accomp. similar to above; and Mary Wilson plus The Andantes, vcls (feat. Jackie Hicks, Marlene Barrow and Louvain Demps)

Big Soul (2798) - VJ LP 1058 (no vcl by Hooker)

Frisco Blues (San Francisco* or Frisco**) (2799) - VJ 493 (on later pressings), LP 1058*, Trip 169, Chameleon LP 74794**, UI, SFBBox, VJC, CB

She Shot Me Down (aka Boom Boom Boom) (2800) - VJ LP 1058

Take A Look At Yourself (2801) - VJ 493, LP 1058, Charly CDGR298, Te

Good Rockin' Mama (Good Rockin' Mamma*) (2802) - VJ LP 1058, TOM*, Chameleon LP 74794, CB

I Love Her (2803) - VJ 493 (on early pressings), VJ LP 1058

No One Told Me (aka People Are Talking) (2804) - VJ LP 1058

Ca early, 1963

w. unknown, dms

Don't Look Back (3104) - unissued (listed on Charly CD RED 6 box, but does not appear)

I Had A Friend (3105) - unissued

One Way Ticket (3106) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, DIG, F, MT

Half A Stranger (3107) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, DIG F, MT

Bottle Up And Go (3108) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, MT, UI

My Grinding Mill (3109) - VJ LP 1066, TOM

I Want To Ramble (3110) - VJ LP 1066, TOM

Sadie Mae (3111) - Charly CD RED Box 6 (also listed on Charly LP 1081, but "Sally Mae", 1960 appears there)

This Is Hip (aka This Is It) (3112) - Charly LP 1004, DIG, F, MT, UI



Mid, 1963

w. accomp. similar to "Frisco"-session, although poss. Martha Reeves & the Vandellas, vcls and Memphis Slim, pno.

Poor Me (3306) - VJ LP 1066

I Want To Shout (3307) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, UI

Love Is A Burning Thing (3308) - VJ LP 1066

I Want To Hug You (3309) - VJ LP 1066, TOM

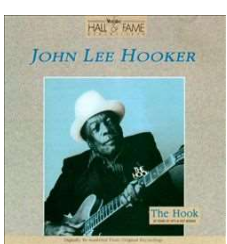
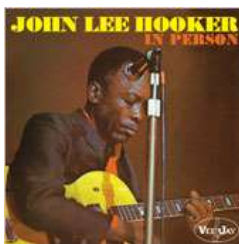
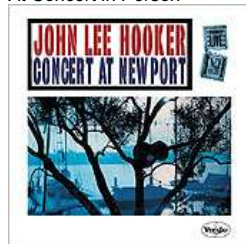
I'm Leaving (3310) (I'm Leavin'* or I'm Leaving Baby** +RED 6) - VJ 538, LP 1066, Stateside 45 SS297 (1964), Oldies45 324, TOM*, Te**, MT**, CB

Birmingham Blues (3311) - VJ 538, LP 1066, Oldies45 324, DIG, F, MT, UI, SFBBox, CB

Don't Look Back (3312) - VJ 575, LP 1066, DIG, F, UI, CB

Note: Mono edition of last track on Charly CD RED Box 6 plus stereo version, "title 127" of that box.

At Concert in Person



The Vee-Jay LP 1078 "Concert At Newport" (1964, reissued on Collectables CD 7105 in 2000), the Vee-Jay Dynasty LP 7301 "In Person" (1973, reissued on Collectables CD 7104 in 2001), the European Instant LP 5009 "The Boogie Man" of 1985, and the Chameleon LP/CD 74794 "The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie" (issued just prior to "The Healer" in 1989 – and featuring 16 fine Vee-Jay tracks)

Purchased from Vanguard; rec. Newport, July 27, 1963

JLH vcl/gtr; unknown, b-1

I Can't Quit You Now Blues (3822) (I Can't Quit You Baby) - VJ LP 1078, MT

Stop Baby Don't Hold Me That Way (3823) (Stop Now Baby) - VJ LP 1078, MT

Tupelo (3824) - VJ LP 1078 (listed as Tupelo on original pressings)

Bus Station Blues (3825) - VJ LP 1078

Freight Train Be My Friend (Freight Train To My Friend – RED 6) (3826) (Hobo Blues) - VJ LP 1078

Boom Boom Boom (3827) (Boom Boom) - VJ LP 1078

Boom Boom (alternate) - Vanguard CD 79703-2 (not on RED 6)

Talk That Talk Baby (3828) (introduction, 4 times on Vanguard) - VJ LP 1078, LP 8502

Sometime Baby You Make Me Feel So Bad (3829+3830)

(Sometimes You Make Me Feel So Bad) - VJ LP 1078 (on original VJ LP the above track issued as being two tracks)



"The Essential Collection" 3CD tinbox on Metro METRTN014 (2010) with a total of 60 tracks (including most tracks from "All His Very Best" Metro CD including Palo Alto and Chicago 1977. Great liner notes by Michael Heatley.



"The Complete 1964 Recordings" on RPM/Shout! CD RPM5H 208 (UK 2000) with the whole mid 1964 Vee-Jay session and the tracks from the British "...And Seven Nights" LP (recorded in November and issued 1965).

You've Got To Walk Yourself (You're Gonna Need Another Favor*) -1 (3831) - VJ LP 1078, Dynasty LP 7301*, CB
Let's Make It -1 (3832) - VJ LP 1078
The Mighty Fire -1 (3833) (Great Fire Of Natchez) - VJ LP 1078, LP 8502, CB
 Note: The retitlings appear on the Vanguard CD 79703 "Live At Newport", issued in 2002 (also including two of the three titles from Vanguard/Vee-Jay 1960 - "Tupelo" of 1960 not on that CD, although mentioned as such).

Chicago, mid 1964 (prob. Al Smith, producer)
w. unknown gtr (poss. Wayne Bennett); b; dms
Big Legs, Tight Skirt (aka Big Legs Tight Skirts) (4427) - VJ 670, Charly LP 1004, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, SFBBox, VJC, CB
Flowers On The Hour (4428) - VJ 708, Dynasty LP 7301, MT
It Serves Me Right (It Serves Me Right To Suffer* or Serves Me Right To Suffer** aka It Serve Me Right To Suffer) - also filed as It Serves Me Right (To Suffer) (4429) - VJ 708, LP 7301*, DIG*, F*, MT*, UI**, SFBBox*, VJC, CB
Ain't No Big Thing Baby (You Ain't No Big Thing*) (4430) - Dynasty LP 7301, TOM*, Chameleon LP 74794*
She Left Me One Wednesday (4431) - Charly LP 1029
You Can Run Baby (You Can Run - RED 6) (4432) - Dynasty LP 7301
New Sally Mae (4433) - Dynasty LP 7301, MT
Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine (4434) - VJ 670, Dynasty DST 4501, LP 7301, F
She's Long, She's Tall (4435) - Dynasty LP 7301, MT
You're Mellow (4436) - Dynasty LP 7301
 Note: All tracks above reissued on RPM CD 208 "The Complete 1964 Recordings" (also featuring the 1964 London session).

Special note: The Tomato album "The Early Years" (featuring Vee-Jay tracks) has "1 Bourbon, 1 Scotch, 1 Beer" included as a 31st track (a live recording from Chicago in 1977 - also issued on Albert King's CD "I'll Play The Blues For You" - Tomato 96142). Album sessions and other recordings 1959-1964 not listed in Part Two - see below: Part Three.

Discography - Part Three:

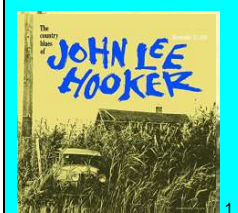
Sir John Lee Hooker's Album Sessions The Sixties: Coast-To-Coast



Some of the best original 1960s LPs - "That's My Story" (Riverside, reissued on Fantasy/OBC), "That's Where It's At" (Stax), "...And Seven Nights" on Verve-Folkways (Forecast), "It Serves You Right To Suffer" (Impulse, stereo), "The Real Folk Blues" (Chess), and "Live At Cafe Au Go Go" (Bluesway).

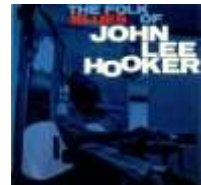
A Travelin Blues Giant - See full track lists on pages 38-41 for 1959 - 1969 LPs

Listed below are all other John Lee Hooker sessions up to and including 1969, not presented earlier. John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr.
 Note: Several albums have been reissued on diff. labels thruout the years, only some notables are mentioned.



Detroit (United Sound Systems), April, and April 20, 1959 (Bill Grauer, prod; Bill Hevron, eng)

JLH, vcl/acgtr - liner notes ¹ Orrin Keepnews, ² Alan Bates
"The Country Blues of .." (Riverside LP 12-838 ¹ issued 1959) - reissued on Riverside UK as "Tupelo Blues", and as "The Folk Blues of.." ca 1984 on Ace LP CH 282 (imaged right). Also on Battle LP 6114 as "How Long Blues". Original LP reissued on Fantasy/OBC 542. - 13 tracks.
"Burning Hell" (Riverside LP RM 008 issued in Europe 1964). Reissued on Fantasy/OBC 555 ² - 12 tracks. "Tupelo Blues" from this session issued on SFBBox and CB.
 "Good Mornin' Lil' School Girl" and "I Rolled And Turned And Cried The Whole Night Long" issued on CB.
 "She's Long, She's Tall, She Weeps Like A Willow Tree" on UT.
 Note: "When I Lay My Burden Down" on the Craft book-box not from this session.



New York City, February 9, 1960 (Orrin Keepnews, prod)

vcl/acgtr with Sam Jones, b; Louis Hayes, dms (from the Cannonball -and- Nat- Adderley bands) - two tracks only *vcl/acgtr*
"That's My Story - JLH Sings The Blues" (Riverside LP 12-321 issued 1960; stereo LP CH 298; also on Battle LP 6113 "Blues Man". Original LP reissued on Fantasy/OBC 538 - 12 tracks. Reissued on UK Ace CDCHD 927 "That's My Story/The Folk Blues of" (11 "Story"+10 "Folk" tracks). Note: LP 12-838 and 12-321 reissued on Fantasy 2-set LP 24722 ³ "Black Snake" 1977. All three albums reissued on Fantasy/OriginalBluesClassics CDs. "I Need Some Money" (*), "Democrat Man", and "No More Doggin" (*) from this session issued on SFBBox, "No More Doggin" on CB. (*) also on Vee-Jay/Craft of 2017 (with "...Doggin" wrongly listed as the 1954 Specialty recording).



Culver City, California, March 9, 1961 (Bernie Besman, prod)

JLH, vcl/gtr **"John Lee Hooker"**
 (Galaxy LP 201 / stereo 8201 / *Lost My Job-LP* / - 12 tracks, issued 1962)
 (Galaxy single 716 - A-side titled "I Lost My Job" - from the stereo LP has dubbed saxes, b, dms; which may indicate the stereo LP also had the dubs). Note: All twelve tracks from this LP (imaged right) have been reissued (and retitled) on Lauren and Galaxy singles and on United Artists and GreeneBottle LPs - with seven tracks reissued on Capitol 3-CD 33912-2 "Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings". Stereo LP reissued on Soul Jam CD 600876 "The Galaxy LP" (w dubs +8 bonus tracks) in 2016. Galaxy's "I Lost My Job" issued on CB.



Miami, Florida, ca July, 1961 (Henry Stone, prod) logged on July 7, 1961 -

15 total tracks + the instrumentals (details and full track lists on page 39)
with Earl (Hooker?), gtr/bsg (on 14 tracks), *unkn "fingertap"*
"Don't Turn Me From Your Door - John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues" (Atco LP 33-151 ⁴ issued 1963)
 4 tracks: title track, "You Lost A Good Man", "Drifting Blues", and "Talk About Your Baby", plus 2 instrumentals. LP also featuring six 1953 recordings for Henry Stone (DeLuxe). Reissued on Atlantic LP 7228 "Detroit Special" with four extra bonus tracks from DeLuxe.
"That's Where It's At!" (Stax LP 2013, issued 1969, and reissue SCD 4134-2, 10 further tracks)
 Four of the tracks previously issued on GuestStar (with two songs changing titles). Steve Alaimo, *vcl/gtr* on 1 track, *prob rec.* ca 1968.
"Teachin' The Blues" (Guest Star LP 1902, issued 1966) - 5 tracks with "Talkin' 'Bout My Baby" not on above, but issued on King of the Boogie Craft CD-book-box as "Meat Shakes On Her Bone".

At this session the instrumentals from Atco LP 151 prob were recorded (listed in 1953 Stone session). The tracks of Atco reissued on Atlantic LP SD 7228, retitled "Detroit Special" with extra bonus tracks (now mostly correctly titled) from 1953 (reissued as "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" on Atco/Atlantic CD 82365). The original Atco and Stax LPs reissued on CDs Collectables COL 7703 and Stax 4134. "Teachin' The Blues", "You Lost A Good Man", and "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" from this session issued on SFBBox. "Don't Turn Me From Your Door", "Grinder Man" and "Meat Shakes On Her Bone" (see below) issued on CB. "Grinder Man" also on Vee-Jay Craft.

Unissued from this session (intended for a withdrawn Ace CDCHD 585): an unedited version of Teachin The Blues; She Do The Shimmy (unedited version of Talkin' 'Bout My Baby), Meat Shakes On Her Bone (alternate? of Talk About Your Baby), You Got To Reap What You Saw (alt of You Lost A Good Man), and the instrumental Stoned Blues. All these may or may not be identical to the Atlantic/Guest Star tracks.



Newark, New Jersey, ca late 1961 (Savoy Records, Fred Mendelsohn, prod)
 (Fancourt lately has noted these recordings as ca 1961)
 with **Eddie Kirkland, gtr** on 2 tracks; plus unknown b, dms (all 11 tracks)
"Sittin' Here Thinkin'" (Muse LP MR 5205, issued 1979)
 plus "When My Wife Quit Me" with Kirkland, gtr – from Savoy v.a. MGLP 16000 (1963) "Living with the blues" (issued and titled "When My First Wife Quit Me" on the SFBox)
 Muse LP reissued (with same cover) as "Sad And Lonesome" on Muse CD 6009⁵ in 1989 and as "Sittin' Here Thinkin'" on 32Blues CD 32134⁶ (1999), both including "When..." - 12 total tracks.
 All 12 tracks also reissued on "Early Years – The Classic Savoy Sessions" on MetroDoubles 2CD METRDCD 532 together with 20 early 1949 Barbee/Savoy recordings in 2004.

Hamburg, Germany, October 18, 1962 (originally recorded for Brunswick, prod Horst Hohenboken)
 with **T-Bone Walker, pno; Willie Dixon, b; Jump Jackson, dms** (recorded in studio with live audience)
"The Original American Folk Blues Festival" (Brunswick LP 009012, Decca LP 4392, and Polydor LP 825502 issued 1962, 3 tracks) JLH tracks: "Let's Make It (Baby)", "The Right Time" (aka Night Time Is The Right Time), "Shake It Baby", plus "Need Your Love So Bad" on Exello LP 8029 (1972). All tracks issued on Charly DIG 5. "Let's Make It" issued on SFBox, and "Shake It Baby" on CB.

Olympia Theatre live, Paris, France, October 20, 1962 (CD produced by Michel Brillé and Gilles Pétard)
JLH, vcl/gtr (private bootleg recordings)
"American Folk Blues Festival, 1962 – Live In Paris" (Fremaux 3CD FA 5614, issued August 2015, 10 tracks)
 First concert: "I'm In The Mood", "Let's Make It Baby", "I Don't Want To Lose You", "Money", "The Right Time".
 Second concert: "Everyday", "Let's Make It Baby", "The Right Time", "It's My Own Fault", and "Money" again.

San Francisco live, November 2-3, 6, 8-10, 1962 (Sol Weiss & Jim Easton, prods) **JLH, vcl/gtr**
"Live At Sugar Hill" (Galaxy LP 8205, issued 1963/stereo 1968, and Ace LP CH 287, 1990);
 plus **Volume 2** (Ace LP CH 298, issued 1990 – ten more tracks) - 20 total tracks
"Boogie Chillun" (Fantasy 2-set LP 24706 - 20 tracks issued 1974, CD 76632⁸, 1989 (19 tracks), reissued on Ace CD CHD 938⁷ as **"Live At Sugar Hill Volumes 1 & 2"** (1990, 19 tracks)
"Live at Sugar Hill vol. 2" (Fantasy FCD-7714-2) 19 compl new Nov. 6 & 9 tracks issued 2002 (image shown page 38)
 "Boogie Chillun", "Bottle Up And Go" and "Crawlin' King Snake" from this session issued on CB.

IBC Studios London, England, mid-November, 1964 – at "lease" from Vee-Jay with Calvin Carter, supervisor
 with **Tom Parker, pno/org; Tony McPhee, gtr; Pete Cruickshank, b; Dave Boorman, dms**
"... And Seven Nights" - Verve-Folkways (Forecast) FT 3003, issued 1965; (also on XTRA LP 1114¹⁸ 1971)
 - 11 tracks, reissued with brass/horns as **"On The Waterfront"** on Wand LP 689⁹ 1969,
 - with the Groundhogs - titled "The 1965 London Sessions" on Sequel CD NEBCD657¹⁰ (also with brass/horns dub); and on Indigo IGOCOD 2059¹⁹ (1996) without brass as "Hooker & The Hogs". Note: A Cleve issue wrongly states John Mayall is on this. All undubbed tracks reissued on RPM CD 208 "The Complete 1964 Recordings" (also featuring Hooker's last Vee-Jay session). 4 tracks from this album on Charly DIG 5. "I'm Losin' You" (undubbed) and "I Cover The Waterfront" (dubbed) issued on SFBox. "Mai Lee" issued on CB. (Jerry Shoenbaum, producer of the Verve LP. Some discographies list it as a poss. May-June 1965 session).

London, England, May 1965 (James Potts for EBB film) **EBB Soundtrack**
JLH vcl/gtr; 17 tracks (published on the Internet) [16 minutes College Film](#)

Hamburg studio, Germany, October 8, 1965
 with **Buddy Guy, gtr; Fred Below, dms**
"The American Folk Blues Festival 1965" (Fontana LP 681529, issued 1966)
 featuring 2 tracks: "King Of The World" and "Della May". There are two alternates of "Della May", both titled "Della Mae" issued on a German ACT CD 9204. "King Of The World" issued on SFBox.

New York City, November 23, 1965 (Bob Thiele, prod)
 with **Dickie Wells, tbn; Barry Galbraith, gtr; Milt Hinton, b; Panama Francis, dms**
"It Serve(s) You Right To Suffer" (Impulse ALP 9103 / AS9103 issued 1966 - 8 tracks) Reissued on MCA CD 12025 with "Serves" spelling. "Sometimes I Wonder" unissued from this session. "Bottle Up and Go" issued on SFBox, "Money" on CB.

Los Angeles live, February 17, 1966
JLH, vcl/gtr unissued session (11 tracks produced by Gil Novak)

Chicago, May, 1966 (Ralph Bass, prod) (full track lists on page 40)
 with **Lafayette Leake, pno/org; Eddie Burns, gtr; unkn, b and tamb; S.P. Leary or poss. Fred Below, dms**
"The Real Folk Blues" (Chess LP 1508, issued 1966, reissued on CHD 9271) - 9 tracks
 with several reissues - even one as "More Real Folk Blues".
"More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" (MCA/Chess CD CHD9329¹¹, issued 1991) - 9 tracks
 Note: These two albums reissued on one CD titled "The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions" in Europe on MCA MCD-18335 (1991) and "The Real Folk Blues / More Real Folk Blues" in US on MCA/Chess 112821 (2002). "One Bourbon..." issued on DIG 5, SFBox and CB, "Let's Go Out Tonight" issued on SFBox.

New York City, August 20, 1966 (Bob Thiele, prod) (full track list on page 41)
 (prob recorded in studio with audience present)
 with **Otis Spann, pno, Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Snake" Johnson, gtrs; Mac Arnold, b; Francis Clay, dms; (George Smith, hca listed on label – but not present)**
"Live at Cafe au Go Go" (Bluesway LP 6002, issued 1967 - 8 tracks, reissued on British BGOCD39)
 "I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" appears here for the first time. Reissued on Universal CD11537 (1996) with bonus tracks from "Live At Soledad Prison". "I'm Bad Like Jesse James" issued on SFBox and CB.

Chicago, September 26, and November 27, 1967 (Al Smith, prod) (full track list on page 41)
 session one: **Wayne Bennett and prob Buddy Guy, gtrs; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor, bsgtrs; Al Duncan, dms**
 session two: **Louis Myers, hca; Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor, gtrs; Phil Upchurch, bsgtr; Al Duncan, dms**
"Urban Blues" - Bluesway LP 6012¹², issued 1968; plus "Want Ad Blues" single track (included on BGO CD122 reissue 1991) - 12 total tracks. Reissued on MCA CD 10760 in 1993 (11 tracks + 3 unissued bonus tracks from 1969 "If You Miss Im"-session). "Think Twice Before You Go" issued on SFBox, "The Motor City Is Burning" on CB.

New York City, September 17-18, 1968 (Bob Thiele, prod) (tracks – see page 40)
 with **Hele Rosenthal, hca; Ernie Hayes, pno/org; Wally Richardson, gtr; William Folwell, b; Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, dms**
"Simply The Truth" (Bluesway LP 6023¹³, issued 1969 - 8 tracks)
 Reissued on BGO CD 40 (1991) and poss. MCA CD 22136 (1994). "Mean Mean Woman" issued on SFBox and CB.

Cologne, Germany, live October 14, 1968 (prob Al Smith for "American Folk Blues Festival")
Big Walter Horton, hca; T-Bone Walker, pno; Eddie Taylor, gtr; Jerome Arnold, b; Jessie Lewis, dms
 4 unissued tracks Note: JLH recorded several sessions in Cologne (Germany), and Europe during late 1968-early 1969, which were not issued at the time but are available today on a couple of bootleg CDs.





Montauban, France, live March 26-28, 1969 (Jazz Odyssey LP 005 and LP 014)
JLH,vcl/gtr
3 tracks: "When My First Wife Quit Me", "Boogie Chillun" and "Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive". Note: First two tracks reissued on Jazz Odyssey CD JOCD02 and the third track is also planned to be issued on CD.

Los Angeles, May 29, 1969 (Ed Michel, prod) (tracks – see page 40)
Jeff Carp,hca; Johnny "Big Moose" Walker,pno; Earl Hooker, Paul Asbell,gtrs;
Geno Skaggs,b; Roosevelt Shaw,dms
"If You Miss 'Im...I Got 'Im" (Bluesway LP 6038 ¹⁴, issued 1969) - 9 tracks;
reissued on MCA CD 13561 and BGOCD392, plus 3 originally unissued tracks,
which have been issued as bonus on Universal CD MCA 10760 "Urban Blues".
Note: "Baby, I Love You" from the LP could have been a nice Bluesway single.

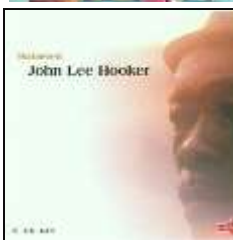
Poss California or France, live ca 1969 with the Chicago All Stars / Blues Band
Sunnyland Slim,pno; Johnny Shines,gtr; Willie Dixon,b; Clifton James,dms
"Chicago Blues Band" (LaserLight CD 17104 ^{17a}, v.a. Lester LRC CD issued 1996)
or "Blues Men" (LRC CD 2-9077 ^{17b}, v.a. 2CD issued 2009), 5 Hooker tracks:
"Crawling King Snake", "Dimples (I Love The Way You Walk)", "It Serves Me Right
To Suffer", "Maudie , I Miss You So Bad Baby", "Boom Boom, I'm Gona Shoot You Right Down"

Paris, France, October, 1969 (a total of 22 songs recorded)
with Lowell Fulson,gtr; Carey Bell,b; S.P. Leary,dms
"I Feel Good" (Carson / Calumet LP 3662 ¹⁸, issued in Europe 1970),
reissued in US on Jewel LP 5005 ¹⁵ (1971) - 9 tracks;
plus with two less plus three extras on Blue Moon CD 070 ²¹ "Nothing But The Blues"
1991. No CD is found of the America LP below.
"I Wanna Dance All Night" (America LP 6101 ¹⁹, issued 1970) - 10 tracks;
plus "Boom Boom" from v.a. Black And Blue v.a. LP 950500. The two LPs above reissued
on Disques Festival 2LP-set 186 ²⁰ "Black Rhythm 'n' Blues" 1975.

Pau, France, November 30, 1969 JLH,vcl/gtr
"Get Back Home In the USA" (Black And Blue LP 333023 ¹⁶, issued 1971) - 10 tracks;
reissued with 6 extra tracks on B&B CD 59023 ²² as "Get Back Home" (1988), also on
Evidence (imaged below - all 16 tracks) - and in 1999 on B&B BB4232ND210 (same cover as 59023)
with "Boom Boom" from above as extra track.

Images right (from top 18-22): LPs Carson/Calumet 3662 "I Feel Good"; "I wanna dance
all night", and "Black Rhythm 'n' Blues", plus CDs "Nothing but the Blues", and "Get Back Home".

General note: Singles from most of above LPs have been issued -
see Singles Discography. See also John Lee Hooker's Original Vinyl Albums.
There are several private bootleg "live" LPs, CDs and DVDs not listed in this discography (from the 1970s,
'80s, '90s, and beyond). Images left – "The Original American Folk Blues" LP of 1962 on Brunswick
109012; and in US on Excello 8029 in 1972 (also including "Need Your Love So Bad").



"Live In Paris" 3CD set on Fermeaux (2015), "Get Back Home" Evidencer CD ECD 26004 in 1992.

Four Great CDs covering Classics of 1948 – 1998:
"The Boogie Man" with Detroit (Modern/Sensation and pirate) recordings 1948-1955 on
Properbox 111 (4CD 2006, 98 tracks). "Testament" – the best of the Vee-Jay years
Charly 3CD SNAJ705 compilation (2001, 60 tracks). "The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965
to 1974" on European MCAD-10539 (with 16 famous tracks - issued 1992 - and later
reissued in US). Pointblank CD VPBCD49 "The Best Of Friends" (issued 1998, covering
1986-1998 and reissued on Shout!Factory in 2007 with "Up And Down" as a bonus track).

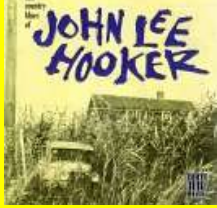
THREE EACH FROM ELEVEN TOP CD FAVORITES

- (first track of each plus two further great tracks and don't forget the "introduction" CDs on page 14)
- 1999 TRAVELIN' Charly CDGR 284 / SNAP 145
 - 1960 No Shoes Vee-Jay
 - Whiskey And Wimmen
 - Solid Sender
 - 1996 LIVE AT (THE) CAFÉ AU GO-GO Universal MCD11537
 - 1966(67) I'm Bad Like Jesse James BluesWay
 - Heartaches And Misery
 - I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive
 - 2000 BURIN' Charly CDGR 298 / SNAP 041
 - 1961(62) Boom Boom Vee-Jay
 - Process
 - Blues Before Sunrise
 - 2003 BLUES IMMORTAL (Blues KingPins) Virgin 82741
 - 1948 Boogie Chillen (Boogie Chillen') Modern
 - 1951 I'm In The Mood
 - 1955 The Syndicator
 - 1992 DON'T TURN ME FROM YOUR DOOR Atco 82365
 - 1953 Stuttering Blues Rockin'/DeLuxe
 - 1961 You Lost A Good Man Atco
 - Don't Turn Me From Your Door
 - 1998 THE COMPLETE 50's CHESS RECORDINGS Chess MCD 09391
 - 1950 Mad Man Blues Gone/Chess
 - 1951 Just Me And My Telephone Chess
 - 1952 Blues For Big Town Fortune
 - 1990 THAT'S MY STORY/THE FOLK BLUES OF Ace CDCHD 927
 - 1960 I Need Some Money Riverside
 - Gonna Use My Rod
 - 1959 Tupelo Blues
 - 1991 FREE BEER AND CHICKEN BGO CD123
 - 1974 Make It Funky ABC
 - Homework
 - Bluebird
 - 1991 THE COMPLETE CHESS FOLK BLUES SESSIONS MCA MCD-18335
 - 1966 I'm In The Mood Chess
 - Let's Go Out Tonight
 - House Rent Blues
 - 1996 ALTERNATIVE BOOGIE: EARLY STUDIO RECORDINGS Capitol 33912
 - 1950 Come Back Baby (Let's Talk It Over - One More Time) Crown/Modern
 - 1948 I Rule My Den (alt of Crawl'n' King Snake) United Artists
 - Long, Long Way From Home (alt of Hobo Blues)
 - 2004 EARLY YEARS: THE CLASSIC SAVOY SESSIONS Metro CD532
 - 1948 Low Down Midnite Boogie (Low Down-Midnite Boogie) Savoy
 - 1949 609 Boogie (Six O' Nine Boogie) Chance
 - 1961 When My Wife Quit Me Savoy

JOHN LEE HOOKER LP TRACK LISTS

with tracks in alphabetic order from Jarlvik's Hooker discography. See pages 35-37 for discographical details. Find full track lists of the Henry Stone sessions on page 39, the Chess 1966 sessions on page 40 and the first two BluesWay albums on page 41.
Click on / touch label/cat# for link to discogs

Riverside LP 12-838



Reissued on Original Blues Classics
Fantasy OBCCD 542 (1991)

Detroit April, 1959 (issued Nov 1959)
The Country Blues of John Lee Hooker
Behind the plow
Black snake
Bundle up and go
Church bell tone
Good mornin', lil' school girl
How long blues
I rowed a little boat
I'm prison bound
Pea vine special
She's long, she's tall, she weeps like a willow tree
Tupelo blues
Water boy
Wobblin' baby


Riverside LP RM 008



Note: Same session as LP 12-838
Reissued on Original Blues Classics
Fantasy OBCCD 555 (1993)


Detroit April 20, 1959
Burning Hell (issued 1964)
Baby please don't go
Blues for my baby
Burning hell
Graveyard blues
How can you do it
I don't want no woman if her hair ain't longer than mine
I rolled and turned and cried the whole night long
Jackson, Tennessee
Key to the highway
Natchez fire
Smokestack lightnin'
You live your life and I'll live mine

Riverside LP 12-321



Reissued on Original Blues Classics
Fantasy OBCCD 538 (1991)
and with LP 838 on Fantasy in 1977

N.Y.C. February 9, 1960
That's My Story (issued 1960)
Come on and see about me
Democrat man
Gonna use my rod
I believe I'll go back home
I need some money
I want to talk about you
I'm wandering
No more doggin'
One of these days
That's my story
Wednesday evenin'
You're leavin' me baby



From this session poss also
When I Lay My Burden Down
issued on Craft "King of the Boogie" compilation

Galaxy LP 201




Retitled tracks on seven songs reissued
on Capitol 3CD "Alternative Boogie 1948-1952"

Culver City, CA March 9, 1961
John Lee Hooker (issued 1962)
Ballad to Abraham Lincoln (* He Got Assassinated)
Deep down in my heart (How Long Can This Go On)
Fire at Natchez (The Great Disaster of 1936)
(I) lost my job (* Tell You A Story)
Left my wife and my baby (The Winding Highway)
Mad with you baby (I'm Gonna Whip Ya Baby)
Mojo hand (Ris'n' Sun / Louisiana Voo Doo)
(Louisiana Blues For You)
My mother-in-law moved in (* Troubles In My Home)
Shake it up and go (Johnny Lee And The Thing)
The sweetest girl I know (also GB)
Travelin' day and night (She Quit Me)
(We) might as well say we're through (also GB)



(Five tracks were reissued on the Greene Bottle LP in 1972
- *marked retitles are the ones used on that LP)

Muse MR 5205




Reissued on Muse MCD 6009 (1989)
as "Sad and Lonesome" (12 tracks)
and with original title on 32Blues in 1999

Newark, N.J. ca late 1961
Sittin' Here Thinkin' (issued 1979)
Can't you see what you're doin' to me
CC Rider
How long
How many more years
I believe I'll lose my mind
I bought you a brand new home
Mean mistreatin'
My cryin' days are over
Sad and lonesome
Sittin' here thinkin'
Teasin' me
plus When My Wife Quit Me
(on CD issues)

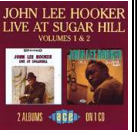



Galaxy LP 8205




This one and Ace 298 reissued on
Ace CD CHD 938 (1990 - 19 tracks)

San Francisco November 2-3/8-10, 1962
Live at Sugar Hill (issued 1963)
Driftin' and driftin'
I can't hold on (I Just Can't Hold On Much Longer)
I love (like) to see you walking
I was standing by the wayside
I'm gonna keep on walking
It's you I love, baby
Run on babe (Run On)
TB is killing me
This world (No Man's Land)
You gonna miss me
I Was Standing By The Wayside
omitted on Ace CD.


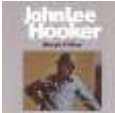


Fantasy 2-LP 24706
"Boogie Chillun"




Note: 8205 and 298 issued on one double LP,
on Fantasy in 1974 and reissued on CD
76632 in 1989 (with "Matchbox" omitted)

San Francisco November 2-3/8-10, 1962
Live at Sugar Hill Volume 2
Ace LP CH 298 (1990)
Boogie Chillun
I want to get married
Key to the highway
Matchbox
Money (That's what I want)
My babe
Night time is the right time
You been dealing with the devil
You don't move me baby
You're nice and kind to me
Lou Della

Fantasy FCD 4714-2



S.F. November 6 and 9, 1962
Live at Sugar Hill Vol. 2 (issued 2002)
Bottle up and go
Catfish blues
Come back baby (Let's talk it over)
Crawlin' king snake
Five long years
How can you do it
I cant hold on
I love no one but my baby
Jelly jelly
Let's get it
Sinner's prayer
Taxi driver
That's all right
The things I used to do
Third degree
What'd I say
What's the matter baby
You don't miss your water
You torture my soul



Verve-Folkways FT 3003



Note: Issued on several labels
with tracks renamed, and also reissued
in 1969 with brass dub on **Wand LP 689**
John Lee Hooker and The Groundhogs

London, England mid November 1964
... And Seven Nights (issued 1965)
Bad luck and trouble ((I) Lost everything)
Don't be messing (around) with my bread
(Girl you don't want me baby)
I'm losin' you (Losing you)
It's raining here (Storming on the deep blue sea)
It's a crazy mixed up world (Crazy mixed up world)
Little girl go back to school
((Go back to school) Little girl)
Little dreamer (Lay down little dreamer / drummer)
Mai Lee (Mary Lee)
No one pleases me but you
((I) Don't want nobody eise)
Seven days and seven nights (Seven days)
V
(I cover the waterfront)




Verve-Forecast (Folkways)
Reissued on Indigo
IGOCD 2059
"Hooker and the Hogs"
(1996) featuring 4 bonus
tracks from 1948.




Impulse ALP 9103



Note: Later renamed "It Serves You Right
To Suffer" (as on inside fold sleeve).
"Sometimes I Wonder" is unissued
from this session.

Reissued on CD MCAD-12025 (1999)
"It Serves You Right To Suffer"

New York City November 23, 1965
It Serve You Right To Suffer
(issued 1966)
Bottle up and go (also on 33 rpm EP 7-9103)
Country boy (also on 33 rpm EP 7-9103)
Decoration day
It serve you right to suffer
(also on 33 rpm EP 7-9103)
Money (also on 33 rpm EP 7-9103)
Shake it baby
Sugar mama
You're wrong



The Henry Stone Sessions on original Albums



Atco LP 33-151 (early 1963)
(also on Collectables COLCD 2877)



Atlantic LP SD 7228 (1972)



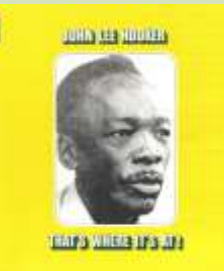
Guest Star LP 1902 (1966)



Stax LP STS 2013 (stereo 1969)



Atco (Atlantic) CD 7-82365-2 (1992)
- a reissue of LP 7228



Stax SCD 4134-2 (1990)
- a reissue of LP 2013,
also on UK CDSXE064

Recorded in Cincinnati (or poss Miami), July 1953

w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1 (and sec.vcl-2) (Rockin' and DeLuxe singles issued as **John Lee Booker**)

My Baby Don't Love Me (15118) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on DeLuxe in 1954
Blue Monday -1 (15119) - Atlantic LP 7228

- issued on Rockin' and DeLuxe in 1953 and titled **I Ain't Got Nobody** on Chart in 1956

My Baby Put Me Down (15120) - Atlantic LP 7228 - titled **Misbelieving Baby** on Chart in 1956

Love My Baby (aoa) (15121) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228 - unissued on single

Wobbling Baby -1 (15122) - Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on Chart in 1956

Pouring Down Rain (Wobblin' Baby*) -1 (aoa) (15123)

- Atco LP 151*, Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on Rockin' in 1953 and DeLuxe in early 1954

Goin' South (15124) - Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on Chart in 1956

Real, Real Gone (aoa) (15125) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

- issued on DeLuxe in 1954

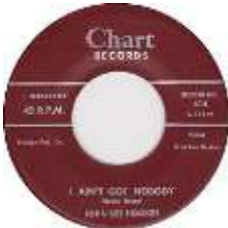
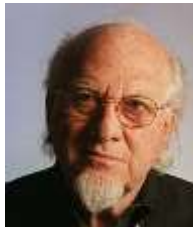
Guitar Lovin' Man -1/2 (15126) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

- titled **Lovin' Guitar Man** on Rockin' and DeLuxe in 1953

Stuttering Blues (15127) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

- issued on Rockin' in 1953 and DeLuxe in early 1954

Note: All but 15121 were originally issued on DeLuxe and Stone's own labels Rockin' (which was before DeLuxe) and Chart (1953-1956). On "Teachin' The Blues" below Hooker sings (talks) of 1953 as if the recordings below were done that year. Right: UK Atlantic reissue 590003 of 1967.



Recorded in Miami, Florida, ca July 1961

with Earl (Hooker?), gtr/bsg; unkn. "fingertap"; -1 instrumentals;
with Steve Alaimo, vcl/gtr on track marked (#), prob rec. ca 1968

Hook's Boogie (I Ain't Got Nobody*) -1 (A 5626) - Atco LP 151*, Atlantic LP 7228

Sleepy Blues (Misbelieving Baby*) -1 (A 5627) - Atco LP 151*, Atlantic LP 7228

Don't Turn Me (Away*) From Your Door - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228*

Drifting Blues - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

Talk About Your Baby - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

You Lost A Good Man - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

Baby Please Don't Go (Please Don't Go*) - Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013*

Stand By Me Baby (I Need You*) - Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013*

Talkin' 'Bout My Baby (Meat Shakes On Her Bone*) - Guest Star LP 1902,

Craft CD CR00015* (alt of Talk About Your Baby - see below)

Teachin' The Blues - Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013

Two White Horses - Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013

Goin' to Louisiana - Stax LP 2013

Grinder man - Stax LP 2013

I just don't know - Stax LP 2013

My love comes down for you - Stax LP 2013

Slow and easy - Stax LP 2013

Feel so bad (#) - Stax LP 2013



The German SCF24 24BIT re-mastered CD (imaged here) has a multimedia bonus.

"Unissued" from this session (intended for a withdrawn Ace CDCHD 585 in 1995): an unedited version of **Teachin' The Blues**; **She Do The Shimmy** (unedited version of **Talkin' 'Bout My Baby**), **Meat Shakes On Her Bone** (alternate of **Talk About Your Baby** - issued on the Craft book-box, and identical to **Talkin' 'Bout My Baby**), **You Got To Reap What You Saw** (alt of **You Lost A Good Man**), and the instrumental **Stoned Blues**. All these may or may not be identical to the Atlantic/Guest Star tracks.

Images above: Stone, Kirkland, Earl H, John H, and Steve Alaimo.

Hooker's "Real Folk Blues" sessions 1966 (and the 1968 & 1969 Bluesway sessions)

Recorded in Chicago, May 1966 - Ralph Bass, producer; Marshall Chess, supervision
 featuring Hooker, *vc/gtr*; Lafayette Leake, *pno/org*; Eddie Burns, *gtr*; *unkn, b and tamb*; S.P. Leary or poss. Fred Below, *dms*
 (Imaged below: Leake, Ralph Bass, and Burns) – All albums only issued in mono

"The Real Folk Blues" Chess LP 1508, issued 1966 – with 9 tracks, reissued on CHC 9271 in 1987 several reissues - even one as "More Real Folk Blues".
 The most famous of the songs on the LP was "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer", Hooker's first version and retitling of an Amos Milburn hit of 1953.
 "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" MCA/Chess CD CHD9329 American and European issues 1991
 - 9 new tracks Ralph Bass did not record in stereo - Image of the European issue inserted bottom left.

These two albums reissued on one CD titled "The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions" in Europe on MCA MCD-18335 in 1991 and "The Real Folk Blues / More Real Folk Blues" in US on MCA/Chess 112821 in 2002.

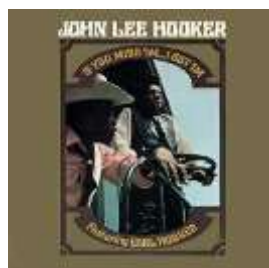
Tracks: (The 18 tracks have master numbers U 14761 through U 14778; although not in track order as below)
 I'm In The Mood / Let's Go Out Tonight / Peace Lovin' Man / Stella Mae / I Put My Trust In You / You Know, I Know /
 I'll Never Trust Your Love Again / One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer / The Waterfront //
 Lead Me (You Can Lead Me Baby) / Nobody Knows / Deep Blue Sea / I Can't Quit You Baby / Mustang And GTO /
 House Rent Blues / Catfish Blues / Want Ad Blues / This Land Is Nobody's Land



Please note the STEREO mark on Chess LPS- 1508 above right (which actually also was labelled Checker on some stereo issues –possibly a bootleg)



The award winning "Simply The Truth" on BluesWay BLS-6023 (issued early 1969 - in stereo), produced by Bob Thiele - recorded in New York City September 17-18, 1968.
 Reissued on BGO CD 40 in 1991 and possibly MCA CD 22136 (1994).



Los Angeles May, 1969 session for BluesWay BLS 6038 "If You Miss 'Im...I Got 'Im" of 1969 - reissued on BGOCD392 in 1998, and with 3 extra tracks (bonus) from that session on MCA CD 10760 "Urban Blues". After this came the French recordings in late 1969 and then, in May 1970, the "Hooker 'N Heat" sessions in Los Angeles and the "Endless Boogie" sessions for ABC in November.

The tracks of "If You Miss 'Im ... I Got 'Im" (alphabetic)

Baby, be strong	Walking the floor over you (unissued)
Baby, I love you	
Bang bang bang	
Have mercy on my soul	
I don't care when you go	
I wanna be your puppy, baby	
If you take care of me, I'll take care of you	
Lonesome mood	
The Hookers (If you miss 'im ...I got 'im)	

Also from this session (issued 1993):
 bonus tracks on MCA CD 10760 "Urban Blues"

Hold on baby
I gotta go to Vietnam
Messin' round with the blues



Hooker's two original BluesWay LPs

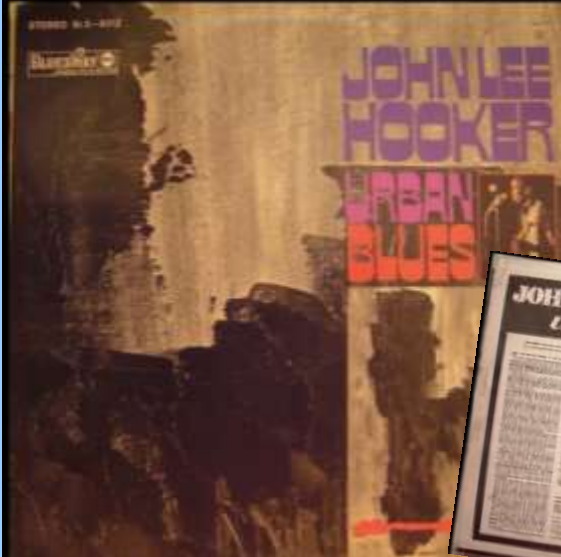








BL/BLS-6002 - Live At Cafe Au Go-Go - early 1967
Recorded in New York City, August 20, 1966; Bob Thiele, producer (prob recorded in studio with audience present)
Otis Spann,pno, Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Snake" Johnson,gtrs; Mac Arnold,bsg; Francis Clay,dms; (plus George Smith,hca – not audible. Cover title: "live at cafe au-go-go" (back "... Au Go-Go"; label "... Au Go-Go").
[Different releases](#)

Tracks:
I'm Bad Like Jesse James / She's Long, She's Tall (She Weeps Like A Willow Tree) / When My First Wife Left Me / Heartaches And Misery // One Bourbon, One Scotch And One Beer / I Don't Want No Trouble / I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive / Seven Days
(This was Hooker's very first attempt at "I'll Never Get Out of These Blues Alive". Reissued on BGO LP/CD 39 in 1989 (imaged right). Also reissued on MCA Universal CD11537 (1996) with John's tracks from "Live at Soledad" as bonus (see track list above).

BLS-6012 - Urban Blues – early 1968
Recorded in Chicago, September 26, and November 27, 1967: Al Smith, producer
* session one: *Wayne Bennett and prob. Buddy Guy,gtrs; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor,bsgtrs; Al Duncan,dms*
session two: *Louis Meyers,hca; Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Phil Upchurch,bsgtr; Al Duncan,dms*
[Different releases](#)

Tracks:
Cry Before I Go * / Boom Boom Boom * / Backbiters And Syndicators (later known as Back Bitters And Syndicators) / Mr. Lucky / My Own Blues / I Can't Stand To Leave You // Think Twice Before You Go / I'm Standing In Line / Hot Spring Water (Pt. 1 & Pt. 2) / The Motor City Is Burning * / Want Ad Blues * -1
Note: Several of the songs were issued on BluesWay singles in the late 1960s incl "Back Bitters And Syndicators". -1 is a bonus track from the flip of BluesWay single 61010, issued on a BGO LP/CD 122 (1991, imaged right). A second reissue on MCA, MCAD 10760 in 1993, has 3 other bonus tracks – from 1969 "If You Miss 'Im" session (see tracks list above).

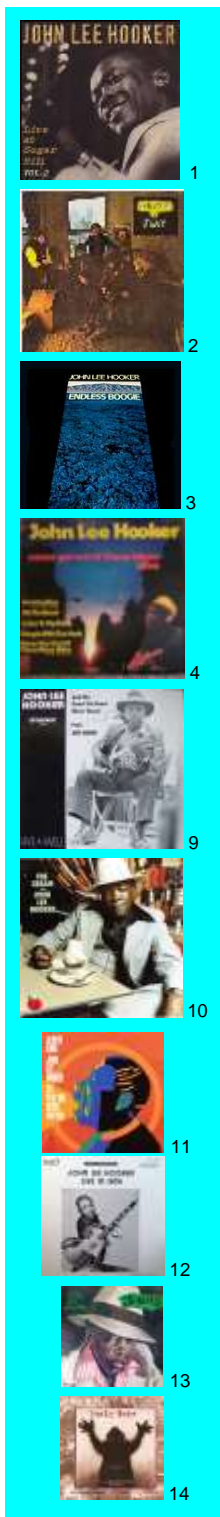
Discography - Part Four: From 1970 – on Frisco Blues

The original albums 1971 – 2016 - (Most LPs 1971-81 later reissued on CDs)

John Lee Hooker Session Discography 1981–2001



Liberty 2LP 35002, followed by ABC's "Free Beer and Chicken", and the "Don't Look Back" CD on Pointblank VPBCD 39 (1997). The ABC LPs 736 and 761 reissued on BeatGoesOn CD 897 in 2009 (7 plus 7 tracks), BGO CD 1129 (LPs 6052 and 768 reissued on one CD in December 2013), the two 2003 Tomato CD reissues (TOM -2222109, 2110) of the 1976 albums "Alone", the "Face To Face" Eagle CD of 2003. The "Rising Sun Collection" 1994. Laser media's CD has the last two tracks recorded earlier than October 1977 with five tracks on Tomato CD 96142.
1-2: the first two CDs below: the "Live at Sugar Hill Vol. 2" (Fantasy FCD-7714-2 released in 2002, featuring never-before-issued 1962 "live" recordings), and the European 2CD "Hooker "N Heat" on Liberty.
Note: Four of the 1986-1998 Pointblank CDs reissued on Shout!Factory (featuring bonus tracks).

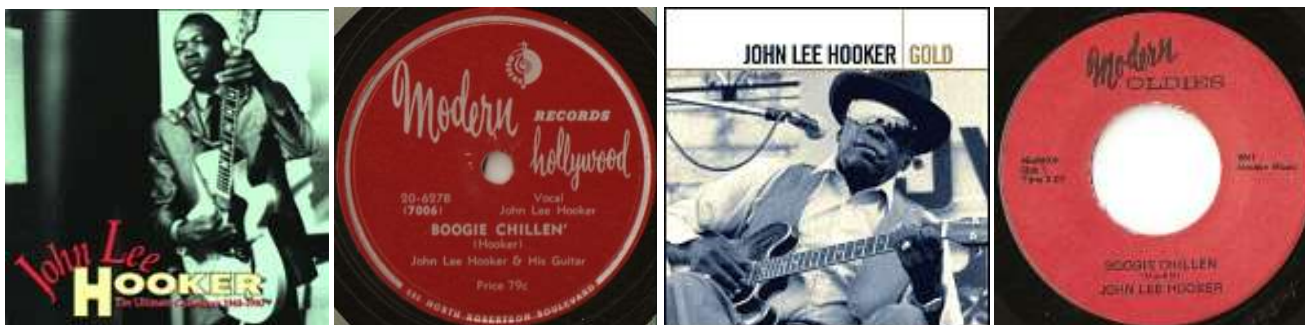


- 1971 **Hooker 'N Heat** - Liberty 2LP 35002 (*rec L.A. May, 1970*) Prod: Skip Taylor and Robert Hite Jr
– f. Alan Wilson, hca/gtr with Canned Heat (also Rhino 2LP RNDA 71105 as "Infinite Boogie"; and on a.o. EMI, Mobile Fidelity, BeatGoesOn, and with bonus tracks on French Magic 2CD 3930232-2 in 1992)
- 1971 **Endless Boogie** - ABC 2LP 720 ⁹ (*rec S.F. November 10-12, 1970*) Prod: Bill Szymczyk and Ed Michel
– f. Cliff Coulter, Mark Naftalin, Steve Miller, Mel Brown ao.
(all 11 tracks reissued on MCA D-10413, 1991- and on BGO with lesser tracks)
- 1972 **Kabuki Wuki** - Bluesway LP 6052 (*rec live S.F. August 14, 1971*) Prod. Ed Michel
– f. The Coast To Coast Blues Band (Hooker's road band) (reissued on BGO CD 1129 in 2013 c/w ABC 768)
- 1972 **Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive** - ABC LP 736 (*rec S.F. September 28-29, 1971*) Prod: Ed Michel
– f. Van Morrison, Robert Hooker, Luther Tucker, Geno Skaggs, Ken Swank ao (reissued 1978 on Pickwick SPC 3634 ⁴)
- 1973 **Live at Soledad Prison** - ABC LP 761 (*rec Calif., June 11, 1972*) Prod: Ed Michel
– f. John Lee Hooker Jr and the Coast To Coast Blues Band (reissued on BGO CD 897 in 2009 c/w ABC 736)
- 1973 **Born In Mississippi, Raised Up in Tennessee** - ABC LP 768 (*rec as LP 736 w. overdubs March 5-7, 1973*)
Prod: Ed Michel – f. musicians from LP 736 plus dubbed brass and female vcls
(reissued on BGO CD 1129 in 2013 c/w Kabuku Wuki)
- 1974 **Free Beer And Chicken** - ABC LP 838 (*rec in S.F. and L.A. May 14-23, 1974*) Prod: Ed Michel
– f. Joe Cocker, Sugarcane Harris, Cliff Coulter, Wah Wah Watson ao. (reissud on BGOCD123*)
- 1976 **Alone Volume 1** - Labor LP 4 ⁵ (aka "Solo") (*rec Hunter College, N.Y.C. February 6, 1976*) Prod: Kent Cooper and Weiner Stadley (reissued on MMG LP 640000 ⁶, and together with the next as "Alone" on Tomato 2LP 2696601 ⁸)
- 1976 **Still Alone - Live in New York Vol 2** - MMG LP 640005 ⁷ (aka "Alone Again") - *rec as above*
- 5-8 15 16
- 1977 **Live + Well** (in Cologne, Germany) - Ornament LP CH 7.104 ⁹ (*rec Cologne, June 18, 1976*)
Prod: Harald P. Schaaf and Siegfried A. Christmann - f. Jim Kahr, gtr and the Coast To Coast Blues Band
– reissued on Chrisley / Ornament CD CM-8003 as "Live" ¹⁵ and "Blues Project" in 1991/1992
- 1977 **The Cream** - Tomato 2LP 7009 ¹⁰ (*rec Palo Alto, Calif. September, 1977*) Prod: Kevin Eggers – f. The Coast To Coast Blues Band w.a.o. John Garcia, Ron Thompson and Larry Martin (Charly CD SNAD 542* w 5 bonus tracks from Tomato)
- 1978 **Live in 1978** (at 1978 Telluride Blues and Jazz Festival) - Lunar#2 L2S LP 2008 ¹² (*rec Colorado, August 26, 1978*) 7 tracks. Prod: unknown, Hooker solo (also on JSP LP 1059 as "Hooked On Blues" and Emperio UK CD 805 in 1998 and JSP CD in 2001 as "The Real Blues - John Lee Hooker Live in Houston 1979")
- 1981 **Canned Heat and John Lee Hooker** - Live at the Fox Venice Theatre - Rhino LP 801 (3 tracks) (*rec Calif. 1981*)
(Hank Williams Jr Live: Major Moves - Warner Bros LP 25088, rec Nashville 1984) Hooker and Ray Charles dubbed later on one track "Blues Medley"
- 1984 **Jealous** - Pausa LP 7197 ¹³ (*rec Vancouver, Canada, ca 1980-1982 plus "Early One Morning" ca 1983 and "We'll Meet Again" Redwood City, Calif. 1986*) Prod: Hooker - f. Larry Hamilton, Mike Osborn, Deacon Jones ao
– reissued on Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 46 in 1996; exec prod; Richard Harrington
- 1986 **The Healer** - Chameleon LP/CD 74808 ¹⁴ / Silvertone 74307. Prod: Mike Kappus and Roy Rogers – f. Santana, Robert Cray, Bonnie Raitt, Canned Heat ao (*rec at Russian Hill Studios, S.F. Calif. & at The Plant, Sausalito and Len Heywood Studios, L.A. - January 2, 1987; October, 1987 and April/May, 1988*)
– also on Silvertone ORE CD 50 and Pointblank VPBCD 53 - reissued on Mobile Fidelity UDCD 567, 1992
- 1989 **Albert King/John Lee Hooker: I'll Play The Blues For You** - Tomato CD 96142 ¹¹ - also R2- 70396 (*Five Hooker tracks rec live in Chicago, October, 1977 – the five tracks also on Charly's edition of The Cream*)
- 1990 **The Hot Spot** (soundtrack) - Antilles CD 8752 (*rec Hollywood May 7-10, 1990*) (also on CD 261140)
- 1991 **Mr. Lucky** - Virgin/Pointblank CD 91724-2 / Silvertone ORE CD 519 (*rec betw April, 1990 & January-May, 1991*)
Prod: Roy Rogers a.o. - f. Albert Collins, Ry Cooder, Robert Cray ao
- 1992 **The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974** – MCA MCAD-10539 (*the best compilation, 16 tracks*)
Compilation annotated by Colin Escott
- 1992 **Boom Boom** - Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 12 (*rec betw 1990 and August, 1992*)
Prod: Roy Rogers and Mike Kappus – f. Robert Cray, Rich Kirsch, Mike Osborn, John Hammond a.o.
- 1992 **It's A Sin To Be Rich** - w. Lightnin' Hopkins - Gitanez Jazz (*rec Los Angeles, May 1972 by Ed Michel*)
- 1994 **The Rising Sun Collection** – Just A Memory (bootleg) RSCD 0001 (*rec. at the Rising Sun Celebrity Jazz Club, Montreal, Canada May 5, 1977*) - w. John Garcia, Steve Jones, and Larry Martin (reissued on JAM9152-2 2004 as Black Night Is Falling)
- 1995 **Chill Out** - Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 22 (*rec betw April 1991 and July 1993 plus prob. 1995*)
Prod: Roy Rogers, Santana, John Lee Hooker – f. Santana, Charles Brown, Roy Rogers ao
- 1997 **Hard Times** – Carlton Sounds CD 30360 00962 (w Lightnin' Hopkins on piano)
(*prob rec in Los Angeles or possibly San Francisco in ca 1973*) - see details page 81
- 1997 **Don't Look Back** - Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 39 (*rec betw April and September 1996 and poss. 1997*)
Prod: Van Morrison a.o. – f. Van Morrison, Jim Pugh, Los Lobos ao
- 1998 **The Best Of Friends** - Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 49 (*compilation plus some new tracks; rec between October 1987 and June 1998*) Prod: Mike Kappus – f. Eric Clapton, Robert Cray, Booker T., Charlie Musselwhite a.o.
- 2003 **Face To Face** - Eagle ER 20023-2 (EAGCD 265*) (*rec between ca 1987 and "dubs" ca 2001*)
Prod: Zakiya Hooker and Ollan Christopher Bell (originally Roy Rogers and Mike Kappus)
- 2016 **Boom Boom - Live on Air 1976** – Laser media (bootleg LM 1801) (*recorded Chicago October 1977*)
– 14 tracks (5 previously on Tomato CD 96142) with John Garcia, gtr; Mike Milwood,bs; Larry Martin,dms
- 2016 **Various TV Shows Live 1970** – Bootleg DOL LP DOR2086H ¹⁶ Rec in Detroit (feat Robert Hooker) and in Paris (feat Carey Bell, hca) ([details](#))

JOHN LEE HOOKER COMPLETE SINGLES DISCOGRAPHY

Compiled by Claus Röhnisch - updated April 7, 2019

Plug sides (A-B) on Modern were marketed 1948-49, later most singles had no "official" plug sides indicated on label.



Images Rhino's 2CD-set "The Ultimate Collection 1948-1990" (R2 70572 from 1991), the original "Boogie Chillen" 78 issue on Modern (John Lee Hooker & His Guitar, 1948), Hip-O-Select's (Universal) 2CD-set "Gold" (B0008590-02, issued 2007 and covering 1948-1993), plus "Boogie Chillen" again, now on Modern Oldies in 1964.

Issue date Label and cat.no. Artist credits and tracks (original Aside – Bside) [JLH singles and EPs at discogs](#)

Bernie Besman Detroit recordings 1948-1952

Note: "Let's Talk It Over" (Modern) and "It's My Own Fault" (Chess) recorded by Besman.

Modern 847 issued as John L. Hooker, and Modern 876 issued as John Lee Hooker and "Little" Eddie Kirkland.

[Boogie Chillen' audio](#)

		John Lee Hooker & His Guitar (on 20-627 and 663) or John Lee Hooker (on 20-688) or John Lee Hooker and his Guitar (from 20-714)
11-48	Modern 20-627	Sally May - Boogie Chillen'
3-49	Modern 20-663	Hobo Blues - Hoogie Boogie (<i>some issues as Rhythm No. 2</i>)
7-49	Modern 20-688	Whistlin' And Moanin' Blues - Weeping Willow Boogie
10-49	Modern 20-714	Crawlin' King Snake - Drifting From Door To Door
11-49	Sensation 21	Burnin' Hell - Miss Sadie Mae
12-49	Sensation 26	Huckle Up Baby - Canal Street Blues
1-50	Modern 20-730	Playin' The Races - Howlin' Wolf
3-50	Sensation 30	Let Your Daddy Ride - Goin' On Highway 51
4-50	Modern 20-746	Wednesday Evening - No Friend Around
5-50	Sensation 33	My Baby's Got Somethin' - Decoration Day Blues
7-50	Sensation 34	Boogie Chillen' No. 2 - Miss Eloise
8-50	Regal 3295	Boogie Chillen' No. 2 - Miss Eloise (reissue)
8-50	Modern 20-767	Give Me Your Phone Number - Roll 'n' Roll
10-50	Regal 3304	Notoriety Woman - Never Satisfied
12-50	Modern 20-790	Let Your Daddy Ride (alt.take) - One More Time
		John Lee Hooker
3-51	Modern 20-814	Queen Bee - John L's House Rent Boogie
5-51	Modern 829	Women In My Life - Tease Me Baby
9-51	Modern 835	How Can You Do It - I'm In The Mood
12-51	Modern 847	Anybody Seen My Baby - Turn Over A New Leaf
3-52	Modern 862	Cold Chills All Over Me - Rock Me Mama
7-52	Modern 876	It Hurts Me So - I Got Eyes For You
10-52	Modern 886	Key To The Highway - Bluebird Blues
12-52	Modern 893	New Boogie Chillen' (edited w echo) - I Tried (by Sylvester Cotton)
1960	Kent 332	Boogie Chillen - I'm In The Mood (reissues)
1964	Modern Oldies MX4	Boogie Chillen (reissue) - Sally Mae (prob the alt.take)
ca 1965	Modern Oldies MX 24	I'm In The Mood - Weeping Willow (reissues)
ca 1966	Modern Oldies MX 52	Howlin' Wolf - John L's House Rent Boogie (reissues)



Elmer Barbee Detroit productions 1948-49 and Fortune recordings later

Note: King, Regent, Savoy, Acorn and Chance issues possibly obtained via Joe Von Battle. Barbee quit as Hooker's manager in late 1951. Hi-Q repressing, numbered 5018X, has "609 Boogie" c/w "Blues For Christmas". The dates of Hi-Q and Elmore issues not confirmed.

		Texas Slim
12-48	King 4283	Black Man Blues - Stomp Boogie (planned as by "Poor Joe & His Boys")
		Delta John
2-49	Regent 1001	Helpless Blues - Goin' Mad Blues (John calls himself "Poor Slim")
		Birmingham Sam and his Magic Guitar
3-49	Savoy 5558	Landing Blues - Low Down-Midnite Boogie (John calls himself "Poor Slim")
		The Boogie Man
4-49	Acorn 308	Do The Boogie - Morning Blues
		Little Pork Chops
1949	Danceland 403	Wayne County Ramblin' Blues - Grievin' Blues (flip has unknown vocalist)
		John Lee Booker and his Guitar (1108,1110), or John L. Booker and his Guitar (1122) (rec 1949)
11-51	Chance 1108	Miss Lorraine - Talkin' Boogie (John calls himself "Slim" on "Lorraine")
1-52	Chance 1110	I Love To Boogie (Love To Boogie -on 78) - Graveyard Blues (John calls himself "Poor John")
6-52	Chance 1122	609 Boogie - Road Trouble (John calls himself "Poor Slim" - to be issued as by "Alabama Slim")
		John Lee Hooker (unknown prods)
11-58	Fortune 846	609 Boogie (ca 1954 recording) - (Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby's Hair (recorded 1948, Barbee prod)
12-59	Fortune 853	Cry Baby - Love You Baby (recorded 1954)
12-60	HiQ 5018	Blues For Christmas - Big Fine Woman (recorded 1954) HiQ 5018X - see note above.
12-61	Elmor 303	Blues For Christmas - Big Fine Woman (reissue)
		Sir John Lee Hooker
1960	Fortune 855	Crazy About That Walk - We're All God's Chillun (recorded 1960, Devora and Jack Brown, prod)



Joe Von Battle Detroit recordings 1949-50 and 1953

Note: The King titles may possibly have been recorded by Elmer Barbee and sold to Battle. The JVB issue may have been released early 1955.

		Texas Slim	
8-49	King 4315	The Numbers - Devil's Jump	
10-49	King 4323	Nightmare Blues - I'm Gonna Kill That Woman	
1-50	King 4329	Slim's Stomp - Heart Trouble Blues	
2-50	King 4334	Wandering Blues - Don't Go Baby	
5-50	King 4366	Don't You Remember Me - Late Last Night ("Don't..." prod by Idessa Malone)	
7-50	King 4377	Moaning Blues - Thinking Blues ("Thinking..." prod by Idessa Malone)	
		John Lee Booker	
12-51	King 4504	Stomp Boogie - Moaning Blues (reissue)	
		John Lee Hooker (and his Guitar on Federal)	
1958	Federal 12377	Don't You Remember Me - Late Last Night (reissues with drums dubbed)	
4-70	King 6298	Moanin' And Stompin' Blues - Don't Go Baby (reissues of 4377/4334)	
		John Lee Booker (and His Guitar on Chess)	
1951	Gone 60/61	Mad Man Blues - Boogie Now (John calls himself "Sam")	
8-51	Chess 1462	Mad Man Blues - Boogie Now (reissue)	
		Johnny Lee	
10-53	DeLuxe 6009	I'm A Boogie Man - I Came To See You Baby	
		Johnny Lee Hooker	
late 1953	JVB 30	No More Doggin' - Boogie Rambler	



Idessa Malone Detroit productions 1949-1950

Note: "Thinking Blues" and "Don't You Remember Me", on King above, produced by Idessa Malone in 1950.
 Prize 704 was reissued with an alternate, later take of "Miss Rosie Mae", c/w an instrumental (not featuring Hooker).
 Staff 711 Sunnyland Blues / Bull Headed Woman by Johnny Williams may or may not be Hooker (although listed as such in "The R&B Indies").

		Johnny Williams with Guitar Accomp (Prize 704)	
		or and his Guitar (Staff 704, 710, Gotham 506)	
		or Johnny Williams Sings (Staff 718, SwingTime 266)	
1949	Prize 704	Miss Rosie Mae - Highway Blues	
1950	Staff 704	Miss Rosie Mae - Highway Blues (reissue)	
11-50	Staff 710	Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie	
12-50	Gotham 506	Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie (reissue)	
1951	Staff 718	Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues	
1952	SwingTime 266	Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues (reissue)	



Gotham recordings (poss prod by Battle), Detroit (or poss Philadelphia) 1950/51

		Johnny Williams (509/513) or John Lee (515)	
ca 3-51	Gotham 509	Questionnaire Blues - Real Gone Gal	
1951	Gotham 513	Little Boy Blue - My Daddy Was A Jockey	
3-52	Gotham 515	Catfish - Mean Old Train	



Chess recordings Chicago April 26, 1951 and (prob. Detroit) April 24, 1952

		John Lee Booker	
8-51	Chess 1467	Ramblin' My Myself - Leave My Wife Alone	
10-51	Chess 1482	Ground Hog Blues - Louise	
		John L' Hooker	
1-52	Modern 852	Ground Hog Blues - Louise (reissue - interesting -he? on Modern this one!)	
		John Lee Hooker	
4-52	Chess 1505	High Priced Woman - Union Station Blues (rec. 1951)	
5-52	Chess 1513	Walking The Boogie - Sugar Mama (rec. April, 1952)	
3-54	Chess 1562	It's My Own Fault (rec. by Besman mid/late 1952) - Women And Money (purch. from Fortune)	



Henry Stone recordings Cincinnati (or Miami) July 1953

		John Lee Booker	
1953	Rockin' 524	Blue Monday - Lovin' Guitar Man	
1953	Rockin' 525	Pouring Down Rain - Stuttering Blues	
9-53	DeLuxe 6004	Lovin' Guitar Man - Blue Monday (reissues)	
1-54	DeLuxe 6032	Stuttering Blues - Pouring Down Rain (reissues)	
3-54	DeLuxe 6046	Real Real Gone - My Baby Don't Love Me	
		John Lee Hooker	
early 1956	Chart 609	Wobbling Baby (alt. of Pouring Down Rain) - Goin' South (alt. of Real Real Gone)	
1956	Chart 614	I Ain't Got Nobody (reissue of Blue Monday) - Misbelieving Baby (aka My Baby Put Me Down)	



Specialty recordings Detroit May 1954

		John Lee Hooker	
8-54	Specialty 528	Everybody's Blues - I'm Mad	

Bihari Modern recordings Detroit 1953-1955

Modern 897 issued as John Lee Hooker and "Little" Eddie Kirkland.

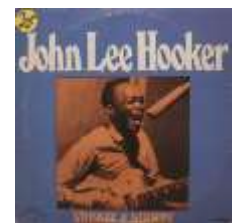
		John Lee Hooker	
1-53	Modern 897	It's Been A Long Time Baby - Rock House Boogie	
5-53	Modern 901	Ride 'Til I Die - It's Stormin' And Rainin'	
7-53	Modern 908	Please Take Me Back - Love Money Can't Buy	
10-53	Modern 916	Too Much Boogie - Need Somebody	
2-54	Modern 923	Gotta Boogie - Down Child	
5-54	Modern 931	Jump Me (One More Time) - I Wonder Little Darling	
7-54	Modern 935	I Tried Hard - Let's Talk It Over ("Let's Talk" rec. by Besman in 1951)	
10-54	Modern 942	Cool Little Car - Bad Boy	
1-55	Modern 948	Half A Stranger - Shake, Holler And Run	
5-55	Modern 958	Taxi Driver - You Receive Me	
8-55	Modern 966	Hug And Squeeze - The Syndicator	
10-55	Modern 978	Lookin' For A Woman (rec. in 1952) - I'm Ready	



Vee-Jay recordings Chicago 1955-1964 (selected concerning non-US issues)

Some issues of Vee-Jay 493 have Take A Look At Yourself / I Love Her, and some of 438 may have Boom Boom / Let's Make It. Vee-Jay had no official A- and B-sides.
 (Images below: Up Front LP 104 "I'm In The Mood" (1968), and the 2-set Trip LP 9504 "Whiskey & Wimmen" of 1973.

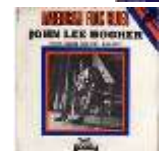
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|-------|-----------------------|--|
| 11-55 | Vee-Jay 164 | John Lee Hooker |
| 4-56 | Vee-Jay 188 | Time Is Marching - Mambo Chillen |
| 8-56 | Vee-Jay 205 | Every Night - Trouble Blues |
| 1-57 | Vee-Jay 233 | Dimples - Baby Lee |
| 4-57 | Vee-Jay 245 | I'm So Worried Baby - The Road Is So Rough |
| 9-57 | Vee-Jay 255 | I'm So Excited - I See You When You're Weak |
| 2-58 | Vee-Jay 265 | Little Wheel - Rosie Mae |
| 9-58 | Vee-Jay 293 | You Can Lead Me Baby - Unfriendly Woman |
| 2-59 | Vee-Jay 308 | I Love You Honey - You've Taken My Woman |
| 6-59 | Vee-Jay 319 | Maudie - I'm In The Mood |
| 10-59 | Vee-Jay 331 | Tennessee Blues - Boogie Chillun |
| 4-60 | Vee-Jay 349 | Hobo Blues - Crawlin Kingsnake |
| 7-60 | Vee-Jay 366 | No Shoes - Solid Sender |
| 2-61 | Vee-Jay 379 | Tupelo (Newport, purch. from Vanguard) - Dusty Road |
| 7-61 | Vee-Jay 397 | I'm Going Upstairs - I'm Mad Again |
| 4-62 | Vee-Jay 438 | Want Ad Blues - Take Me As I Am ("Take.." New York City, purch. from Prestige) |
| 8-62 | Vee-Jay 453 | Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman (Let's Make It on later pressings) |
| 2-63 | Vee-Jay 493 | She's Mine - A New Leaf |
| 7-63 | Stateside SS 203 (UK) | Take A Look At Yourself - Frisco Blues (I Love Her on early pressings) |
| 1963 | Vee-Jay 538 | Boom Boom - Frisco Blues (reissues) |
| 5-64 | Sateside SS 297 (UK) | Birmingham Blues - I'm Leaving |
| 1964 | Vee-Jay 575 | Dimples - I'm Leaving (reissues) |
| 9-64 | Stateside SS 341 (UK) | Don't Look Back - Send Me Your Pillow |
| 5-65 | Vee-Jay 670 | I Love You Honey - Send Me Your Pillow (reissues) |
| 11-65 | Vee-Jay 708 | Big Legs, Tight Skirt - Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine |
| 1965 | Oldies45 324 | It Serves Me Right - Flowers On The Hour |
| 5-70 | President PT 295 (UK) | I'm Leaving - Birmingham Blues (reissue) |
| 1973 | Trip Oldies 167 | Dimples - Boom Boom (reissues) |
| 1973 | Trip Oldies 168 | I'm In The Mood - Boogie Chillun' (reissues) |
| 1973 | Trip Oldies 169 | Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman (reissue) |
| 1973 | Dynasty DST 4501 | Frisco Blues - Dimples (reissues) |
| 1973 | Goldies45 2451 | Will The Circle Be Unbroken - Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine (reissue) |
| | | Boom Boom (reissue) - Whiskey And Wimmen |



The Other Hooker Singles 1960 - 1974 (slightly selected)

United Artists single as **Canned Heat & John Lee Hooker**. Jewel 860 (1978) features Dazie Mae b/w Hard Working Hanna by Jimmy Reed.


- | | | |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| 6-60 | Riverside 438 | John Lee Hooker |
| 1961 | Lauren 361 | I Need Some Money - No More Doggin' (from LP 12-828) |
| 1961 | Lauren 362 | Mojo Hand (Louisiana Voo Doo) - Ballad To Abraham Lincoln (from Galaxy LP 201) |
| 1963 | Battle 901 | Lost My Job - Deep Down In My Heart (from Galaxy LP 201) |
| 1963 | Galaxy 716 | I Need Some Money - No More Doggin' (reissue) |
| | | I Lost My Job (Lost My Job on LP) - You Gotta Shake It Up And Go (Shake It Up And Go on LP) |
| | | - (from LP 201 with overdub) |
| 1963 | Brunswick 12883 (Germ) | Shake It Baby - Let's Make It Baby (from AFBF 1962), also issued on Polydor UK 52930 |
| 1966 | Planet 114 (UK) | Mai Lee - Don't Be Messing Around With My Bread (from Verve LP FT 3003) |
| 4-66 | Impulse 242 | Money - Bottle Up And Go (from LP 9103) |
| 6-66 | Chess 1965 | Let's Go Out Tonight (edited) - In The Mood (I'm In The Mood on LP) (from LP 1508) |
| 1967 | BluesWay 61010 | The Motor City Is Burning (from LP 6012) - Want Ad Blues (from LP 6012 session) |
| 1968 | BluesWay 61014 | Mr. Lucky - Cry Before You Go (from LP 6012) |
| 1968 | Chess 169 523 (Fr) | One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer - Stella Mae (from LP 1508) |
| 1968 | Chess 169 536 (Fr) | In The Mood - Walkin' The Boogie (from Chess albums) |
| 5-68 | BluesWay 61017 | Think Twice Before You Go - Back Biters And Syndicators (from LP 6012) |
| 1968 | Stateside FSS 613 (Fr) | Cry Before You Go - Boom Boom Boom (from LP 6012) |
| 1969 | BluesWay 61023 | I Don't Wanna Go To Vietnam - Mean, Mean Woman (from LP 6023) |
| 1969 | Stax 0053 | Grinder Man - Slow And Easy (from LP 4134) |
| ca 1969 | Goody GY 8005 (Fr) | Shake Holler And Run - Bad Boy (from LP Crown 5295/Goody 70.000) |
| 1970 | Carson / Calumet 1662 | I Feel Good - Dazie Mae (from LP 3662) - French single, two labels |
| 1970 | America 17014 (Fr) | I Wanna Dance All Night - Baby Don't You Wanna Go (from LP 6101) |
| 1971 | Jewel 824 | I Feel Good (parts 1 and 2) (from LP 5005 - extended? reissue) |
| 1977 | Jewel 852 | Stand By (parts 1 and 2) (from LP 5005 - extended?) |
| 1978 | Jewel 856 | Roll And Tumble - Baby Baby (from LP 5005) |
| 4-71 | United Artists 50779 | Let's Make It - Whiskey And Wimmen' (from Liberty LP 2-35002) - also on Liberty 15463 |
| 1971 | ABC 11298 | Doin' The Shout - Kick Hit 4 Hit Kix U (Blues For Jimi and Janis) (from LP 2-720) |
| 1972 | ABC 11320 | Boogie With The Hook - Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive (from LP 736) |
| 1974 | ABC 004-96069 (Fr) | Make It Funky - 714 Blues (from LP 838) |



HOOKER HOOKER - the best John Lee Hooker anthology collection -
 4cd BOX-SET on Shout! Factory (US) issued October 31, 2006 Catalog #: 826663-10198
 also on Blue Label SPV 95942 (Europe). 84 tracks recorded between 1948 - 1998.



Johnnie's Very First Singles (Nov 1948 - Nov 1949)




November 1948

John Lee Hooker & His Guitar
 Modern 20-627
 issued 3 November 1948
 rec 3 September 1948

Sally May (7003)
Boogie Chillen' (7006)

prod by Bernie Besman






December 1948

Texas Slim
 King 4283
 issued December 1948
 rec early November 1948

Black Man Blues (5592)
Stomp Boogie (5590)

prod by Elmer Barbee






February 1949


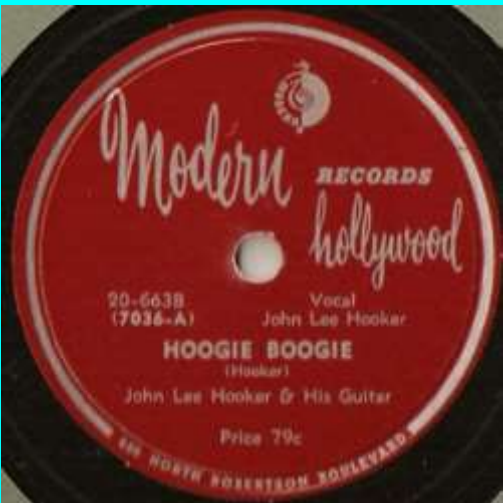
Delta John
 Regent 1001
 issued February 1949
 rec early November 1948

Helpless Blues (D1102)
Goin' Mad Blues (D1104)

prod by Elmer Barbee
 and sold to Savoy in
 December 1948




Johnnie's Very First Singles (part two)



	<p>March 1949</p> <p>John Lee Hooker & His Guitar Modern 20-663 issued March 1949</p> <p>A-side rec 3 September 1948 (or poss earlier) B-side rec probably 16 or 18 February 1949</p> <p>Hobo Blues (7008-B) Hoogie Boogie (7036-A)</p> <p>prod by Bernie Besman</p>	
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	<p>March 1949</p> <p>Birmingham Sam and his Magic Guitar Savoy 5558 issued March 1949 rec early November 1948</p> <p>Landing Blues (D-1107) Low Down-Midnite Boogie (D-1106)</p> <p>prod by Elmer Barbee</p>	
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	<p>April 1949</p> <p>The Boogie Man Acorn 308 issued April 1949 rec ca February 1949 (or poss ca December 1948)</p> <p>Do The Boogie * (JB-1404) Morning Blues (JB-1403)</p> <p>prod by Elmer Barbee and sold to Savoy * with James Watkins, pno and Curtis Foster, dms</p> <p>(note: Barbee's recordings for King and the Savoy labels above probably from diff sessions).</p>	
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Johnnie's Very First Singles (part three)

	<p>July 1949</p> <p>John Lee Hooker Modern 20-688 issued July 1949</p> <p>A-side rec probably 16 or 18 February 1949 B-side rec ca July 1949</p> <p>Whistlin' and Moanin' Blues (7033) Weeping Willow Boogie * (7053)</p> <p>prod by Bernie Besman * with Bernie Besman, perc</p>	
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	<p>Mid 1949</p> <p>Johnny Williams with Guitar Accomp. Prize 704 issued mid 1949 rec early 1949</p> <p>Miss Rosie Mae (704-A) Highway Blues (704-B)</p> <p>prod by Idessa Malone</p>	
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	<p>August 1949</p> <p>Texas Slim King 4315 issued August 1949 rec ca August 1949</p> <p>The Numbers (5776) Devil's Jump (5773)</p> <p>prob prod by Joe Von Battle (or poss by Elmer Barbee)</p>	
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Johnnie's Very First Singles (part four)

<p>Modern RECORDS hollywood</p> <p>20-714A (B-7012) Vocal John Lee Hooker CRAWLIN' KING SNAKE (Hooker) JOHN LEE HOOKER and his Guitar Price 79c</p> <p>SEE NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD</p>	<p>October 1949</p> <p>John Lee Hooker and his Guitar Modern 20-714 issued October 1949 rec 3 September 1948 (B-side poss even earlier)</p> <p>Crawlin' King Snake (B-7012) Drifting From Door To Door (B-7007)</p> <p>prod by Bernie Besman</p>	<p>Modern RECORDS hollywood</p> <p>20-714B (B-7007) Vocal John Lee Hooker Drifting From Door to Door (Hooker) JOHN LEE HOOKER and his Guitar Price 79c</p> <p>SEE NORTH ROBERTSON BOULEVARD</p>
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<p>KING</p> <p>8769 (Lola-BMI) Vocal with Guitar NIGHTMARE BLUES (Texas Slim) TEXAS SLIM 4323-A</p>	<p>October 1949</p> <p>Texas Slim King 4323 issued October 1949 rec August 1949</p> <p>Nightmare Blues (5769) I'm Gonna Kill That Woman (5774)</p> <p>prob prod by Joe Von Battle (or poss by Elmer Barbee)</p>	<p>KING</p> <p>5774 (Lola-BMI) Vocal with Guitar I'M GONNA KILL THAT WOMAN (Texas Slim) TEXAS SLIM 4323-AA</p>
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<p>Copyrighted JAM SESSION SERIES</p> <p>SENSATION</p> <p>21</p> <p>Voids Plastic NON-BREAKABLE Under Normal Use</p> <p>BURNIN' HELL (Hooker) JOHN LEE HOOKER AND HIS GUITAR 6-7040</p> <p>SENSATION RECORD CO. 3747 WOODWARD AVE. DETROIT 1, MICH.</p>	<p>November 1949</p> <p>John Lee Hooker and his guitar Sensation 21 issued November 1949</p> <p>A-side rec ca February - April 1949 B-side rec ca July 1949</p> <p>Burnin' Hell * (B-7040) Miss Sadie Mae (B-7054)</p> <p>prod by Bernie Besman * with Eddie Burns, hca</p>	<p>Copyrighted JAM SESSION SERIES</p> <p>SENSATION</p> <p>21</p> <p>Voids Plastic NON-BREAKABLE Under Normal Use</p> <p>MISS SADIE MAE (Hooker) JOHN LEE HOOKER AND HIS GUITAR 6-7054</p> <p>SENSATION RECORD CO. 3747 WOODWARD AVE. DETROIT 1, MICH.</p>
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All the Original Hooker Singles December 1949 - March 1952

The original A- or B-side singles (most label shots ctsy of Scot A. Pell)
(appr chrono order of issue)
Danceland 78 of (late?) 1949 right





All the Original Hooker Singles April 1952 – December 1957

- plus the alternate "609 Boogie" on Fortune (issued 1958, imaged right)

A- or B-sides of the original singles (most label shots ctsy of Scot A. Pell). See next page for 1958-1970

- Approximate chrono order of issue.



THE 45 SINGLES 1958 – 1970 (slightly selected)

Plus some "selected" post 1970 at the end. - Appr chrono order of issue - The Fortune flip of the alternate "609 Boogie" (11/1958) shown below.



[Find more on 45cat.com](http://45cat.com)


From left above: ABC single 1972, Goldies45 in 1972, Dynasty single 1973, America (Fr) single and one of three Jewel singles issued during the 1970s and Collecables 3082 of circa 1980s. Right: "Blues For Big Town" (v. a. Detroit LP in two versions) - 1985 on Japan P-Vine PLP 6061, and 1988 on Italian Chess LP 8119.





EIGHT "MOODS" of JOHNNY LEE

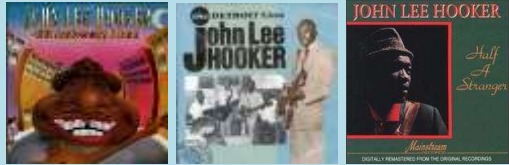
The LP and CD issues are the original albums. The songs were in most cases issued on several other LPs/CDs.


Detroit 1951

	<p>I'm in the Mood – rec August 7, 1951 - Modern 835 (MM 1636 - issued September 1951) with Hooker 3-voice vcl/gtr/(plus prob extra dubbed gtr); Eddie Kirkland, sec gtr - also issued on Crown LP 5157 "The Blues" (1960), UA 3LP 127 "John Lee Hooker's Detroit" (1973), and Ace CD 315 "The Legendary Modern Recordings" (1993). Also on Capitol CD 33912 (1995) as Three Voice Original Mood (titled so also on UA LP).</p>
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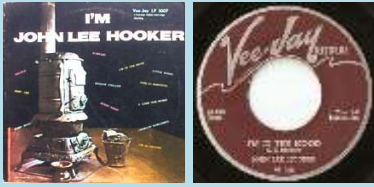
	<p>Johnny Lee's Mood (Original One Voice) – rec August 7, 1951 - on United Artists LP 5512 "Any where Any time Any place" (issued 1971) with Hooker 1-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr - also issued on Capitol CD 33912 "Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings" (1995).</p>
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	<p>Two Voice Original Mood – rec August 7, 1951 - on United Artists 3LP 127 "John Lee Hooker's Detroit" (issued 1973) with Hooker 2-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr - also issued on Capitol CD 33912.</p>
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	<p>I'm in the Mood (alternate take) – rec August 7, 1951 - on DCC LP/CD 042 "40th Anniversary Album" (issued 1989), and reissued on Demon LP/CD 154 "The Detroit Lion" (1990) with Hooker 1-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr - also issued on Mainstream CD 903 "Half A Stranger" (1991), and Audio Fidelity CD AFZ 005 "Boogie Chillen".</p>
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	<p>I'm in the Mood (with harmonica dub) – rec August 7, 1951 - on Ace CD 799 "John Lee Hooker presents House Rent Boogie" issued 2001). MM 1636 with dubbed harmonica (poss Hooker himself).</p>
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Chicago 1959

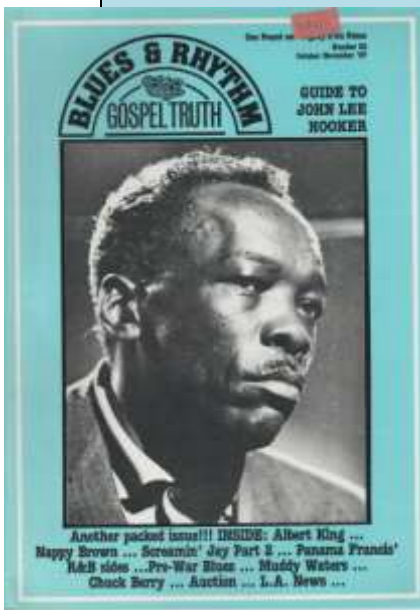
	<p>I'm in the Mood – rec January 22, 1959 - Vee-Jay LP 1007 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (issued ca August 1959) and Vee-Jay 308 (single, issued February 1959) with Hooker vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor, second gtr.</p>
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Chicago 1966

	<p>I'm in the Mood – rec May 1966 - Chess LP 1508 "The Real Folk Blues" (issued 1966) and Chess 1965 (single as In The Mood, issued June 1966) with Hooker vcl/gtr; unknown bs, poss tamb; S.P. Leary or poss Fred Below, dms (Lafayette Leake, pno and Eddie Burns, gtr not present here - unless Burns is playing the bs on this one).</p>
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San Francisco 1988

	<p>I'm in the Mood - rec April 1988 - Chameleon LP/CD 74808 "The Healer" (1989) and Chameleon 10137 (single, issued 1990) (both records reissued on Silvertone in 1990) with Hooker vcl/gtr; Bonnie Raitt, vcl/slide gtr; Roy Rogers, gtr; Scott Matthews, dms.</p>
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John Lee Hooker's Original Vinyl Albums

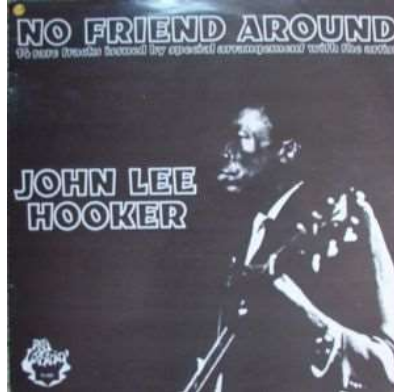
Many reissues, bootlegs and public domain LPs on different labels from the '70s and on not listed below. (* denotes original European issue).
Most catalog numbers based on listings by Tim Neely in **Goldmine Standard Catalog** (although the hyphens do not always appear on label or cover).



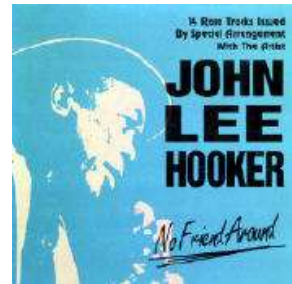
The 1972 LP "Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" on ABC (reissued on MCA, SeeForMiles and BeatGoesOn CDs), the Fortune LP of ca 1963, and Tomato's "The Cream" 2-set LP (featuring live recordings of 1977 – with several reissues and with bonus tracks on a Charly 2CD-set).



The two British Advent LPs of 1966 and 1969, "John Lee Hooker and his Guitar" (LP 2801 - featuring rare early singles from Chance, Sensation, and Gotham) and "No Friend Around" (LP 2804 – also rare early singles, this time from King, Regent, Savoy, Acorn, Staff, Sensation, and Modern). 2804 never had a cover and was soon issued on Red Lightnin' RL 003. Imaged below is a CD version. Further down – the Charly LP version.



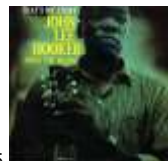
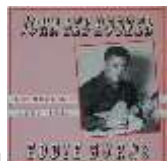
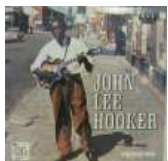
The "Mad Man Blues" 2-set LP CH2 9214 (same cover on CH2 92507) (see back cover below right) - and the 1969 LP "No Friend Around" on Red Lightnin' LP RL003 – which is the re-packed Advent LP 2804), later reissued several times on LP and CD with differing covers.



The Detroit Years: 1948 – 1955

Note: The United releases pressed with slightly different album covers and issued on United/Superior or United labels. See session discography for CD reissues.

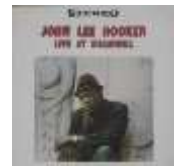
Chess LP 1438	(October 1959)	House Of the Blues (1951-52) issued in Britain on Pye NPL-2842 in 1964; re-issues incl Chess CH-9258
Crown CLP 5157	(early 1960)	The Blues (early Modern sides) reissued on United US 7725 in ca 1970; again reissued as The Greatest Hits of... on Kent 5059/KST559 in 1971, and on United 7769 ca 1974
King 727	(late 1960)	Sings Blues – Everyone A Pearl (reissued as KLP-727 in 1988) - Battle rec. 1948-50, 16 tracks (with 4 actually Earl Hooker) reissued with 12 tracks: on Ember 3356* in 1964 - reissued 1970 on King KS-1085; on Acrobat 51702 CD* ¹ and on Gusto 5032 1976 and German Bellaphon BID 8021* as Moanin' and Stompin' Blues. Also issued on Charly CD*, SeeForMiles* and King Masters
Audio Lab 1520	(ca 1960)	Highway of Blues (featuring six King sides plus "Sticks" McGhee)
Chess LP 1454	(early 1961)	Plays And Sings The Blues (1950-52) several re-issues incl Chess CH-9199
Crown CLP 5232	(1961)	Sings The Blues (Modern sides) - reissued as Driftin' Thru The Blues on Ember* 3371 in 1966, and Custom CM 2048 (mono) and CS-1048 (stereo) in 1966 and 1972, plus United US 7710 in 1969
Crown CLP 5295	(1962)	Folk Blues (fine 1952-54 Modern sides) reissued on United US 7729 in ca 1971
Crown CLP 5353	(1963)	The Great (Modern sides) reissued on United US 7731 as The Great Blues Sounds of... in ca 1971
Atco 33-151	(early 1963)	Don't Turn Me From Your Door - John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues (Henry Stone prod. DeLuxe 1953, plus 1961) – LP produced 1962 - titled Driftin' Blues on Atlantic reissue 590003*
Fortune 3002	(1963)	Big Maceo & John Lee (featuring one side each)
Advent 2801*	(1966)	John Lee Hooker & his Guitar (British bootleg Sensation et.al.)
Kent LP 5025 (KST525)	(1967)	Original Folk Blues (Modern/Crown rec) reissued on United 7746 in ca 1972
Red Lightnin' RL003*	(1969)	No Friend Around (originally Advent 2804; early sides bootleg), also on Charly 30170 ²
Specialty SPS 2125	(1970)	Alone ³ (Bernie Besman, Sensation prod.) also issued on UK Sonet SNTF 5005
Specialty SPS 2127	(1971)	Goin' Down Highway 51 (Besman)
United Artists UAS-5512	(1971)	Coast To Coast Blues Band - Any where Any time Any place (Besman) reissued on BGOCD363*
GreeneBottle GBS 3130	(1972)	Johnny Lee (2-set Besman alternates)
United Artists UA-LA127-J3	(1973)	John Lee Hooker's Detroit (3LP-set Besman)
Chess 2CH 60011	(1973)	Mad Man Blues (2-set of Chess + 1966 rec) - reissued on Chess CH-2 9214 in 1982 and CH2-92507 in 1984
Polydor 2310 256*	(1973)	Slim's Stomp (all 16 "Texas Slim" tracks from King; including the first four corrected; no dubbed drums)
Sonet/Specialty SNTF 5013*	(1973)	Hooker, Hopkins & Hogg (Hooker's 1954)
Savoy 2-2255	(1981)	Southern Blues (2-set album with v.a. - Barbee 1948 Hooker rec. on one side)
Ace CH 37*	(1981)	John Lee Hooker volume one ⁴ (British Modern reissues)
Chess PLP 6061*	(ca 1985)	Blues For Big Town (various artists – Hooker Fortune tracks) - also on GCH 8119
Collectables COL-5151	(1987)	Gotham Golden Classics - Rare Recordings (rec. 1951)
Krazy Kat 816*	(1987)	Detroit Blues, 1950-51 ⁵ (Collectables tracks + Eddie Burns, 1951) reiss. on Collectables CD 5316
Official LP 6029*	(1989)	Boogie Chillen (Modern recordings, Danish bootleg) – probably reissued on CD 86029
DCC DZL 042	(1989)	40th Anniversary Album (Besman) also on Demon F154* The Detroit Lion in 1990
Official CD 86065*	(1990)	Cold Chills (rare Modern recordings, Danish bootleg poss only issued on CD)
Krazy Kat KK 200*	(1990)	Boogie Awhile (British 2-set Elmer Barbee plus, 1948-53)
Flyright FLY CD57*	(2000)	The Unknown (private recordings of 1951 - not 1949) reissued as Jack O' Diamonds on US Eagle CD 20024 in 2004



The Chicago Years: 1955 – 1964

Several of the original Vee-Jay LPs reissued on British Joy in 1968-69, and eight albums (including Dynasty, now with a Vee-Jay logo) reissued on Vee-Jay / Chameleon (with same catalogue numbers – although with an 8-prefix - in 1999). Collectables reissued nine Vee-Jay albums on CD (now with new cat. numbers – 7107-108, plus 7129 'The Folk Lore of...'). Uncountable numbers of bootlegs (and 'regular Vee-Jay subs') on different labels from the '70s and on. See session discography for Vee-Jay CD reissues (and Part Three for others). The Discotheque LPs have the Vee-Jay logo on label (with 65-matrixes) but Discotheque logo on cover (and are marked stereo).

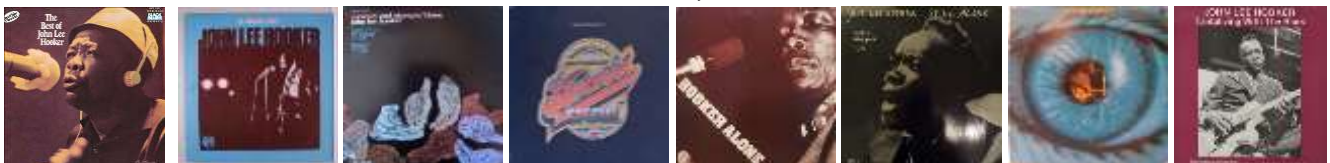
Vee-Jay LP 1007	(August 1959)	I'm John Lee Hooker (compilation 1955-59 – later also issued in fake stereo with diff label logo)
Riverside 12-838	(November 1959)	The Country Blues of (1959) also on UK Ace 282* and Riverside HBS 8020* as The Folk Blues . 1963 on Battle BLP 6114 and Fontana 688.700* as How Long Blues . Later on Prestige 712258; Re-issued on Riverside 673020* Tupela Blues 1969. Reiss on Original Blues Classics CD 542 (The Country Blues of)
Riverside 12-321	(1960)	That's My Story - JLH Sings The Blues (1960) also on Battle BLP 6113 The Blues Man 1963; reissued on Fontana 683.269* Blue!, and Riverside 673005* You're Leavin' Me Baby 1969. Also on Ace CH 259* as That's My Story and reissued on Original Blues Classics CD 538
Vee-Jay LP 1023	(1960)	Travelin' ("No Shoes" LP 1960 - also issued in Stereo, same cat.no.)
Vee-Jay LP 1033	(1961)	The Folk Lore of ("I'm Mad Again" LP, 1960-61 also issued in "fake stereo" SR 1033)
Vee-Jay LP 1043 /SR 1043	(March 1962)	Burnin' ("Boom Boom" LP, late 1961 mono and stereo) also on Topline 176
Vee-Jay LP 1049	(1962)	The Best of (comp) also on Buddah BDS-4002 The Very Best of, 1970
Galaxy 201 (mono)/8201 (stereo)	(1962)	John Lee Hooker ("Lost My Job" LP, Besman rec 1961), stereo LP titled The King of Folk Blues , Ameria 6074* ⁷
Vee-Jay LP 1058 /SR 1058	(early 1963)	The Big Soul of ("Frisco Blues" LP 1962) also on Stateside 11053*
Vee-Jay 1066 /SR 1066	(late 1963)	On Campus (1963) I Want To Shout The Blues Stateside 10074*; and Buddah BDS-7506 Big Band Blues, 1970
Galaxy 8205 /205	(1963)	Live At Sugar Hill (titled Live At Sugarhill on Ace LP CH287*- imaged below right, 1990) - rec. in San Francisco 1962
Vee-Jay 1078 /SR 1078	(1964)	Concert At Newport (1963)
Riverside RM 008*	(1964)	Burning Hell (1959) reiss. on Original Blues Classics OBCCD 555
Vee-Jay LP 8502 /VJS 8502	(1965)	Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer? (comp. of Vee-Jay track) also on Exodus 325 in 1966 (titled Is He Really The World's Greatest Blues Singer? on Vee-Jay and Exodus labels)
Everest / Archive FS 222	(1965)	Archive of Folk & Jazz Music (ten VJ tracks reissued on several Europe labels)
Guest Star 1902	(1966)	Teachin' The Blues (Henry Stone 1961, plus Joe Carrol)
Up Front UPF-104	(late 1968)	I'm In The Mood (Vee-Jay compilation, lowprice)
Stax STS- 2013	(1969)	That's Where It's At! (Stone 1961) also issued in 1979 on Stax STX-4134 (UK CDSXE 064 in 1990)
Discotheque/VJ DS 7006	(ca 1970)	Discotheque Dancing Vol I (Send Me Your Pillow and other VJ tracks from 1960 and 1962)
Discotheque/VJ DS 7007	(ca 1970)	Discotheque Dancing Vol II (Thelma and other VJ tracks from 1961 and 1962)
Atlantic SD 7228	(1972)	Detroit Special (The 1953/1961 Atco LP issued with several bonus tracks from 1953)
Trip 9504	(1973)	Whiskey & Wimmen (2-set Vee-Jay compilation low-price)
Dynasty DY-7301	(1973)	In Person (Vee-Jay sublabel, featuring VJ recordings not on above LPs, mostly recorded 1964)
GNP Crescendo GNPS-10007	(1974)	The Best of John Lee Hooker (20 classic Vee-Jay tracks on a 2-set LP) reissued on CD in 1987
Fantasy 24706	(1974)	Boogie Chillun (2-set of the "Sugar Hill" sessions Galaxy 8205 plus ten more – total of 20 tracks)
Fantasy 24722	(1977)	Black Snake (2-set reissue of the two first Riverside LPs)
Vee-Jay 2-1004	(1977)	"Gold" (2-set reissue of Vee-Jay 1007 and 1058)
DJM DJD 28026*	(1977)	Dimples (Vee-Jay 2-set; early sessions incl unissued tracks)
Trip TOP 16-46	(1978)	16 Greatest Hits (Vee-Jay recordings from different sessions)
Muse MR 5205	(1979)	Sittin' Here Thinkin' (Savoy rec 1961 – 11 tracks) reissued as Sad And Lonesome MCD 6009 – 12 tracks, 1989
Charly CRB 1004*	(1980)	This Is Hip (As I Am on label) (British Vee-Jay comp incl unissued)
Charly CRB 1014*	(1981)	Everybody Rockin' (British Vee-Jay comp incl unissued)
Charly CRB 1029*	(1981)	Moanin' The Blues (British Vee-Jay comp incl unissued)
Charly CRB 1081*	(1984)	Solid Sender (Travelin' + unissued bonus tracks)
Instant LP 5009*	(ca 1985)	The Boogie Man (European Charly Vee-Jay comp incl unissued)
Chameleon LP/CD D1-74794	(1989)	The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie (licensed Vee-Jay compilation)
Ace LP CH298*	(1990)	Live At Sugar Hill Vol 2 (the ten extra tracks from the Sugar Hill sessions)
Vee-Jay CD 713	(1993)	John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958 (including tracks not on LP before, plus one unissued)
Fantasy FCD 47714	(2002)	Live At Sugar Hill Vol. 2 (19 extra unissued tracks from Sugar Hill sessions above)
The Devil's Tunes LP/CD002	(2014)	I'm Going Home ("rehearsal" session June 10, 1958) with two bonus tracks on CD



Coast to Coast: 1965 – 1975, plus selected

(during the '70s and early '80s Hooker also "guested" on several v.a. albums not listed)
Note: Several ABC/Bluesway LPs issued on Probe* and later reissued on MCA/Universal and UK BeatGoesOn CDs - and on other labels.

Verve-Folkways FT-3003 / FTS-3003 (stereo)	(1965)	... And Seven Nights (rec Nov. 1964) issued as John Lee Hooker on British XTRA 1114 (ca 1971) and New World 6003 (1972), also US Cleve LP 82871 as John Mayall and the Groundhogs ; and in 1996 as Hooker and The Hogs on Indigo IGOCD 2059; also on US Wand WDS 689 (1969) as On The Waterfront - with brass/horns added, and on Sequel CD NEBCD657* (1993) as The 1965 London Sessions (also with brass/horns)
Impulse A/AS-9103	(1966)	It Serve(s) You Right To Suffer (rec 1965 – reissued on BGOCD335*
Chess LP 1508	(1966)	The Real Folk Blues ("One Bourbon" LP rec 1966) - reissued on Chess CH- 9271
Chess CHD 9329	(1991)	More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album (rec 1966, compl new tracks)
Bluesway BL/BLS 6002	(early 1967)	Live At Cafe Au Go Go (rec 1966 aka Live at the Café au Go-Go) reissued on BGOCD39*
Bluesway BL/BLS 6012	(early 1968)	Urban Blues (Al Smith prod, Chicago, rec 1967 – 11 tracks) reissued on BGOCD122* - 12 tracks
Bluesway BLS 6023	(early 1969)	Simply The Truth (rec September 17-18, 1968) - reissued on MCAD22136 and BGOCD40*
Bluesway BLS 6038	(1969)	If You Miss 'Im ... I Got 'Im (rec 1969) - reissued on BGOCD392*
Carson/Calumet 3662*	(1970)	I Feel Good (French 1969 recordings) also on US Jewel 5005 in 1971
America 61001*	(1970)	I Wanna Dance All Night (from same session as above) reissued on Musidisc 1361
Black And Blue 333023*	(ca 1971)	Get Back Home In The USA (French late 1969) also on 335553, reissued with bonus tracks on CD 59023
Liberty 2-35002	(1971)	Hooker 'N' Heat (2-set May, 1970) reissued as Crawlin' King on Trip 3501, and as Infinite Boogie on Rhino; also on BGO CD 694
ABC S-720	(1971)	Endless Boogie (2-set November, 1970) reissued on MCAD 10413. and w lesser tracks on BGOCD70*
Bluesway BLS 6052	(1972)	Kabuki Wuki (rec live in L.A. 1971)
ABC X-736	(1972)	Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive (rec 1971) reissued on MCAD 31361 and SeeForMiles CDSEE 89*
ABC X-761	(1973)	Live At Soledad Prison (rec 1972) – reissued on Beat Goes On CD 897* (also featuring ABC 736)
ABC X-768	(1973)	Born In Mississippi, Raised Up In Tennessee (rec 1971, dubbed 1973)
ABC X-838	(1974)	Free Beer And Chicken ("Homework" and more, rec 1974) – reissued on BGOCD123*
Festival 2-186*	(1975)	Black Rhythm 'n' Blues (2-set reissue of Carson and America above)
MCA 1686*	(1982)	Tantalizing with the Blues (British ABC/Bluesway comp 1965-1971)
Tomato 2696141	(1989)	I'll Play The Blues For You (5 tracks live Chicago 1977- the others by Albert King)
Tomato 2696601 (2-set)*	(1989)	Alone (live solo, 1976); reissue of Labor LAB 4/MMG 640000 (1980/81) and of Still Alone MMG 640005 (1982); also on single CDs on Tomato as Alone Vol 1 and Vol 2 and reissued on Rhino/Tomato CD R2 70387
Tomato 7009 (2-set)	(1978)	The Cream (live rec 1977) reissued on German Tomato 269021 The Father of the Blues , with longer track time; and reissued as "The Cream" on Charly CD SNAD 542* with bonus tracks



"The Best of John Lee Hooker" on GNP Crescendo (2-set 1974), "16 Greatest Hits" on Trip TOP (1978), "Moanin' and Stompin' Blues" on King (1970), "Detroit Special" on Atlantic (1972), "Alone" on LaborLAB4 (1980) and "Still Alone" on MMG 640005 (1982), "Mad Man Blues" on Chess (1973), and "Tantalizing with the Blues" (featuring 13 Impulse/Bluesway recordings).

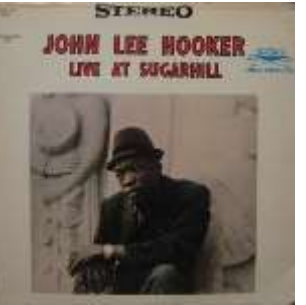
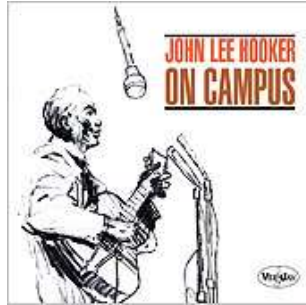
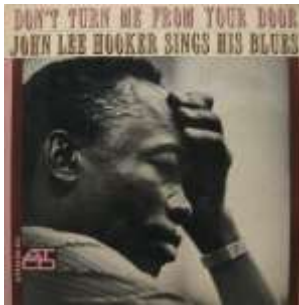
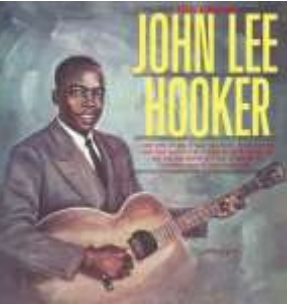
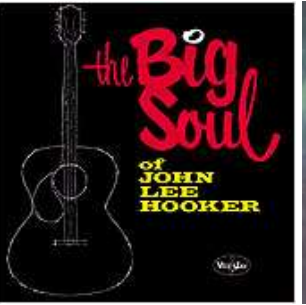
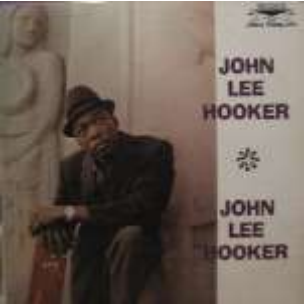
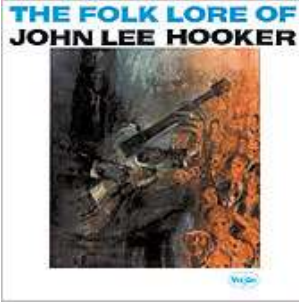
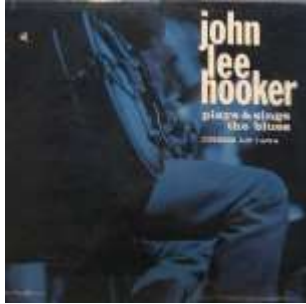
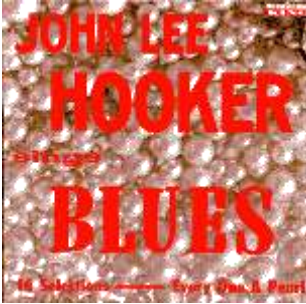
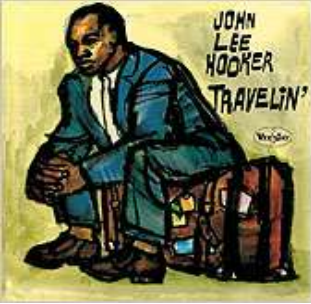
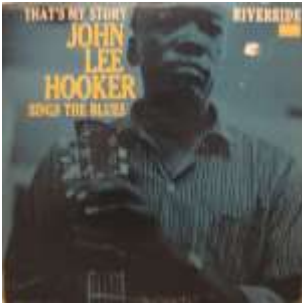
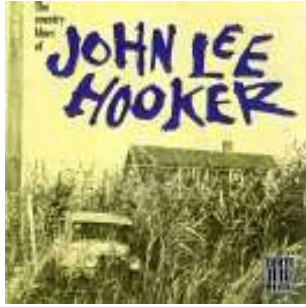
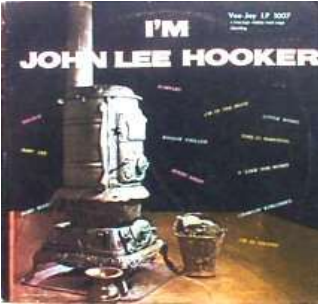


Check for Hooker's original LPs at discs



Hooker's Original LP Albums: 1959-1963

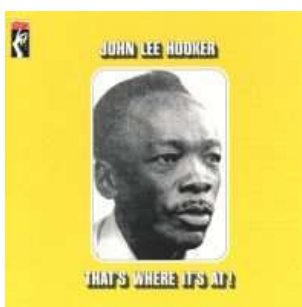
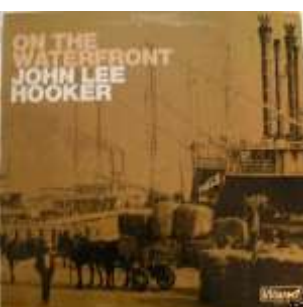
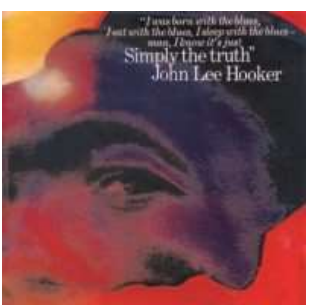
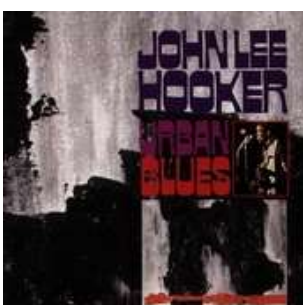
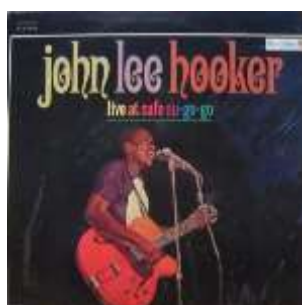
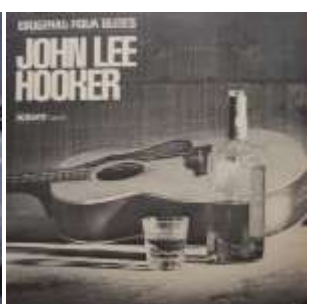
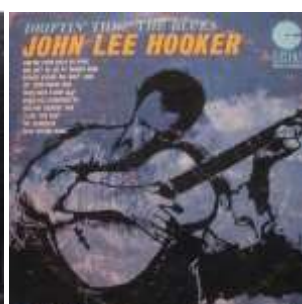
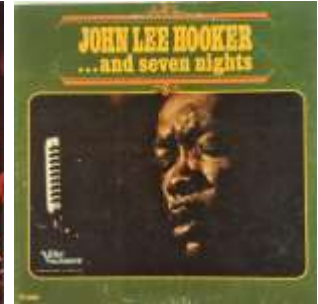
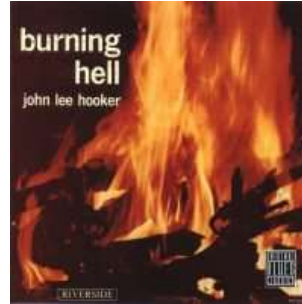
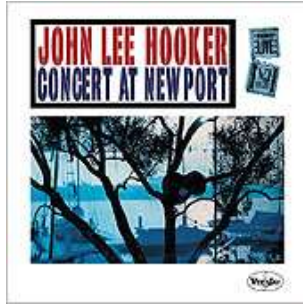
Thanks to Scot Pell for several of the cover images. Shown above are the 1963 Battle Records' reissues of the first two Riverside LPs. 'I Want To Shout The Blues' is a British re-packed 'On Campus', and top center the circa 1960 'Highway of Blues' with six Hooker tracks plus 'Sticks' McGhee on Audio Lab (a King sub).





Hooker's Original LP Albums 1964-1969

Above: "No Friend Around" – on the original Advent label and bottom left is the Red Lightnin' "official bootleg" RL 003 of 1969. Top right: The Fortune LP of circa 1964.



JOHN LEE HOOKER – Selected original LPs of the 1970s

Starting with 1970s LPs containing classic early recordings – and finishing with the new 1970s recordings.
 Top right: Kent KST 559 of 1971 "The Greatest Hits of John Lee Hooker" (a reissue of "The Blues"), and the United version of 1974.
 The first four images below are United/Superior LPs and the fifth is a United LP (all with catalogue numbers US-7000-series).



The United reissues of Crown and Kent albums (issued circa 1970-1972). Some were retitled. "Sings The Blues" became "Driftin' Thru The Blues", Crown's first LP was still titled "The Blues", and "Folk Blues" kept its name. "The Great John Lee Hooker" became "The Great Blues Sounds of John Lee Hooker" – the Kent LP "Original Folk Blues" was not retitled on United. Then: the King reissue of the original King LP "Sings Blues" (issued 1970), now titled "Moanin' And Stompin' Blues" (excluding the four Earl Hooker tracks). "The Best of John Lee Hooker" 2-set on GNP Crescendo in 1974 (distributed by Everest Records). Trip "16 Greatest Hits" of 1976 and Trip LP "Whiskey And Wimmen" of 1973.



The five great compilations featuring alternate Besman tracks – two on Specialty, one on United Artists, the Greene Bottle double-LP and the triple-LP-set on United Artists (issued 1970-1973). "Detroit Special" on Atlantic (a reissue of Atco's "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" – this time with several bonus tracks of the 1953 session) issued 1972.



Polydor LP "Slim's Stomp" with all his Texas Slim recordings undubbed (issued 1973). The Chess double-LP "Mad Man Blues" comprising songs from his three original Chess LPs (issued 1973). Sonet's fine LP featuring Hooker Specialty 1954 tracks (issued 1973); the two Fantasy 2-set LPs covering the original "Sugar Hill" LPs and the two original Riverside LPs (issued 1974 and 1977). Buddha's two Vee-Jay reissues of 1970 – "The Very Best of JLH" (former VJ 1049) and first one below: "Big Band Blues" (former VJ 1066);



Starting second: Great 1970s albums featuring Vee-Jay tracks: Dynasty "In Person" with previously unissued LP-tracks (1973), Vee-Jay's 2-set "Gold" ("I'm John Lee Hooker" and "Burnin'" in 1977), DJM 2-set "Dimples" (featuring his very first Vee-Jay recordings (issued 1977). The final Hooker LP of the 1970s, comprising unissued songs from a session for Savoy in New Jersey circa late 1961, "Sittin' Here Thinkin'" (issued 1979). Far right: the first new-recorded 1970s album – the Carson (France) LP "I Feel Good" here on US Jewel, issued in 1970, recorded in France in October 1969.



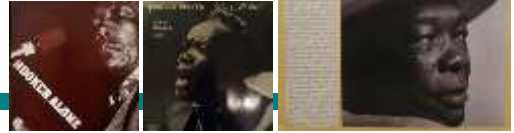
The America (France) LP "I Wanna Dance All Night" (also recorded in October 1969 and issued in 1970); the Black & Blue (France) LP "Get Back Home In The U.S.A." (recorded in November 1969, issued ca 1971). Liberty 2-set LP "Hooker 'N Heat" (1971), ABC 2-set LP "Endless Boogie" (1971), Bluesway "Kabuki Wuki", and the ABC album "Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" (both 1972).



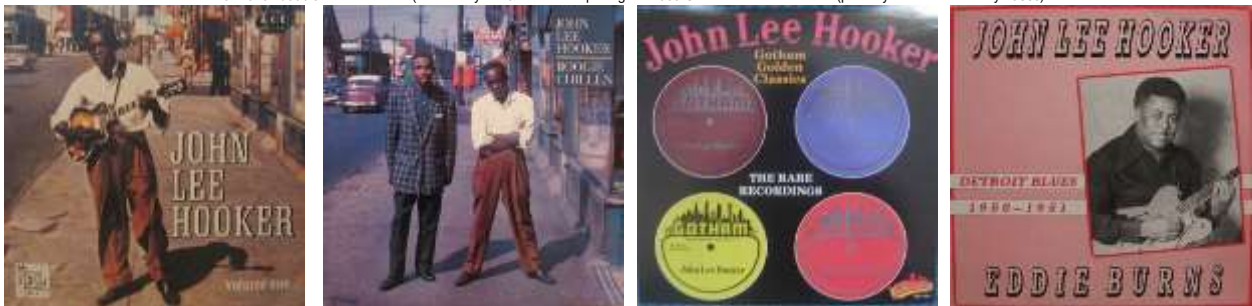
The ABC albums "Live At Soledad Prison", "Born In Mississippi, Raised Up In Tennessee" (both 1973), and "Free Beer And Chicken" (1974); A double LP comprising the last session of the 1970s, the live "Cream" on Tomato – recorded in Palo Alto, September 1977 with Hooker's Coast To Coast Blues Band (issued 1978). Ornament LP "Live & Well" (issued in 1977 and recorded in Germany in June 1976). Finally yet another live album– this time "Live in 1978" on Lunar#2 (it is a rare album recorded in Colorado August 26) – and reissued several times with complete different dates and locations of recording and under different labels and titles. The "Alone" albums on Labor and MMG in 1976 (later Tomato) – see next page.

JOHN LEE HOOKER – Selected original LPs of the 1980s

(with some extras at the end issued during the early "Healer" Rosebud period). Imaged right: the original Labor cover of "Alone Volume One" (issued 1980 and reissued on MMG in 1981), and "Still Alone" (vol Two) on MMG issued 1982. They were live recordings done in New York in February 1976. Far right the Tomato (Netherlands) double LP (a 1989 reissue).



Five Charly Hooker albums, starting with a reissue of "No Friend Around" from the early 1980s - plus the Instant album "The Boogie Man" (from circa 1985) - the last five featuring Vee-Jay tracks - issued and unissued. The Savoy double LP "Southern Blues" with one set devoted to very early Elmer Barbee produced Detroit pirate recordings (issued 1981); The French double-LP on Festival ("Black Rhythm & Blues" comprising the 1969 Carson and America LPs (possibly issued in the early 1980s).



The British Ace LP CH 37 "John Lee Hooker volume one" (issued 1981 featuring Modern tracks - there never was any volume two), Danish label Official LP 6029 with the "Boogie Chillin" LP of circa 1985 featuring rare Modern tracks. "Gotham Golden Classics - The Rare Recordings" on Collectables (circa 1987) and the British Crazy Kat album "Detroit Blues" (of 1987) - both albums featuring Hooker recordings for Gotham.



The "Mad Man Blues" 2-set reissue LP CH2 9214 of 1982 (same cover on CH2 92507 issued 1984) "40th Anniversary album" on DCC/Sensation (DXL-042 in 1989) - and its European version "Detroit Lion" on Demon (comprising Besman/Modern tracks). The Demon album was released in 1990. "Live at Sugar Hill Volume 2" Ace LP of 1990. Various artists LP from Japan on P-Vine/Chess 6061, "Blues For Big Town" (circa 1985) featuring several Hooker tracks from Chess and Fortune. British Crazy Kat double-LP "Boogie Awhile", featuring very rare and unissued Elmer Barbee and Joe Von Battle tracks (issued 1990).



MCA (UK) LP 1686 issued 1982, featuring tracks from the Bluesway years. "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" on MCA/Chess in 1991 (featuring unissued tracks from the 1966 Chess session); Chamelon (the "Healer" label) LP "The Hook - 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie" with rare Vee-Jay tracks (issued 1989); and the revived Vee-Jay label with "John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958" (a super-interesting chronological anthology of 1993)

JOHN LEE HOOKER - Year-By-Year Re-Cap

(updated April 11, 2019)



1950

Several Texas Slim recordings are issued on King (sold to the label by Joe Von Battle - with two of the tracks recorded by Idessa Malone). "House Rent Boogie" c/w a terrific rendition of "Wandering Blues" (based on Charles Brown's classic "Driftin' Blues" and which Hooker had recorded in several versions earlier), produced by Idessa Malone on Staff Records, is issued in December as by Johnny Williams and in March 1951 Modern release the Besman produced record of the boogie ("John L's House Rent Boogie"). Around the end of the year an obscure record on Gone Records surfaces as by John Lee Booker and his Guitar, titled "Mad Man Blues", recorded by Joe Von Battle, where Hooker calls himself Sam (on previous pirate recordings Hooker had often called himself Poor Joe, Poor Slim, and Poor Tony). The single will be reissued during 1951 on Chess Records.

1951

JLH re-signs a contract with Bernie Besman up to February 29, 1952 (although Besman's last recording session for Modern is dated May 22, 1952). He records several titles as by Johnny Williams for Gotham in the early part of the year (or possibly in late 1950) - a Philadelphia label - although the recordings are done in Detroit - possibly by Joe Von Battle. The last Gotham single though, "Mean Old Train", issued with the obvious pseudonym John Lee in March 1952. Hooker records direct for Chess Records in Chicago on April 26, issued as John Lee Booker during the latter part of the year (a.o. "Leave My Wife Alone"). On some of the tracks Hooker is accompanied by Eddie Kirkland. The original "I'm In The Mood" (with again - Eddie Kirkland on second guitar) is recorded with multi-vocal-tracks on August 7 by Besman and becomes a great hit (reaching US Pop #30 and hitting the R&B Juke Box Chart #1 in November - the hit lasts into 1952). In October Chess Records issue "Ground Hog Blues" (a new version of an unissued recording originally done for Gotham) c/w "Louise" as by John Lee Booker. Several early Barbee-recordings appear on the Chicago-based label Chance during late 1951 and early 1952 as by John Lee Booker and his Guitar, including the fine "Talkin' Boogie". Barbee quits as Hooker's manager around late this year.

1952

Modern Records (owned by the Bihari brothers Saul, Jules, and Joe; with their three sisters also working for the label, and eldest brother, Lester, heading Meteor Records) go to court, winning the right to reissue the Chess-recording "Ground Hog Blues" b/w "Louise" (now issued as by John L' Hooker in January). Hooker debuts as a radio DJ and tours with Eddie Kirkland and with Muddy Waters in the South. On April 24 Hooker waxes a second huge Chess session (this time probably in Detroit). "High Priced Woman" from the Chess productions of April 1951 is issued, followed by "Walking The Boogie" c/w "Sugar Mama" from the 1952 session - but most tracks from the second session, a.o. "The Journey", will not be issued until the LP market is hitting Europe during the early 1960s. During the summer Bernie Besman moves to Los Angeles and the Biharis decide to produce Hooker themselves from now on (with Joe Bihari travelling to Detroit to cut records - still with Bernie's engineer Joe Siracuse in the studios). Besman's last Hooker production will be "It's My Own Fault" (issued a couple of years later on Chess, featuring Bob Thurman, pno) and Modern Records' first Bihari-productions will result in the single "Rock House Boogie" c/w "It's Been A Long Time Baby".

1953

Eddie Kirkland is featured on most of the Hooker recordings of 1953 (one of the best Modern cuts is "Down Child"). Hooker continues his pirate recordings - now making several singles, a.o. "Stuttering Blues", for Henry Stone on Rockin' (in Cincinnati or Miami) as by John Lee Booker (recordings from this session will also appear on DeLuxe 1953/54 and the Stone-associated label Chart in 1956).

1954

After having formed his new band, "The Boogie Ramblers" in 1953 he signs a contract with Specialty Records and makes recordings for that label at Esquire Recordings Studios in May, produced by Johnny Vincent (a.o. the single "I'm Mad" and a tough version of Hooker's JVB-single of late 1953, "Boogie Rambler", the Specialty version featuring Johnny Hooks, tens; John Griffith, pno; Theo Roosevelt, b; and regular drummer Tom Whitehead). A second Specialty session is held at United Sounds (where Besman had made his recordings) in October, produced by Besman's engineer Joe Siracuse. The recordings from that session will remain unissued until the 1970s. Although contracted to Specialty Hooker continues to record for Modern into 1955 (and records for Devora Brown's Fortune Records).

1955

Records his last Modern Detroit-recordings, "Hug And Squeeze" b/w "The Syndicator" (featuring Otis Finch, tenorsax), and the last Modern single, "I'm Ready", is issued in October. Hooker signs with the Chicago label Vee-Jay Records, owned by Vivian Carter and her husband Jimmy Bracken - the first single, "Mambo Chillun", is issued in November (featuring Jimmy Reed, hca - and recorded at Universal Studios).

1956

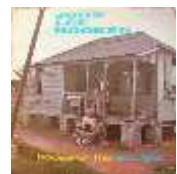
The classic "Dimples" is recorded in Chicago for Vee-Jay in March (with a combined Chicago/Detroit rhythm section comprising Eddie Taylor, gtr; George Washington, b; and Whitehead, dms).

1957

Becomes an established Vee-Jay artist, recording a.o. the fine "I See You When You're Weak" (although his label-mate Jimmy Reed is selling better).

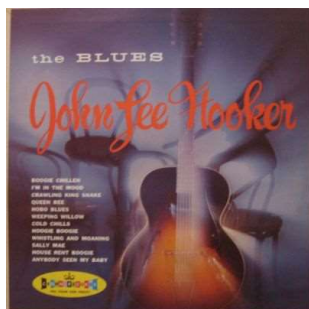
1958

"I Love You Honey" on Vee-Jay Records hits the R&B Chart #29 in December (featuring Detroit-pianist Joe Edward Hunter plus Eddie Taylor, gtr; Everett McCrary, b; and Richard Johnson, dms).



1959

Jaques Demetre and Marcel Chauvard "introduce" Hooker to Europe's record buyers and the first Hooker LP, Vee-Jay's "I'm John Lee Hooker", is issued around August (including several re-cuts of his famous Modern hits and with some tracks featuring drummer Earl Phillips). Chess Records issue the classic Hooker album comprising 1951-52 recordings, "House Of The Blues" in September and follow it up with "John Lee Hooker Plays And Sings the Blues" in 1961. Vee-Jay "lease" Hooker for a couple of "country blues" acoustic albums to Riverside (actually Hooker's first album sessions), recording his first version of "Tupelo Blues" on "The Country Blues of John Lee Hooker" (released in November and reissued with several retitlings, a.o. "The Folk Blues of JLH").



1960

Hooker's first Crown budget album, "The Blues", hits the markets (including Hooker's Detroit-recorded classic Besman and Modern titles). In the years to come three more Crown albums will surface (later reissued several times on the Biharis' other budget labels United and Custom). A second Riverside album is recorded in February - the highly appreciated "That's My Story", with several tracks featuring a rhythm section (Sam Jones, b; and Louis Hayes, dms) is issued (including the great "Gonna Use My

Rod", in later versions known as "I'm Mad Again" and "I'm Bad Like Jesse James"). In 1964 (but only in England) a third Riverside LP, "Burning Hell", from the 1959 session will be issued. Hooker waxes his wonderful Vee-Jay album "Travelin'" in March, including a.o. the first version of "Whiskey And Wimmen" (with a trio led by guitarist Lefty Bates plus Sylvester Hickman, b; and Jimmy Turner, dms). Hooker and Muddy Waters are the true blues artists on the second annual Newport Folk Festival in June. In July one of the singles from the "Travelin'" LP, "No Shoes", hits the R&B Hot Chart #21. JLH cuts several pirate tracks for Fortune in Detroit (who also had recorded him around 1954). King Records issue "John Lee Hooker Sings Blues" late this year, comprising 12 old Texas Slim recordings (with dubbed drums and echo on a couple of tracks - plus 4 tracks by Earl Hooker, wrongly credited John - although with the track titles as on the remaining Texas Slim recordings).

1961

The third Vee-Jay LP, "The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker" is issued, featuring a.o. a handful of tuff rhythm & blues originals with Lefty Bates, gtr & hca (not Jimmy Reed, but Lefty himself); Quinn Wilson, b; Earl Phillips; dms and possibly Pops Staples also present. The six recordings of January 4 (of which only four are included on the album) are nowadays all true classics: "Want Ad Blues", "Will The Circle Be Unbroken", "I'm Going Upstairs", "I Left My Baby", "Hard Headed Woman", "I'm Mad Again". Bob Dylan debuts in New York - opening for Hooker at Gerde's Folk City. Hooker uses Eddie Kirkland to back him on an album recording for Savoy (Fancourt lists the session as 1959 recordings). The recordings stayed in the can and were not issued until more than ten years later as "Sittin' Here Thinkin'" on Muse - only one track, "When My Wife Quit Me", was to be issued on a Savoy various-artists LP in 1964. Hooker records his "Burnin'" LP in Chicago in November for Vee-Jay with Detroit musicians including reeds (session-men: Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Hank Cosby, tens; Mike Terry, bars; Larry Veeder, gtr; James Jamerson, bsg; Benny Benjamin, dms) after a long period of "folk blues" waxing.

1962

"Boom Boom" (from "Burnin'", issued in March) hits US Pop #60 in July (and the Hot R&B Chart #16). In 2016 the single was inducted into the GRAMMY Hall of Fame. Vee-Jay issue "The Best of JLH" (a compilation of his 1955-1961 period in Chicago). Hooker tours Europe with the Original American Folk Blues Festival package (including T-Bone Walker, Memphis Slim and Willie Dixon).

1963

"The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker" album on Vee-Jay, featuring "Frisco Blues", is issued (with a female backing - not the Vandellas but Mary Wilson and the Andantes). Atco Records issue the album "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" in February (featuring Henry Stone DeLuxe tracks of 1953 and new recordings of 1961, the latter ones recorded in Miami), where one really can trace Hooker's gospel roots (and in 1969 Stax Records find more Stone tracks of 1961 to issue on "That's Where It's At!" - some of them previously issued on Guest Star and Storyville). Hooker refers to the electric bass player featured on several of the tracks as "Earl". John Lee again uses the soon-to-be-famous Detroit "Motown" musicians to back him on half of the tracks of the Vee-Jay "On Campus" album, featuring "Don't Look Back" (including reeds, rhythm - and brass - and this time possibly The Vandellas). Another classic from that LP is "Birmingham Blues". JLH cuts several tracks at the Newport Folk Festival originally issued on Vee-Jay ("Concert At Newport") and remixed at Vanguard Records in 2002 ("Live At Newport").

1964

Makes his last session for Vee-Jay Records in early/mid-year, including the original version of "It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)" (featuring a lead guitarist who may be Wayne Bennett). Hooker tours Britain with John Mayall and a UK issue of "Dimples" reaches UK Pop #23 and he plays it on "Ready Steady Go" TV. Hooker also waxes an album with Tony McPhee's Groundhogs in London in November. The album will appear on several labels under several titles years later,

although the most well-known are "... And Seven Nights" on Verve-Folkways in 1965 and four years later the brass-dubbed "On The Waterfront" on Wand.

1965

Vee-Jay, who soon will go bankrupt, issue "Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer?" (covering ten years of Sir John Lee Hooker in Chicago). Johnnie tours The American Folk Blues Festival again (this time with a.o. Big Mama Thornton, Walter Horton, and Buddy Guy - and visits Britain for the fourth time) and later that year signs with ABC Records in the US - the first LP being "It Serve(s) You Right To Suffer" on the jazz-subsidary Impulse Records, recorded in New York in November by Bob Thiele with a rhythm section comprising Barry Galbraith, gtr; Milt Hinton, b; and Panama Francis, dms.

1966

The legendary T-Bone Walker and Johnny Otis producer Ralph Bass (who produced several 1960s Chess recordings and albums, and refused to cut in stereo) records Hooker for Chess in Chicago in May (including Lafayette Leake, pno; old Detroit friend Eddie Burns, gtr; unknown bg; and Fred Below or S.P. Leary, dms) and "The Real Folk Blues" is issued later that year (featuring the now famous "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer"). Almost 30 years later "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" from that same session is marketed.

1967

Kent Records (a Bihari label) issue "Original Folk Blues", comprising famous Modern tracks. The first ABC-Bluesway album by Hooker is issued, "Live at Cafe Au Go Go" (featuring the Muddy Waters Blues Band in August 1966, who back him on a.o. the first version of "I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive"). The British issue of "House of the Blues" (featuring 1951-52 Hooker Chess tracks) reaches UK Pop #34 - and Hooker visits Britain in June.



1968

The award-winning Bluesway album "Urban Blues" (including the original "Mr. Lucky") is issued, recorded in Chicago during September and November 1967 by Al Smith (musicians: Eddie Kirkland, Wayne Bennett and prob also Buddy Guy, guitars; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor, bsgtrs; Al Duncan, dms; and Louis Myers, hca). Galaxy Records (who already had come up with a Besman recorded Los Angeles LP, simply titled "John Lee Hooker" with "I Lost My Job") issue "Live At Sugar Hill", cut in November 1962 in San Francisco. A second volume will be issued on Ace Records in England in 1972 (the two volumes reissued on a Fantasy 2-LP set as "Boogie Chillun") and in 2002 a true Vol. 2 with further unissued tracks appears on a Fantasy CD. Hooker tours Europe in October with the AFBF featuring Walter Horton, T-Bone Walker, Jimmy Reed and Eddie Taylor (a.o.)

1969

Another award-winning Bluesway album, "Simply The Truth", is issued (recorded in New York by Bob Thiele during September 17-18, 1968 with Ernie Hayes, pno; Wally Richardson, gtr; William Folwell, b; and Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, dms; plus the unknown Hele Rosenthal, hca). The Stax LP "That's Where It's At!" hits the market with 1961 Henry Stone material plus one new-recorded track featuring blue-eyed soulster Steve Alaimo (who had helped Stone produce soul records in Miami from the mid 1960s). The Bluesway album "If You Miss 'Im ... I Got 'Im" is recorded in May in Los Angeles, where Hooker is backed by cousin Earl Hooker and his band with Jeff Carp, hca (Earl dies in Chicago on April 21, 1970). Hooker tours Europe again (which he has done every year since 1962), this time recording French material enough for more than three albums - some featuring a backing supplied by Lowell Fulson, gtr; Carey Bell, b (not hca); and S.P. Leary, dms. Back home in the U.S. he settles in Oakland, California (after separating from wife Maude, still his life-long friend).

1970

At least from ABC Hooker finds himself recording - in May again - with Canned Heat in Los Angeles for Liberty (featuring the young harmonica-player Al Wilson - who dies shortly after - September 3). Hooker headlines the Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festival in August (with Buddy Guy and Johnny Winter). John marries Mille Strom from Canada in the early 1970s (separated as good friends in later years).

1971

In April the Liberty double-LP "Hooker 'N Heat" reaches US Pop #77, and another double-LP recorded in San Francisco in November 1970, "Endless Boogie", is issued on ABC (featuring a.o. Mark Naftalin, Cliff Coulter, Steve Miller, Mel Brown; plus Hooker's regulars Geno Skaggs, b; and Ken Swank, dms). The album reaches US #126, and also produces one terrific single. The editor of this time-line publishes a John Lee Hooker albums guide in the Swedish blues magazine "Jefferson". Kent Records re-issue Hooker's first Crown-album, this time as "The Greatest Hits of JLH". The "Kabuki Wuki" live album is recorded in August (although released later - on Bluesway) and features The Coast To Coast Blues Band with his son Robert Hooker on organ, and also Luther Tucker, Benny Rowe and Paul Wood, guitars plus Geno Skaggs and Ken Swank. He also waxes "Lights Out" for a v.a. Blue Thumb LP featuring Robert, Neal Shown, gtr and Freddy Roulette, steel gtr.



1972

Bernie Besman issues the 2-set LP "Johnny Lee" on Greene Bottle packed with never-before-issued alternates of Besman's Detroit-productions of 1948-1952 (these alternates are yet to be issued on regular CD). It is not the first "alternate" Besman issue. Specialty Records and United Artists had already come up with three LPs during 1970-71 ("Alone" and "Goin' Down Highway 51" on Specialty and "Coast To Coast Blues Band - Any Where Any Time Any Place" on United Artists). The ABC album "Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" (including the title track duet with Van Morrison, recorded in September 1971) reaches US Pop #130. Again Hooker is backed by famous rock musicians together with regulars Robert Hooker, pno; and Luther Tucker, gtr (who had played with Little Walter and Sonny Boy).

1973

The 3-set LP "John Lee Hooker's Detroit" on United Artists is issued (comprising further alternate Besman titles of 1948-1952 plus a couple of Besman 1961 recordings). Polydor (leased from King in Nashville) issue "Slim's Stomp", compiled by Dave Sax - based on the old King "Sings Blues" and Ember album (with that great photo by Valerie Wilmer). This new issue includes all 16 of Johnnie's Texas Slim recordings of 1948-1950 - and undubbed. ABC issue "Born In Mississippi, Raised Up In Tennessee", where the rock musicians of September 1971 get dubbings added in March via brass, horns and female vocals. Dynasty Records (reactivated Vee-Jay) issue the album "In Person", which includes Hooker's last session for Vee-Jay, produced by Al Smith almost ten years earlier.

1974

Ed Michel produces the underrated, and last ABC album, "Free Beer And Chicken", recorded in Sausalito and Los Angeles May 14-23 (this time with the brass direct behind Hooker - no dubs). Among the tracks: the funky "Homework" with Howard Roberts and Wah-Wah Watson, gtrs; Cliff Coulter, synthesizers and bsgrtr; plus Ron Beck, dms. The album also features Joe Cocker, vocals; Don "Sugarcane" Harris and Michael White, violins; and a.o. Robert Hooker and Luther Tucker. On September 6 Hooker performs at the Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival along with among others James Brown and B. B. King.

1975-1985

The days of "The Live Wildness" - Hooker spends most of his days touring and making live recordings. ABC-Bluesway had already come up with two live-albums issued in 1972 and 1973 (the last, "Live at Soledad Prison" recorded in June, 1972 featuring the debut of John Lee Hooker Jr.). Hooker (mostly solo) appears on several live albums recorded in New York ("Alone" featuring "Dark Room" - praised by Charles Shaar Murray), and Canada, Germany, Chicago, Colorado, and Oklahoma during the years 1976 to 1984.

1977

Vee-Jay International issue the "Gold" 2-set LP in a short-lived Vintage series (it is actually a re-issue of two original VJ albums - "I'm John

Lee Hooker" and "The Big Soul"). DJM of UK issue a superb double-LP titled "Dimples", featuring a 1955-1959 chronology of Hooker's Vee-Jay recordings, making several titles available on LP for the first time - and also including a couple of never-before-issued songs (one with Otis Finch, ten sax and one with Frankie Bradford, pno). "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer" is recorded live in Chicago and later issued on an Albert King Tomato CD featuring live recordings ("I'll Play The Blues For You").

1978

Tomato Records issue a 1977 Palo Alto, California live-recorded double-LP, "The Cream" (featuring John Garcia Jr and Ron Thompson, gtrs; Pete Karnes and Charlie Musselwhite, hca; Mike Milwood, bs; Larry Martin and Ken Swank, dms).

1979

Hooker appears with Lightnin' Hopkins and Big Mama Thornton at New York's Carnegie Hall. He makes Gilroy, California and later San Carlos (near Redwood City) his home, but later separates from Millie (who stayed his friend throughout).

1980

Inducted into the Blues Foundation's very first Hall Of Fame. Featured as one of many fine cameo artists in the movie "The Blues Brothers" (doing a simply great rendition of "Boom Boom" backed by the legendary musicians of The Muddy Waters Blues Band - Pinetop Perkins, Big Walter Horton, Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, Calvin Jones, and Willie Smith). Charly Records in UK start to reissue most of Hooker's Vee-Jay recordings, marketing several new album packages during the early 1980s (they also find several unissued tracks).

1981

Records with Canned Heat again (they had appeared in Carnegie Hall in 1971) - now in Venice, Calif. - live) with The Chambers Brothers. Appears in Mark Naftalin's Blue Monday Party on TV with a version of "So Cold In Chicago" (5 min+). There is also a version (recorded in PBS Maintenance Shop Blues, Amos, Iowa 1979 or 1981) of [8:40 min](#) with Deacon Jones, organ, issued on the fine DVD "**Rare Performances 1960-1984**" (Stefan Grossman, producer).

1982-1983

Records several tracks for an album (with a.o. Deacon Jones, organ and Mike Osborn, guitar) in Vancouver, Canada. The LP will not appear on the market until 1986 on Pausa (reissued on Pointblank in the late '90s), titled "Jealous". Hooker tours the States and Europe with his Coast to Coast Blues Band featuring Jones, Osborn, Tim Richards, and differing bass-guitarists (mostly Larry Hamilton).

1984-1985

The Bihari's sell their catalogue to Kamp Associates after a long legal dispute over the ownership of the John Lee Hooker Modern masters. Later the Duck Soup Music Group purchases the Modern catalogue. Today Ace Records in London have the rights to the Bihari labels (Virgin in the US) - although Besman's (and even John Lee's) estates have the rights to several early masters.

1986

The Spielberg movie "The Color Purple" features Hooker's music and Hooker records "We'll Meet Again" in Redwood City, California to be featured on the "Jealous" album.

1987

Krazy Kat in England issue the LP "Detroit Blues 1950 - 1951", with nine Gotham tracks of 1951 (including three originally unissued) plus the Johnny Williams Staff single of 1950 ("House Rent Boogie" c/w "Wandering Blues", which had been reissued on Gotham) and five tracks by Eddie Burns. An album covering the Hooker tracks appears on U.S. Collectables "Gotham Golden Classics - The Rare Recordings". Hooker records with Canned Heat again in January at Russian Hill outside San Francisco, and in April his recordings there feature Charlie Musselwhite, hca; Roy Rogers, gtr; Steve Ehrmann, bs; and Scott Matthews, dms. In October a re-rendition of "Baby Lee", featuring Robert Cray, is produced by Roy Rogers, also recorded at Russian Hill with Samuel Lehmer as engineer (who will engineer most of Hooker's later recordings). Several of these early "resurrection" recordings will be featured on "The Healer" album of 1989.

1988

Finds himself a new manager, Mike Kappus. The new association had started slow already in 1976 (when Kappus started to be Hooker's agent) but - from now - incredible things will happen - with the Blue Rose organization (Kappus, Roy Rogers and JLH) and the Rosebud Agency - giving Hooker a completely "new career" after more than 40 years in business. Roy Rogers produces several titles with guest artists including Carlos Santana, Bonnie Raitt, Los Lobos and George Thorogood in and around San Francisco during April and May - completing the album that in the year-to-come will make Hooker quite a rich man. The song "The Healer" was recorded on April 25, 1988.

1989

Bernie Besman issues "40th Anniversary Album" on DCC (comprising re-titlings of old Besman Detroit-tracks). In the UK the album is issued a year later on Demon as "The Detroit Lion". Hooker waxes Jimi Hendrix' "Red House", featuring Booker T. Jones in March. In July Chameleon Records (who recently had issued "The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie", featuring 16 Vee-Jay tracks – several of them unissued in US – and who also had provided eight of the original Vee-Jay albums including "In Person" and "The Best of..." on CD) issue the album "The Healer" from the sessions the years before (the title track featuring Carlos Santana). The album becomes a big seller – reaching US Pop #62 (staying on the albums survey for 38 weeks). Hooker performs at the 30th Newport Folk Festival. In September Hooker is featured on Pete Townshend's concept album "The Iron Man", and in December Hooker joins The Rolling Stones in an Atlantic City concert.



1990

"I'm In The Mood" (duet with Bonnie Raitt), from "The Healer" (recorded in early April, 1988), wins Best Traditional Blues Recording at the 32nd annual Grammy award's ceremony in February. "The Healer" album (on Silverstone, a British label) hits UK Pop #63. Hooker visits Britain in July. Krazy Kat issue a double LP, comprising 33 very rare recordings (including several unissued Barbee and Battle productions from 1948-1953), compiled by Dave Sax and titled "Boogie Awhile". In October Benson & Hedges promote "A Tribute To John Lee Hooker" at Madison Square Garden, New York City with guests Gregg Allman, Joe Cocker, Albert Collins, Ry Cooder, James Cotton, Bo Diddley, Willie Dixon, Mick Fleetwood, John Hammond, Al Kooper, Huey Lewis, Charlie Musselwhite, Johnny Winter and members of Little Feat. Hooker is featured as movie soundtrack singer (actually "hummer & moaner") in "The Hot Spot" with music by Jack Nietsche. "Sure Thing" by St. Germain (issued in 2000) was a "remix" of some tracks on "The Hot Spot" ("Harry's Philosophy"). British Ace re-issue 21 tracks from the first two Riverside albums (1959-1960) on CD, titled "That's My Story/The Folk Blues of..."



1991

Cuts "Up And Down" with Johnnie Johnson (Chuck Berry's old pianist and bandleader) at the piano in May (or January - the recording will surface on a "Chill Out" promotion EP/CD several years later - and on the "Face To Face" CD of 2003). Hooker is inducted into the Rock 'N' Roll Hall Of Fame on January 17, at the sixth annual dinner at Waldorf Astoria in New York. The Hooker back-up band "The Coast To Coast Blues Band" of 1991: Vala Cupp, vocals; Deacon Jones - often substituted or supplemented by Lizz Fisher, keyboards; Mike Osborn, lead guitar; Rich Kirch, rhythm guitar; Jim Guyett, bass guitar; Bowen Brown, dms; and Kenny Baker, saxophone. Mainstream Records in the UK issue a superb Hooker CD, titled "Half A Stranger", which has 18 direct-from-tape digitally remastered Modern tracks - most of them concentrating on Hooker's later Modern years 1953-55 and "I'm In The Mood" in an alternate undubbed one-voice-take. Around the time of Bernie Besman's death in the year of 2003 an Audio Fidelity CD, titled "Boogie Chillen'", featuring eleven Besman recordings included in the "40th Anniversary Album" plus nine Joe Siracuse-engineered Modern tracks from the "Half A Stranger" CD, is issued. Chess/MCA issue the CD "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" with nine never-before-issued Hooker tracks from Chess' "The Real Folk Blues" session of 1966. Among the new tracks: a terrific version of "House Rent Blues". In Europe MCA decide to issue the tracks together with the further nine original tracks on "The Complete Folk Blues Sessions" (reissued in US in 2002 as "The Real Folk Blues - More Real Folk Blues"). His Newport concert on August 17 is "video"-recorded with the Coast to Coast Blues Band (featuring John Hammond as "guest" on harmonica and guitar). Pointblank's "Mr. Lucky" album is issued in September (again with famous "guests") - and really sells (Albums chart #101). Rhino Records issue the double-CD "The Ultimate Collection, 1948-1990", comprising tracks from all of Hooker's long-time career.

1992

Ace in UK issue the CD "Blues Brother – 25 Vintage Sensation Recordings 1948-1951" as a spin-off on Hooker's cameo appearance in the cult film "Blues Brothers". Atlantic Records reissue the "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" album on CD (this time it features a total of 16 tracks, identical to the Atlantic LP "Detroit Special" of 1972). The album "Boom Boom" is Hooker's next seller (again on Pointblank). UK Charly Records issue a 6CD-box, titled "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964", comprising almost all his Vee-Jay recordings. MCA-Universal, who own Hooker's ABC/Bluesway and Chess material, issue the best of the many Hooker New York / California collections: "The Best Of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974" (compiled by Dave Booth with Colin Escott's fine track comments). Hooker joins Van Morrison to cut a studio version of "Gloria".

1993

Hooker participates in a commercial by Lee Jeans and in an amusing one for Pepsi. The San Francisco club, John Lee Hooker's Boom Boom Room, is opened and Hooker cuts a duet with B.B. King (Muddy Waters' old "You Shook Me"). Re-activated Vee-Jay issue the CD "John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958" (a chronology with all of the 22 songs Hooker made for the company during these years, including "Mama You Got A Daughter" with full rhythm accomp). During 1992 - 1994 Ace Records in England (and Flair and Specialty in US) issue several CDs comprising Modern, Besman and Specialty originals, the most famous being the 1993 CD "The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954" - with Specialty's chronological "Graveyard Blues" (featuring Besman recordings 1948-1950) and "Everybody's Blues" (Besman 1950-1951 and almost all Specialty recordings of 1954) also truly worthwhile buys. Ten years later - in August, 2003 - Virgin/EMI in U.S. issue a great Modern compilation ("Blues Immortal") in their series "Blues Kingpins" featuring 18 chronological John Lee Hooker tracks for Modern, recorded during 1948-1955.

1994

The 1955-1964 Vee-Jay recordings are by now reissued on all the labels you can imagine and in packages you may not even have dreamt of (mostly bootleg though and no royalty to the Hook). Charly Records issue a great 4CD-bookset, "The Boogie Man", comprising his famous Vee-Jay tracks and several rare pseudonym recordings from 1948-1966.

1995

Hollywood RockWalk inducts John Lee in February. Capitol Records reissue old Besman alternates (originally on United Artists LPs of the 1970s) on their 3CD-set "Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings, 1948-1952" (which also includes some Besman 1961 L.A. recordings).

1996

Gets a Grammy award, Best Traditional Blues Album, for Virgin/Pointblank's CD-album "Chill Out". Hooker appears in the major charity event Free Tibet Concert in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Receives a Lifetime Achievement Award from The Blues Foundation on November 7.

1997

Celebrates 50 years of recording activities (Besman & Modern in Detroit 1948-1955, Vee-Jay in Chicago 1955-1964, ABC Coast to Coast 1965-1974, live & Virgin in Frisco 1975-1997) with around a hundred original albums to his credit.

1998

MCA in US and Universal in Europe (who had purchased Chess Records) issue a double-CD, "The Complete 50's Chess Recordings", comprising all of the 1950-1952 classics, previously issued on the two famous early 1960s Chess albums - this time completed with the alternate of "Walkin' The Boogie" and several Fortune recordings acquired by Chess (creating a chronological collectors' gem of 31 tracks). Hooker receives Grammy awards for the "Don't Look Back" album (produced by and featuring Van Morrison) - both Best Traditional Blues Album and Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals; and reissues "Boogie Chillen" for the last time (guested by Eric Clapton) - to be issued on his "The Best Of Friends" CD-album. Joerg Bundshuh starts shooting the film "John Lee Hooker - That's My Story" (in 2003 issued on Docurama DVD). Starting in 1998 Charly reissue the first (and best) four of Hooker's Vee-Jay albums - "I'm John Lee Hooker", "Travelin'", "The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker", and "Burnin'" (originally issued in 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962 - now including bonus tracks). These CDs will be reissued again in 2003 (SNAP cat.nos).

1999

Receives a Pioneer Award from the Rhythm and Blues Foundation on February 25. The original "Boogie Chillen" single is inducted into the GRAMMY Hall of Fame. Charles Shaar Murray's great biography on Hooker, "Boogie Man", is published in England (left image: the US version of 2000). The book was enhanced and reedited in 2011.

2000

Receives a Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement on February 22. "The Unknown John Lee Hooker" CD on British Flyright Records is issued. It features a bunchful of private Detroit 1951 recordings (never-before-issued - and originally thought to be recorded in 1949). That CD will re-surface as "Jack O' Diamonds" on Eagle in 2004. Atlantic Records issue a JLH album in their "Savoy Blues Legends" series, titled "Detroit 1948-1949", comprising tracks from the 1970s Savoy LP "Southern Blues", but also including several bonus tracks (a treat for the Hooker fans, who now can enjoy 20 very early Elmer Barbee-produced pirate recordings). Hooker's earliest recordings become "public domain" (only in Europe) - the best issues being Body & Soul's two double-CDs "The Complete John Lee Hooker in Chronological Order Vol 1" and "Vol 2" (covering 1948 and 1949). A year later Vol 3 - also a double-CD - covers 1950, and in the year of 2002 Vol 4 (also a 2-set covering 1951) will be issued followed by the 1952-1953 CD in 2004 and the rest of the Detroit period in 2005. "Roadhouse Blues" appears on the album "Stoned Immaculate: The Music of The Doors" recorded by the surviving members of The Doors featuring John Lee. The track was put together in the studio using a posthumous vocal by Jim Morrison. Hooker is awarded Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award from the Recording Academy.



The first three Pointblank CDs (Mr. Lucky, Boom Boom, and Chill Out), and "The Real Blues - John Lee Hooker Live In Houston 1979" (which is the 2001 JSP issue of Lunar#2 "Live in Colorado 1978"). Below: the original (and first) British version of the Viking book "Boogie Man" (1999).



2001

Ace Records in UK issue "John Lee Hooker Presents his House Rent Boogie" CD early this year, comprising 22 rare Modern originals plus an alternate take of "House Rent Boogie" of November 1950 and a harmonica-dubbed version of the original 1951 recording of "I'm In The Mood". Hooker records a duet in his last song in Palo Alto near his home (Los Altos) with Tommy Castro, "Guilty of Love" in May and makes his last concert appearance at Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa on June 16. He dies in his sleep at home in Los Altos (near San Francisco), California on June 21. Charly Records (who regularly had come up with some strange and some very interesting Hooker Vee-Jay compilations) issue a 3CD-set titled "Testament", comprising his famous Vee-Jay tracks. Collectables Records in US reissue nine original Hooker Vee-Jay LPs plus the Gotham tracks in a 10CD-box titled "The Legend, The Man". Charly (now often on the Snapper and RPM labels) continue their by now 20-year old tradition of releasing compilations and "full-session" issues of Hooker material (mostly Vee-Jay, but also several recordings from other labels - like the Tomato 1977 session and the London 1964 session).

2002

The John Lee Hooker Foundation (established right after Hooker's death) gets international recognition. Zakiya Hooker and John Lee Hooker, Jr. keep Hooker's tradition alive together with the whole Hooker Estate.

2003

An official John Lee Hooker web site - www.johnleehooker.com is founded, and 2003 is declared "The Year of the Blues". The Besman/ Sircuse "Boogie Chillen" CD is issued and later that year the Virgin/EMI CD series "Blues Kingpins" (one CD devoted to Hooker, "Blues Immortal") hits the U.S. market (both CDs featuring Modern

classics). In September Zakiya produces a completely new Hooker CD in co-operation with Eagle Records and the John Lee Hooker Estate Management. The album is titled "Face To Face", featuring unissued Hooker recordings from the 1980s and 1990s, and including a re-mix of "Loving People", featuring Deacon Jones and/or Duke Jethro,org; Dan Zelman and/or Pete Sears,pno; Anthony Cook, Billy Johnson, and Robert Young, gtrs; Joe Thomas and/or OC Bell,bs; Marlon Green and/or Kevin Williams,dms; Randie McBride, perc; and the voices of Terrance Kelly, Gail Benson, and Tina Bryant - the song written by Hooker, Zakiya and her husband, producer Ollan Christopher Bell - originally recorded with Zakiya in 1991.

2004

In April a 2CD-set on the British label Metro Doubles, titled "Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions" is issued comprising the Savoy Jazz/Atlantic early Elmer Barbee/Joe Von Battle recordings of 1948-49 plus the Savoy session of circa 1961. A terrific JLH DVD on Eagle is issued in May, titled "Come See About Me". In June Collectables in the U.S. issue "I'm The Boogie Man" comprising 23 King / Federal / DeLuxe tracks from 1948-1953 - including the never-before-issued "My Baby Left Me" from a Battle-session of 1953 and 15 of the 16 Texas Slim tracks. All 16, undubbed Texas Slim tracks, are later issued on a Varèse-Sarabande CD titled "I'm A Boogie Man" - also including the three rare Battle DeLuxe tracks (truly the best Texas Slim compilation).

2005

The sixth and last of the 2-set CD series "The Complete John Lee Hooker" is issued on Body & Soul. Now all of Hooker's Detroit period (except for four Fortune tracks) is covered. The next "natural" chronological CD to include more than 20 recordings of Hooker's career is the "John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay, 1955-1958" CD (starting with one Vee-Jay single in 1955). During the original rock 'n' roll years of 1956-1958 Hooker had delivered a total of a further seven Vee-Jay singles. Hooker toured heavily during these years.



2006

In the early months the reissue label Hip-O releases a 20-track collection featuring recordings from Hooker's long career (from "Boogie Chillen" to "The Healer"), titled "The Definitive Collection", which serves as an almost perfect sample for a Hooker "beginner". Hip-O follow up with a 2CD-set featuring a further more 15 classics in April, 2007, titled "Gold". During the Summer Proper Records (ex-Charly) issue a nice little "public domain" 4CD-set titled "The Boogie Man", featuring 98 recordings from the Detroit-period (including the Modern hits and several pseudonym recordings). On October 31 a 4CD-box, titled "Hooker" is issued on Shout!Factory in co-operation with the Hooker Estate, covering the whole of Hooker's career. The Box really has all the true gems and is definitely **THE ULTIMATE HOOKER ANTHOLOGY** (featuring 26 Detroit 48-55, 26 Chicago 56-64, 15 Coast-to-Coast 65-91 and 17 Frisco 88-98 recordings). The Box is reissued in Germany on Blue Label/SPV in 2009.



2007

Shout!Factory start to reissue CDs from Hooker's Rosebud years - now with bonus tracks, and also reissue the legendary "I'm John Lee Hooker" album.

2008

32 tracks are included on the Shout!Factory 2-CD-set "John Lee Hooker Anthology - 50 Years" (with 30 of the tracks from the "Hooker" 4 CD-set plus "Jealous" and "Boogie from Russian Hill").



Hooker's Coast To Coast Blues Band (1963 with Deacon Jones, organ; Tim Richards, drums; Mike Osborn, guitar; and possibly Henry Parti, bsgr?). The new line-up of the band (with Larry Hamilton as the most regular bassguitarist) was formed during John's "Live Wilderness" years in the mid/late 1970s after the leave of Robert Hooker (who turned priest) and Luther Tucker (who soon formed his own band). The young musicians stayed with Johnie well into the early 1990s.

Timeline edited by Claus Röhnisch

JOHNNIE LEE GALLERY



Bedroom Boogie bootleg with live recordings from Chicago November 9, 1976 plus some from 1986 and 1962.



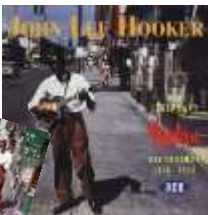
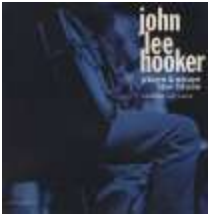
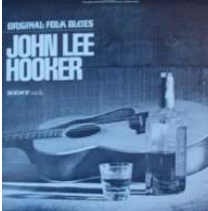
Images top: Hooker in "The Blues Brothers" movie 1980, and in France 1969. CD covers: Seven of the several hundreds of bootleg and "public domain" CDs issued in later years - including Past Perfect 10-CD-set "Portrait" (many early "pirate" recordings - box cover left and CD-paks center image). Center above: Documents' first 10 CD-set "Blues Is The Healer". In 2015 Documents issued a second 10-CD set covering 16 original albums (also see inside backpage), including Crown's "The Blues".

Several of the vinyl LP cover shots in this presentation, ctsy Scot Pell. Scot has also been kind to check through all details in this Discography and handing me corrections for the final draft - **thank you Scot - your help is really appreciated.** **Hooker links below** (defunct or soon defunct)

- Check <http://jlviny.com/> for images and tracks on all of the John Lee Hooker vinyls - singles and LPs, US and Europe (Scot A. Pell)
- Check <http://www.johnleehooker.info/> for track listings on Hooker's albums with a database on all his recordings (Thomas Jarlvik)
- Check <http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters/hook/hooker.htm> for track listings of several original Hooker CDs (Richard W. Rinn)
- Check <http://www.bluesandrhythm.co.uk/documents/rtba.pdf> for the John Lee Hooker Session Discography 1981-2001 (Gary Hearn)
- Check http://www.keeponliving.at/artist/john_lee_hooker.html for an interesting Story Time-Line & Songs Index (Anita Pravits)
- Check <http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters> for The Coasters and the Golden Years of R&B (Claus Röhnisch)
- Check https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lee_Hooker_discography for list of JLH album issues (greater part of it by this editor)

THE CLASSIC YEARS

(with repr. LPs imaged)



JLH 1948-1967 24 Super Tracks

Boogie Chillen' - September 3, 1948
Modern 20-627 - Hooker's very first release, originally intended for producer Bernie Besman's co-owned tiny Detroit label Sensation. But Besman offered and soon "leased" this and many other recordings from the first super-long session at the United Sound Systems Studios (with a young Joe Siracuse the engineer) to the Bihari brothers' Hollywood based Modern Records. Issued in early November with John Lee Hooker & His Guitar credited (the original A-side was "Sally May"). The phrase Boogie Chillen' was expressed only once and on the alternates ("Johnny Lee's Original Boogie" and "Henry's Swing Club", which differ distinctly from the hit) it wasn't cited at all. Original intended title was simply "Boogie Woogie" (a title used on one of the first pirate waxings in Nov 1948 for Savoy).

Crawlin' King Snake - September 3, 1948
Modern 2204 - Originally waxed by Clarksdale-born (childhood Hooker acquaintance) Tony Hollins, who presented John his first guitar (and by Big Joe Williams) in 1941. Both artists inspired other Hooker songs. John continued recording for Besman up into 1952, although the pirate "pseudonym" singles were even more frequent, including the notorious "Texas Slim" waxings by John's first manager Elmer Barbee, "Black Man Blues" and "Stomp Boogie" on King in 1948, and a.o. "Low Down-Midnite Boogie" for Savoy and "Talkin' Boogie" (the latter recorded early 1949 and issued on Chance in Nov 1951). Barbee was one of the picture in 1951, but Joe Von Battle and others also produced several pirate singles. This Besman/Modern single from October of 1949, was one of John's absolute favorites (he recorded it throughout his whole career).

Notoriety Woman - ca August, 1950
Regal 2204 - Issued in October with roots in songs like "When My First Wife Left Me", Charles Brown's "Drifting Blues", his own "Hobo Blues", the great "Wandering Blues", and "Drifting From Door To Door" (flip of "Crawlin' King Snake"). Aka "No Place To Stay" on Greene Bottle (with alt. as "Throw This Old Dog A Bone" on United Artists and was redone as "Sunny Land" on the *Travelin'* LP in 1960). It is from huge April and August sessions for Besman (who "leased" this rare one to Regal in New Jersey). The sessions also produced "Boogie Chillen #2" and John Lee Williamson's "Decoration Day Blues" for Sensation.

Bumble Bee Blues - late 1950 or early 1951
Staff 718 - Issued as Johnny Williams in 1951 and waxed by Idessa Malone with Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison, pno and Curtis Foster, dms plus Hooker with a more "urbanised" approach and a sparse guitar in Detroit, originally recorded by Memphis Minnie. Very rare and interesting (with Leroy Carr's "Prison Bound" as flip). The single was reissued on SwingTime 1952 (with first LP feature on a v/a Polydor LP in 1967, *California Blues*).

Just Me And My Telephone - April 26, 1951
From Chess LP 1454 Plays And Sings The Blues of early 1961. The song is from the "John Lee Hooker"-session in Chicago (which also had "Leave My Wife Alone"). Hooker is backed by his new-found friend, born in Jamaica 1923 - raised in Alabama, Eddie Kirkland on 2nd guitar. Unknown producer - Leonard Chess or Joe Von Battle, or maybe even Besman? *House of the Blues* was the first Chess LP (1959). Both albums included recordings from Chicago in 1951 and from Detroit in 1952 (with "Sugar Mama").

I'm In The Mood - August 7, 1951
Modern 835 - Issued in September. This hit was one of Besman's later productions in Detroit. Hooker's voice is multi-dubbed and his guitar double-tracked (with Little Eddie Kirkland handling a second one). "Mood" was originally waxed in five versions (one-voice plus alternate, two-voice, and the three-voice single), plus one with harmonica dubbed on the single version (possibly by John himself). The original single was issued on John's first Crown LP, and the alternates plus the original three-voice, appeared on United Artists, DCC/Demon, Mainstream, and Ace. The song is based on the "I'm The Mood For Love" standard introduced by Frances Langford in 1935.

Blues For Big Town - mid/late 1952
From Fortune LP 3002 Big Maceo and John Lee issued in 1963 with Bob Thurman, pno plus Hooker with extra dubbed or more probable tour-buddy Kirkland, 2nd gtr. Recorded at Besman's last Detroit-session, inspired by Roy Brown's hit of 1951. A truly great track never issued as a single. Junior Wells did his rendition later. "It's My Own Fault" was dbl-tracked at the same session, issued on a Chess single 1954, with alternates (dubbed and unedited) on Fortune and Greene Bottle. Besman moved to L.A. after this and Hooker was now busy with Joe Bihari of Modern and Joe Siracuse in Detroit - and continued "pirating".

Too Much Boogie - ca August 1953
Modern 916 - Issued in October. From late 1952 - and probably up into early 1955 - Joe Bihari regularly drove to United Sound to cut Hooker records - still engineered by Joe Siracuse, who also co-produced. This is a true "catching hook" with Eddie Kirkland supporting, who in his car, toured the South with Hooker during several occasions these years. By the way - the song was even issued in Britain on the London label. Apart from bootlegs it had to wait until 1993 for a first album issue (on CD). In 1953 John also made some "down-south" blues for Henry Stone (probably in Cincinnati - or possibly Miami for Rockin', DeLuxe and Chart), with several singles issued 1953-1956.



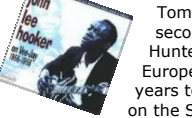
Baby You Ain't No Good - late 1954
From Crown LP 5295 Folk Blues - A great underrated album (with two songs not released on single). This budget-LP was issued in 1962. Although John was contracted to Specialty in 1954, he continued doing records for Modern as a tuff "story-teller" (with Eddie Kirkland). This could have been titled "Dirty Mother", illustrating the bad attitude many men have towards women. An extraordinary - really tuff - true blues.



The Syndicator - prob mid 1955
Modern 966 - Recorded in Detroit, issued in August. This one (also known as "Odds Against Me", "The Syndicate", and "Backbiters and Syndicators") was his last recording for Modern. It has Hooker's new band The Boogie Ramblers (with Otis Finch, tenor; Bob Thurman, pno; prob unknown bs; and Tom Whitehead, dms) delivering a very neat and clean backing. The flip, "Hug And Squeeze" (a real rocker with the "I Love You Baby" alternate), was originally recorded by Bull Moose Jackson in January.



Dimples - March 17, 1956
I Love You Honey - June 10, 1958
Vee-Jay 205 and *Vee-Jay 293* - Recorded in Chicago, issued in August, 1956 and September, 1958. Still a resident of Detroit, Hooker turned "Chicago blues singer" (with Jimmy Bracken and also Ewert Abner as a/r-men in October 1955). These classics were (like most VJ recordings) cut at the legendary Universal Recording Studios - the first with Eddie Taylor, George Washington, and Tom Whitehead (who doubled as Hooker's car driver) - the second was a minor US hit in 1958 (featuring Joe Edward Hunter, pno and Taylor again). Johnnie made his first European tour in 1962 and returned every year for several years to follow. As a result "Dimples" rocked the British charts on the Stateside label in 1964. Another VJ classic was "I See You When You're Weak" recorded on March 1, 1957.

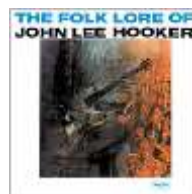


Hobo Blues - January 22, 1959
Vee-Jay 331 - Issued in October (from the *I'm John Lee Hooker* LP of August, where it was one of four remakes of early Modern hits). A great new "solo" foot-tap version of the original issue from March 1949 (which was recorded at the same session as the originals of "Boogie Chillen" and "Crawlin' King Snake" in 1948). It's a terrific remake.

From April 1959 - February 1960 Hooker was "leased" to Riverside, (turning "Folk"), and waxing three acoustic LPs for Bill Grauer and Orrin Keepnews, featuring a.o. "Tupelo", "Gonna Use My Rod" and "Democrat Man".



No Shoes - March 1, 1960
Vee-Jay 349 - Issued in April. The very best of all the great stuff of the *Travelin'* LP. The single hit R&B #21. Based on Eddie Kirkland's recording of July, 1953 for King (and John's own late 1953 "Down Child"). It's one of John's finest, done at Vee-Jay's very first album session, with Calvin Carter prob producer. The combo has Al Smith's favorite bandleader William "Lefty" Bates. rhythm guitar, Sylvester Hickman, bass, and John's early Detroit-drummer Jimmy Turner.



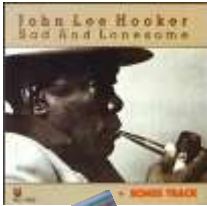
I'm Going Upstairs - January 4, 1961
Vee-Jay 379 - Issued in February. In absolute prime, Hooker shouts out this quasi-gospel (later known as "Younger Stud") in terrific style. Lefty Bates leads the backing with Quinn Wilson and Earl Phillips. Rumour has it - Pops Staples was involved (listen to "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" on the Dynasty LP from this strong session!).



You Lost A Good Man - ca July 7, 1961
From Atco LP 33-151 Don't Turn Me From Your Door - Issued in 1963. Again gospel-styled - the Henry Stone Miami-recorded gems really get you turned on! Stone sold tracks from this session to whoever wanted them! They appeared on Guest Star, Storyville, Atco and Stax during the 1960s. Hard to say if there is a second guitar or an electric bass backing - or both. Hooker refers to "Earl" in one of the great Florida songs - maybe cousin Earl Hooker plays both guitar and bass on his "double-neck"? Great stuff! The Atco LP also featured 1953 DeLuxe songs.



Boom Boom - November 1961
Vee-Jay 438 - Issued in April 1962 (from the fine *Burnin'* session - the LP issued in March) and has an early lineup of Detroit's "Funk Brothers" moonlighting in Chicago, with Joe Edward Hunter, pno and saxist Henry "Hank" Cosby leading the band (Andrew "Mike" Terry, barsax; Larry Veeder, 2nd gtr; James Jamerson, bs; and Benny Benjamin, dms). Hooker's best selling single of his prime years (it hit the US Pop #60 in July). "Sir John" was now truly "established". Another great one, issued in 1963, was "Frisco Blues" (aka "San Francisco"), recorded in January of 1962, from the *Big Soul* LP.



When My Wife Quit Me - ca late 1961
From Savoy v.a. LP MG 16000 *Living with the Blues* of 1963. John's best version of his very first, but unissued Barbee recording, "When My First Wife Left Me", in a Besman 1948 version also known as "Drifting From Door To Door". Or was "Drifting"... actually that song - handed over to Besman? Here we have Eddie Kirkland on lead guitar (who also recorded with King Curtis around this time), plus unknown bass and drums. Produced by Fred Mendelsohn on a "pirate" Savoy session in Newark, New Jersey, resulting in the *Sittin' Here Thinkin'* Muse LP issued much later (1979). That LP was reissued on CD in 1989 (now titled *Sad And Lonesome*) - and featured the bonus track above. The full album was also issued with the original Muse title + the bonus track on 32Blues in 1999. Eddie Kirkland was featured on three of the 12 combo tracks.



Let's Make It Baby - October 18, 1962
From Brunswick LP 009012 *The Original American Folk Blues Festival* - Issued late 1962. A simply great recording from a "live studio" session in Hamburg, Germany during the very first American Folk Blues Festival, which toured through Europe. The festivals returned several times and featured lots of great "legends" - here Hooker is backed by T-Bone Walker at the "88", Willie Dixon on bass, and Jump Jackson on drums. This song is a remake of "Let's Make It" from the *Burnin'* LP. A Brunswick (later Polydor) single made quite a noise in central Europe with "Shake It Baby" from the same session as flip.



Birmingham Blues - mid 1963
Vee-Jay 493 - Issued 1963 and picked from the *On Campus* LP (titled *I Want To Shout The Blues* in England). Loosely based on the classic Tommy Johnson Delta blues "Big Road Blues", Hooker gets "political" and gives his view on the Alabama "race situation". A strong and tuff Funk Brothers-backed rendition, truly qualified as one of Hooker's greatest. The recording date in Chicago is easy to identify - the race riots in Alabama of May, 1963 and Kennedy still alive.



It Serves Me Right (To Suffer) - mid 1964
Vee-Jay 708 - Issued in November 1965 (a year after its recording), also issued on the 1973 LP *In Person* on Dynasty/VJ. Hooker's very first (and the best) "cover" of Percy Mayfield's "Memory Pain" (Percy wrote and recorded it in 1953 - and in 1962). This version was recorded at Hooker's very last session for Vee-Jay with most prob Al Smith the producer and unknown rhythm backing (possibly featuring Wayne Bennett on guitar). Titled simply "It Serves Me Right" on single, but later "It Serves Me Right To Suffer". A true Hooker standard today.



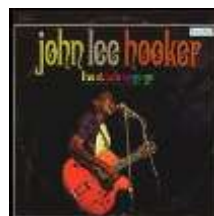
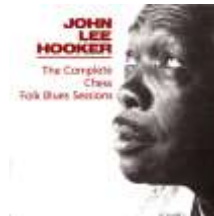
Bottle Up And Go - NYC Nov 23, 1965
Impulse 242 - Issued in April 1966 and pulled from the LP *It Serve You Right To Suffer* (with the right "Serves" spelling inside). In 1965, after a "lease" to record with the Groundhogs in Britain in late 1964 (the ... *And Seven Nights* LP on Verve-Folkways/Forecast with "Mai Lee", "I'm Losin' You" and the first "Waterfront" a.o.), Hooker moved from the bankrupt Vee-Jay to the "new" major record label ABC. His first record there was for jazz sub Impulse (with diversified and interesting tracks). This song was originally recorded by Tommy McClennan in 1939 and is a true Hooker standard. It is the best version of his many tries at it. He had recorded it several times before, and did it later too. Here he is backed by jazz musicians Barry Galbraith, second guitar; Milt Hinton, bass; and Panama Francis, drums. Producer was jazz veteran Bob Thiele.



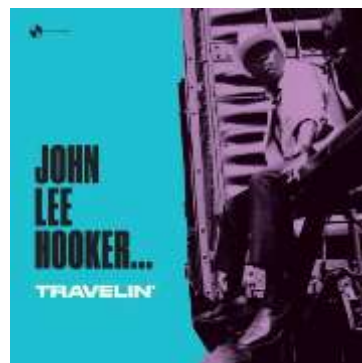
House Rent Blues - Chicago May, 1966
From Chess/Universal CD CHD 9329 *More Real Folk Blues* - *The Missing Album* - Issued in 1991, featuring previously unissued tracks from the Real Folk Blues session, produced by Ralph Bass (of Black & White, Savoy, King, and Chess). It is most probably a "legal" session with Hooker temporarily "freed" from ABC. Johnnie is backed by long-time Chess session musician Lafayette Leake at the piano, Hooker's old Detroit friend Eddie Burns on second guitar (not harmonica this time), unknown bass and tambourine players, S.P. Leary or poss Fred Below at the drums. The most famous of the songs on the original *Real Folk Blues* LP was "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer", Hooker's first version of the retitled Amos Milburn hit of 1953. The song here Hooker recorded throught his years, twice as a boogie in the very early days, in 1959 as "I Lost My Job", and several times like this - as a slow "talking blues". This is the most interesting rendition. Johnnie talks and whispers, and plays no guitar, with Burns et.co backing up real steady. This is another interesting version featured on the *Endless Boogie* ABC LP recorded 1971.



I'll Never Get Out Of Thes Blues Alive - New York City August 20, 1966
From ABC/*BluesWay* LP 6002 *Live at cafe au go-go* of early 1967. John's very first recorded attempt at this song, and many say it was not surpassed in quality. Bob Thiele producer. Hooker is backed by Muddy Waters and his band (Otis Spann, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Snake" Johnson, Mac Arnold and Francis Clay). George Smith, hca is not featured. The most famous of the songs on the album was "I'm Bad Like Jesse James", but this is even better. The LP was originally reissued on British BGO, but later issued again on the same BGO label (now with bonus tracks from the ABC LP *Live at Soledad Prison* of 1972).



John Lee Hooker was born in Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi (not far from Clarksdale, Coahoma County) on August 22, 1912 (or possibly 1917 - most new findings point towards 1912). Johnnie also made Vance and Lambert (Quitman County), and probably also Glendora (all within a "stone's throw" distance in the heart of the Mississippi delta) his home during the 1920s. He left the Clarksdale area for the first time already as a teenager and went to Memphis, Knoxville, and Cincinnati in the 1930s. In 1943 he settled in Detroit, Michigan and started his career as a recording blues artist in the summer of 1948. He made a total of more than 1000 recordings (if you really "go" for it - including the many bootlegs of later years) up to his death on June 21, 2001. His legacy includes at least 100 original albums and as many (possibly even more) CD compilations (and countless, strange, reissue packages). Many regard him as the "World's Greatest Blues Singer" - well, I surely do (a great fan ever since his *Travelin'* LP). His "Classic Years" can be tagged 1948-1967. Of the 24 "Super Tracks" (my favorites) from that era 19 can be found on the great *Hooker 4CD*-box from 2006 (on Shout!Factory - reissued on SPV/Blue). Craft's *King of the Boogie* 5CD-set has a total of ten of the "Super Tracks" above.



JOHN LEE HOOKER... TRAVELIN'

JOHN LEE HOOKER... TRAVELIN' LP 6002

THE ORIGINAL LP RECORDING OF JOHN LEE HOOKER'S 1967 ALBUM... TRAVELIN'... THE ORIGINAL LP RECORDING OF JOHN LEE HOOKER'S 1967 ALBUM... TRAVELIN'...

TRACK LIST:

1. I'M LOSIN' YOU
2. I'M BAD LIKE JESSE JAMES
3. I GOT MY JOB
4. I GOT MY JOB
5. I GOT MY JOB
6. I GOT MY JOB
7. I GOT MY JOB
8. I GOT MY JOB
9. I GOT MY JOB
10. I GOT MY JOB

JOHN LEE HOOKER... TRAVELIN' LP 6002

THE ORIGINAL LP RECORDING OF JOHN LEE HOOKER'S 1967 ALBUM... TRAVELIN'... THE ORIGINAL LP RECORDING OF JOHN LEE HOOKER'S 1967 ALBUM... TRAVELIN'...

"Travelin'" is reissued on vinyl in 2015 and 2019 (both times with two diff bonus tracks).

JOHN LEE HOOKER - ONE RECORD PER YEAR 1948 – 1967



1948

1949

1950

1951



1952

1953

1954

1955



1956

1957

1958

1959



1960

1961

1962

1963



1964 (issued 1965)

1965

1966

1967

Four RARE Hooker Vee-Jay Albums – with interesting single features

Vee-Jay LP 8502/VJS 8502 (early 1965) **Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer?**

Reissued on Exodus 325 in 1966, both with "Is He Really The World's Greatest Blues Singer?" on label. Crawl'n' Kingsnake/ Blues Before Sunrise/ Process/ Want Ad Blues/ Whiskey And Wimmen/ The Mighty Fire (live) // Talk That Talk, Baby (live)/ My First Wife Left Me/ Wednesday Evening Blues/ Maudie/ Time Is Marching/ Boom Boom

Recorded in Chicago from October 19, 1955 – November 1961 (plus live 1963). "Process" actually not present on original issue.



Vee-Jay single 308: **Maudie** / I'm In The Mood (from LP 1007)
 Released February 1959 (both recorded January 22, 1959)

GNP Crescendo GNPS 2-1007 (1974) **The Best of John Lee Hooker**

(Distributed by Everest Records 2-set LP; prob licensed by Vee-Jay - reissued on CD in 1987, D 31120)

Talk That Talk/ Dimples/ Hobo Blues/ Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel/ Process/ Blues Before Sunrise/ Let's Make It/ No Shoes/ Drug Store Woman // Boom Boom/ I'm In The Mood/ Maudie/ Crawl'n' Kingsnake/ Tupelo/ Whiskey And Wimmen/ I'm Goin' Upstairs/ Want-ad Blues/ Five Long Years/ My First Wife Left Me

Recorded in Chicago 1956 – November 1961 ("Talk" from Newport, 1963)

Liner notes by Leonard Feather



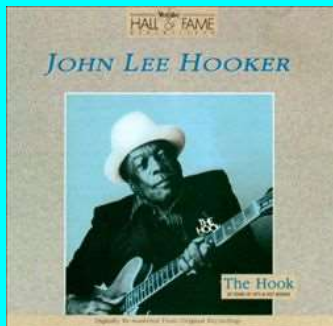
Vee-Jay single 319: **Boogie Chillun** / Tennessee Blues
 Released June 1959 (both recorded January 22, 1959)

Chameleon D2-75794 (CD 1989) **The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie** (Vee-Jay Hall of Fame Series) – Exclusive Vee-Jay License

Whiskey & Wimmen/ I Wanna Walk/ No Shoes / House Rent Boogie*/ Dimples/ Let's Make It/ Big Legs Tight Skirt*/ You Ain't No Big Thing/ Boom Boom/ Crawl'n' Kingsnake/ Good Rockin' Mama/ Frisco/ Boogie Chillun/ Mama You Got A Daughter*/ Want Ad Blues/ Nightmare*



Recorded in Chicago 1956-1964
 * denotes previously unissued on US albums.

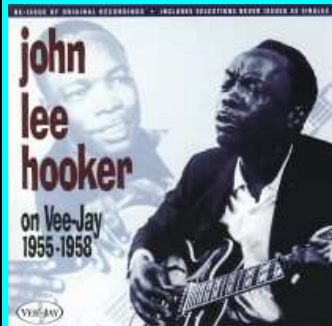


Vee-Jay single 670: **Big Legs, Tight Skirt**
 / Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine (on Dynasty LP 7301)
 Released May 1965 (both recorded mid 1964)

Vee-Jay NVD2-713 (CD, July 1993) **John Lee Hooker On Vee-Jay 1955-1958** – Vee-Jay Limited Partnership

Unfriendly Woman (aka Stop Now)**/ Wheel And Deal*TR/ Mambo Chillun**/ Time Is Marching/ I'm So Worried Baby***/ Baby Lee/ Dimples/ Every Night/ The Road Is So Rough (aka When I Started Hoboing)**/ Trouble Blues**+TR/ Stop Talking/ Everybody's Rockin**TR/ I'm So Excited/ I See You When You're Weak****/ Crawl'n' Black Spider (aka Mean Old Snake)*TR/ Little Wheel/ Little Fine Woman*/ Rosie Mae (aka Nothing But Trouble)**/ You Can Lead Me Baby (aka Lead Me On)**/ I Love You Honey/ You've Taken My Woman**/ Mama You Got A Daughter**

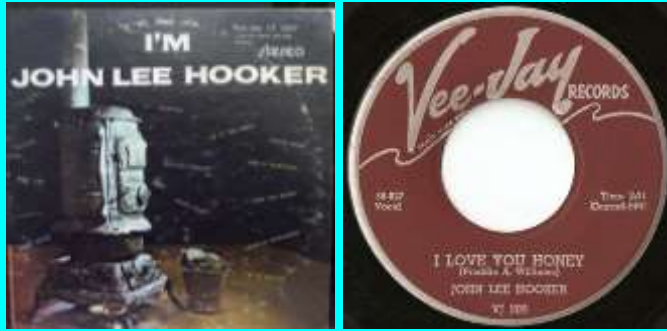
* Previously only issued on DJM LP, except *TR, which were on a French Top Rank EP.
 ** Previously only issued on singles and British DJM 2-LP 28026 ("Dimples" 1977).
 *** Previously unissued. This is not the same as the earlier issued DJM, Charly and Chameleon track – here you have a June 10, 1958 recording from the "I Love You Honey" session with full rhythm section, including Joe Edward Hunter,pno; Taylor, McCrary and Johnson.
 **** Not identical to the DJM tracks, which were alternates of the original single versions.



Vee-Jay single 245: **I See You When You're Weak**
 / I'm So Excited
 Released April 1957 (both recorded March 1, 1957)

Eight GREAT Hooker VJ LPs ... and a hit single from the LPs - Pt 1

Vee-Jay LP 1007 (ca August 1959) **I'm John Lee Hooker**
(later stereo issue act mono) Image below has Stereo mark.
 Dimples/ Hobo Blues/ I'm So Excited/ I Love You Honey/
 Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel // I'm In The Mood/ Maudie/
 Crawl'n King Snake /Every Night/ Time Is Marching/
 Baby Lee
Recorded in Chicago from October 19, 1955 - June 10, 1958,
plus five on January 22, 1959



Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; and featuring Jimmy Reed, hca; Eddie Taylor, gtr;
 George Washington, bs; Tom Whitehead, dms plus Quinn Wilson, bs; Frankie
 Bradford, pno; Everett McCrary, bs; Richard Johnson, dms; Joe Edward Hunter or
 poss Bob Porter, pno. **Jan 59 session:** Eddie Taylor, gtr and Earl Phillips, dms

Vee-Jay single 293: **I Love You Honey**
 / You've Taken My Woman
 Released September 1958
 (R&B #29, December) imaged: Eddie Taylor



Vee-Jay LP 1023 (1960) **Travelin'**
(the later stereo version has same cat no. see logo right)
Image below has Stereo mark on top.
 No Shoes/ I Wanna Walk/ Canal Street
 Blues/ Run On/ I'm A Stranger/
 Whiskey and Wimmen // Solid Sender/
 Sunny Land/ Goin' To California/ I Can't
 Believe/ I'll Know Tonight/ Dusty Road
Recorded in Chicago March 1, 1960



["Travelin'" releases as of discs.](#)

Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; Lefty Bates, rhythm gtr
 (imaged); Sylvester Hickman, bass;
 Jimmy Turner, dms

Vee-Jay single 349: **No Shoes**
 / Solid Sender
 Released April 1960 (R&B #21, July)



Vee-Jay LP 1033 (1961) **The Folk Lore of
 John Lee Hooker** *(later stereo issue actually mono)*
 Tupelo**/ I'm Mad Again/ I'm Going Upstairs/ Want Ad Blues/
 Five Long Years*/ I Like To See You Walk* // The Hobo**/
 Hard-Headed Woman/ Wednesday Evening Blues*/
 Take Me As I Am*/ My First Wife Left Me*/ You're Looking
 Good Tonight*
Recorded in Chicago January 4, 1961, except see note below



1961 session: Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; William "Lefty" Bates,
 gtr/hca; Quinn Wilson, bs; Earl Phillips, dms (imaged);
 and poss Pops Staples, gtr.

* New York (for Prestige) April 29, 1960 (purch by Vee-Jay in 1961) - JLH solo;
 ** live in Newport (for Vanguard) on June 25, 1960- with Bill Lee, bs

Vee-Jay single 397: **Want Ad Blues**
 / Take Me As I Am
 Released July 1961



Originally Vee-Jay LP 1043 (early 1962) **Burnin'**
 Stereophonic: VJSR 1043
 Boom Boom/ Process/ Lost A Good Girl/ A New Leaf/
 Blues Before Sunrise/ Let's Make It // I Got A Letter/
 Thelma/ Drug Store Woman/ Keep Your Hands To Yourself/
 What Do You Say
Recorded in Chicago November, 1961



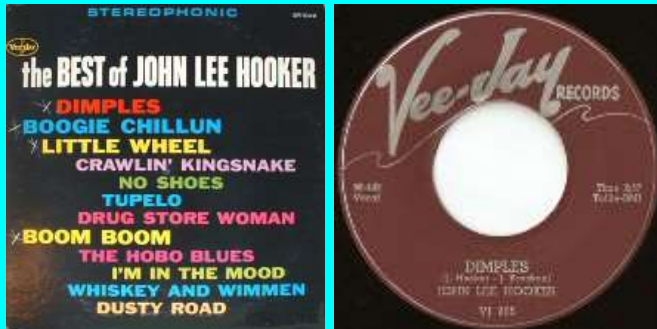
Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; Joe Edward Hunter, pno (imaged);
 Hank Cosby, tensax; Mike Terry, barsax; Larry Veeder,
 rhythm gtr; James Jamerson, bass; Benny Benjamin, dms.

Vee-Jay single 438: **Boom Boom**
 / Drug Store Woman
 Released April 1962 (R&B #16, June)



Eight GREAT Hooker VJ LPs ... and a hit single from the LPs - Pt 2

Originally LP 1049 (1962) **The Best of John Lee Hooker**
 Stereo: VJSR 1049 (*not all tracks in stereo*)
 Dimples/ Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel/ Crawlin' King Snake/
 No Shoes/ Tupelo* // Drug Store Woman/ Boom Boom/
 (The) Hobo Blues (1/59) / I'm In The Mood/ Whiskey And
 Wimmen/ Dusty Road
*Recorded in Chicago (except *-Newport)*
from March 27, 1956 - November 1961



Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; with musicians listed at earlier albums

Vee-Jay single 205: **Dimples** / Baby Lee
 Released August 1956

Originally LP 1058 (early 1963) **The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker**
 Stereo: VJSR 1058
 San Francisco/ Take A Look At Yourself/ Send Me Your Pillow*
 / She Shot Me Down/ I Love Her/ Old Time Shimmy* //
 You Know I Love You*/ Big Soul/ Good Rocking Mama/
 Onions*/ No One Told Me
Recorded in Chicago January 28, 1962;
*except for *-recorded earlier in 1962*



Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Hank Cosby, tenor sax; unknown tpt;
 plus acc. similar to "Burnin'", including organ, and with Mary Wilson and
 the Andantes (Jackie Hicks, Marlene Barrow, Louvaine Demps), vcl support
 ("She shot me down" is a "revival" of "Boom Boom"; "No One Told Me" has no brass)
 Vee-Jay single 493: **Frisco Blues** / Take A Look At Yourself
 Released February 1963 ("Frisco Blues" is "San Francisco" retitled)

Originally LP 1066 (late 1963) **On Campus**
 Stereo: VJSR 1066
 I'm Leaving/ Love Is A Burning Thing/ Birmingham Blues/
 I Want To Shout/ Don't Look Back/I Want To Hug You //
 Poor Me/ I Want To Ramble*/ Half A Stranger*/
 My Grinding Mill*/ Bottle Up And Go*/ One Way Ticket*
*Recorded in two sessions in 1963; session one**



Session one: Hooker, vcl/ gtr; with unknown drums
 Session two: Similar to "The Big Soul" (now possibly with
 Martha and the Vandellas (vocal support).
 ("I'm Leaving" has only rhythm accomp)

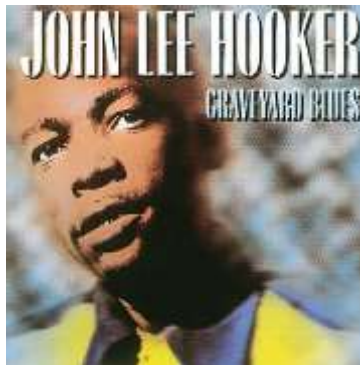
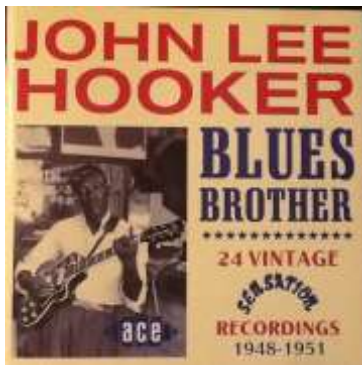
Vee-Jay single 538: **Birmingham Blues** / I'm Leaving
 Released late 1963

Originally Dynasty DYS 7301 (1973) **In Person**
 This is a stereo LP (*catalogue number as in original Vee-Jay series - a Vee-Jay sub*)
 You're Gonna Need Another Favor*/ New Sally Mae/
 Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine/ She's Long She's Tall/
 You're Mellow // Will The Circle Be Unbroken**/ Flowers On
 The Hour/ It Serves Me Right To Suffer/ Ain't No Big Thing
 Baby/ You Can Run Baby (LP later re-issued with Vee-Jay logo LP/CD)
Recorded in Chicago mid 1964, except see note below

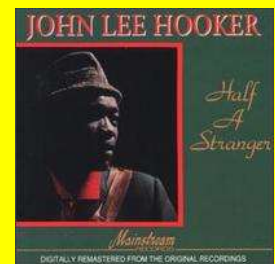
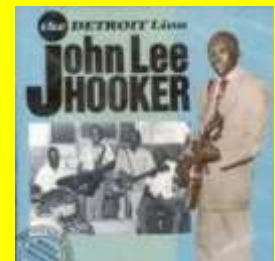
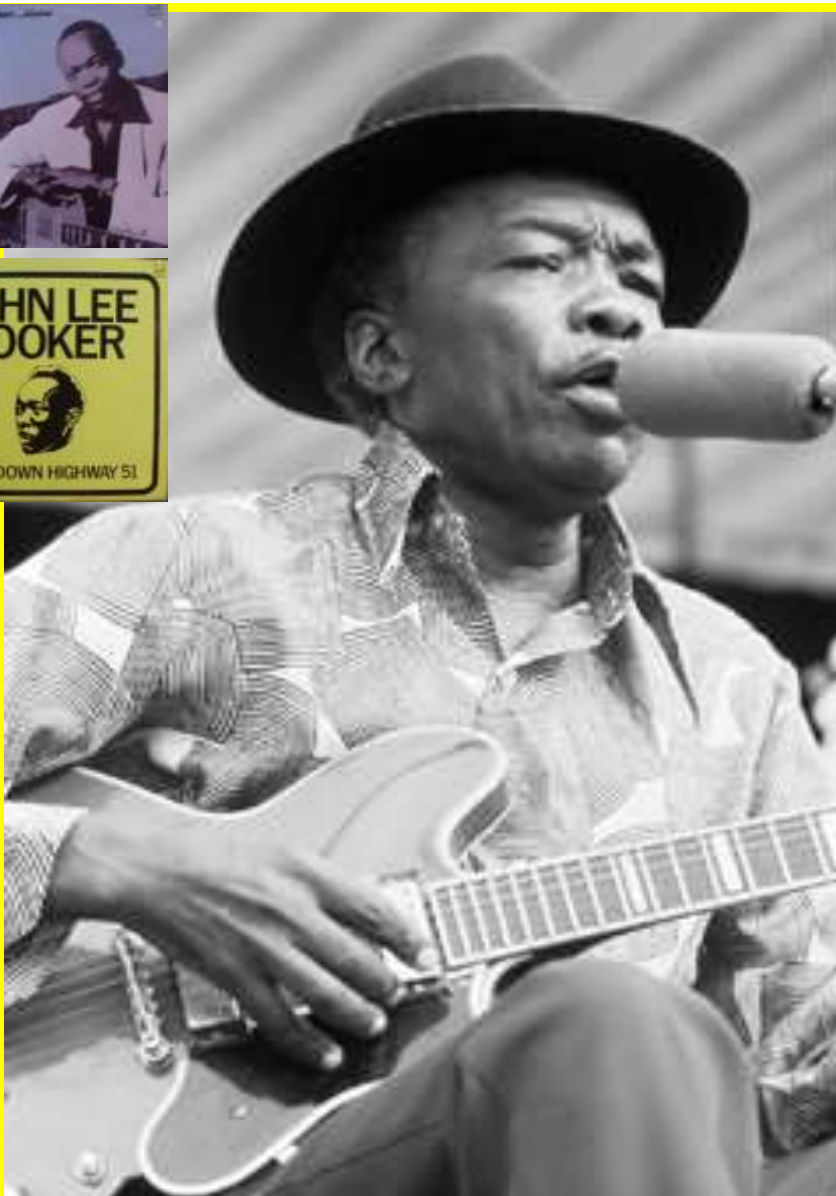
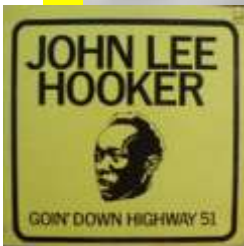


1964 session: Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; poss Wayne Bennett,
 rhythm gtr; unknown bs and dms
 * Newport July 26/27, 1963- from Hooker's Vee-Jay LP 1078 "Concert At Newport" 1964
 - track originally titled "You've Got To Walk Yourself" on the Newport LP
 ** January 4, 1961 (prev. unissued from the "Folk Lore"-session, also issued on
 Dynasty single DST-4501, 1973)
 Vee-Jay single 708: **It Serves Me Right** / Flowers On The Hour
 Released November 1965 (titled "It Serves Me Right To Suffer" on the LP)
 This was Hooker's last Vee-Jay single.

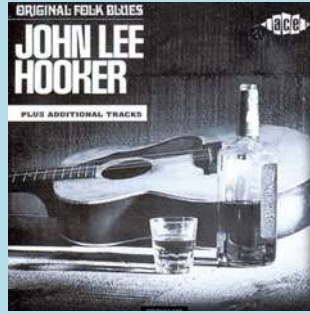
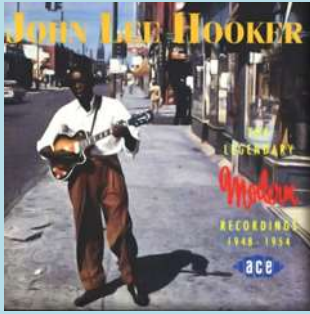
Great John Lee Hooker CDs - in Detroit (for Besman & Siracuse)



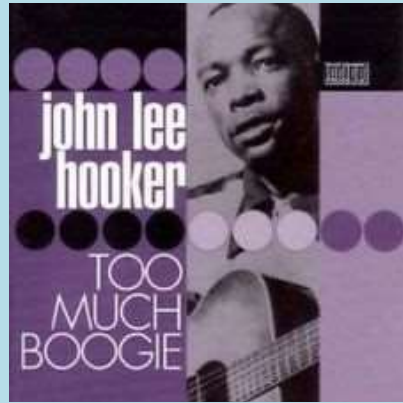
The three Ace (UK) CDs featuring Sensation, Modern and Specialty recordings by Bernie Besman and Joe Siracuse (mostly culled from the original Specialty LPs): [Ace CHD 405](#) (only issued in UK), plus [Ace CHD 421](#) (Specialty CD 7018), and [CHD 474](#) (Specialty CD 7035) with great recordings 1948-1954. **Inserted** below: the two original Specialty vinyl LPs (featuring [Sensation](#) and [Besman](#) recordings, including some alternate versions of Modern singles. These were later reissued on the Specialty CDs above, which had further tracks from the 1954 sessions for Specialty); the great 3-set CD on [Capitol 33912-2](#) "Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings", featuring all tracks from the original United Artists LPs (Bernie Besman recordings mostly 1948-1952, 56 tracks). Plus the interesting UK [Demon](#) (ex US DCC) and [Mainstream](#) CDs (compilations poss managed by Joe Siracuse – with 1948-1955 tracks), and the interesting gatefold double-LP "Johnny Lee" on Greene Bottle [GBS 3130](#) of 1972, featuring lots of alternate Besman tracks of 1948-1952 (tracks only reissued on the Body & Soul public domain CDs).



Great Ace John Lee Hooker CDs - in Detroit (for Modern Records)



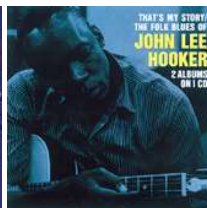
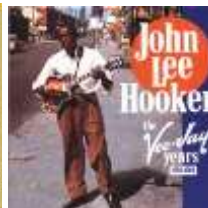
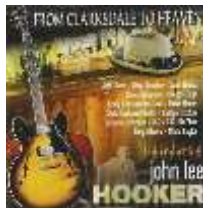
The three Ace (UK) CDs featuring Modern singles and Crown LP-tracks (plus unissued alternates)
 – CDs **CHD 315**, **CHM 530**, and **CHD 799**. A total of 66 tracks in these three CDs (some of them appearing twice).



This is a nice bootleg live recording issued three times with different covers. "The Rising Sun Collection" Just A Memory RSCD0001 (Canada 1994); "Black Night Is Falling" Collector's Classics JAM 9152-2 (Canada 2004); and "Black Night Is Falling - Live at The Rising Sun Celebrity Jazz Club" Nettwerk 2LP Vinyl (out March 2018).

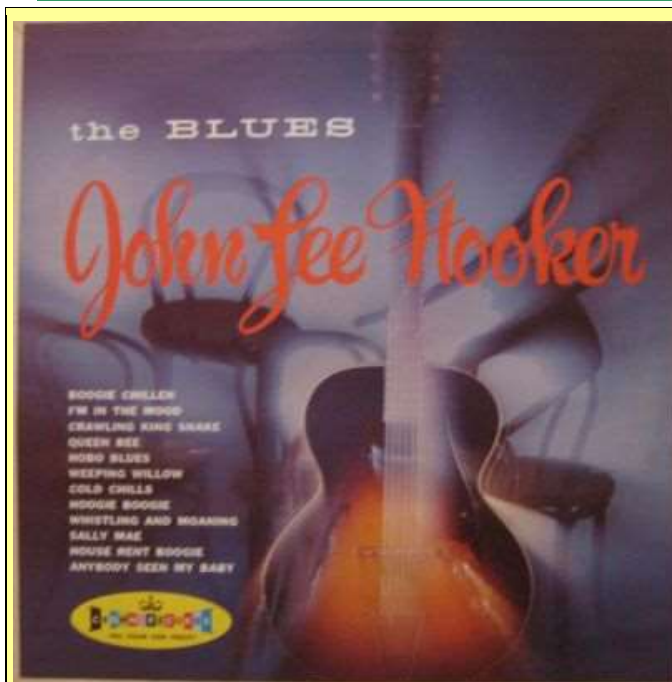
Tracks: 1. Chicken and Gravy (6:34) 2. It Serves Me Right to Suffer (5:47) 3. Boom Boom (5:30) 4. Black Night Is Falling (8:07) 5. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer (5:13) 6. One Room Country Schack (7:08).

The long tracks were recorded in Montreal, Canada on May 5, 1977. They feature John Garcia, guitar; Steve Jones, bassguitar; Larry Martin, drums.



"From Clarksdale to Heaven: Remembering John Lee Hooker" – a various artists CD from September 2002 (Eagle EAGCD 228), featuring John Lee in 1989 with Randy California and Booker T Jones on a great rendition of Jimi Hendrix' "Red House" (recorded in 1989- Hooker re-recorded it with Van Morrison in 1996 for Pointblank. Nine tracks from the 1961 Savoy session and five of the 20 tracks of "Savoy Blues Legends" were issued on a Savoy Jazz CD of 2004, titled "Low Down Midnite Boogie" (Savoy 17396). A 3CD-set on Hearts of Darkness / Dressed To Kill DTKBOX90 of 1998 titled "Trilogy" (featuring three previously issued Charly CDs – CDGR 176 "Rare Hooker", CD 62 "House Rent Boogie" and CD 151 "Dimples" – although no inlay presentation); the 6CD-box "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964" on Charly RED Box 6 (UK CD box issued 1992), featuring 127 chronological tracks including "Don't Look Back" twice (mono and stereo); and the Ace CD CHD 927 of 1990 ("That's My Story/The Folk Blues Of" (featuring 21 tracks from the LPs "The Country Blues of" and "That's My Story"). "Blues Summit": All New Studio Recordings" with B.B. King and Guests from 1993 on MCA MCD 10710, featuring B.B. King, duetting with John Lee Hooker in a rendition of Muddy Waters' "You Shook Me" (recorded in February/March 1993)

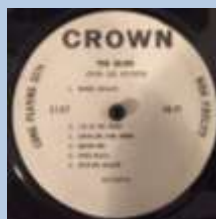
The very first Hooker Crown LP



CLP 5157 The Blues, 1960

Note at least three different Crown label "logos"
 - also note the two different Crown front covers.
 (Inserted images below: a Modern Oldies reissue of a single, and the United/Superior version of the United LP). Hooker's LPs on Crown and Kent were reissued on United/Superior and United (one even on Custom - earlier) during the late 1960's and early 1970's. In parenthesis: Original CD issue of the track.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| A1 Boogie Chillen | (Ace CD 315) |
| A2 I'm In The Mood | (Ace CD 315) |
| A3 Crawling King Snake | (Ace CD 315) |
| A4 Queen Bee | (Ace CD 315) |
| A5 Hobo Blues | (Ace CD 315) |
| A6 Weeping Willow | (Ace CD 315) |
| B1 Cold Chills | (alt on Ace CD 530) |
| B2 Hoogie Boogie | (Ace CD 315) |
| B3 Whistling And Moaning | (Ace CD 530) |
| B4 Sally Mae | (Ace CD 315) |
| B5 House Rent Boogie | (alt on Ace CD 799) |
| B6 Anybody Seen My Baby | (Ace CD 799) |



Reissued on United (The Blues); and on Kent ("stereo" issue imaged) and United (The Greatest Hits of).



The singles tracks from "The Blues"



Seven of the LP track titles were slightly changed when issued on the album.
Note that "Sally May" on the LP (now titled "Sally Mae") is an alternate recording (same session), possibly issued on Modern Oldies in 1964 – although it has the same track time noted as the original single.



Some "outside US" reissues of the Crown/United LPs

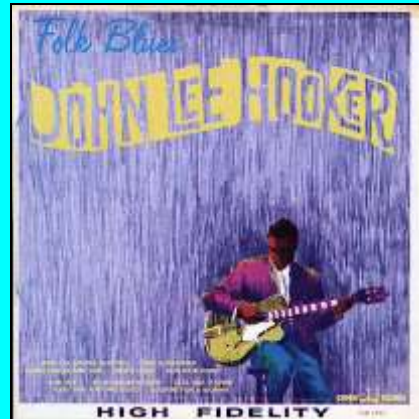
					<p>"The Blues" Musidisc/America (Fr) AM 6078 (1970s) "The Greatest Hits" Bellaphon (Ge) BJS 4021 (ca mid 1970s) "Boogie Chillen" Globe (Japan) VIP 5005M (1977)</p>
					<p>"Driftin' Thru The Blues" Ember (UK) EMB 3371 (1966) "Folk Blues" BYG (Fr) 529 008 (1970s - wrong title) "John Lee Hooker" Sounds Superb (Fr) 2M050 52179 (1977), also on: Phonic (Sp) PHL 5518 (1978)</p>
					<p>"Folk Blues" Goody (Fr) GY 70.000 (1969) – also backcover "Pop Blues Vol 8 - Folk Blues" BYG (Fr) 529.508 (1970s with same "Driftin' thru the blues" tracks as on the previous BYG)</p>
					<p>"The Great Blues Sounds" Musidisc/America (Fr) AM 6077 (1970s)</p>

Hooker's other four "Bihari" LP originals



Crown CLP 5232 - Sings the Blues - 1961

Hug And Squeeze You / I Love You Baby * / The Syndicate / Boogie Woogie All Night Long ** / Good Rockin' Mama // Let Your Daddy Ride *** / Turn Over A New Leaf / Don't You Remember Me / Driftin' From Door To Door / She Left Me On My Bended Knee ****
 * alternate of "Hug.." ** not by Hooker, but Louisiana Red *** the Modern single version
 **** this is "Wednesday Evening" of ca December, 1949

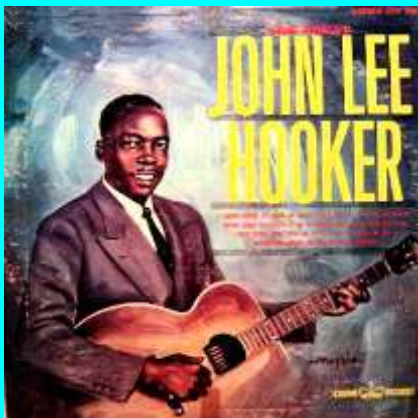


Crown CLP 5295 - Folk Blues - 1962

Baby I'm Gonna Miss You ** / Half A Stranger / Shake Holler And Run / Down Child / Gonna Boogie // Bad Boy / Rock House Boogie / Let's Talk It Over * / Baby You Ain't No Good ** / Lookin' For A Woman
 * the version, which was recorded August 7, 1951
 ** 1954 recordings never issued on single

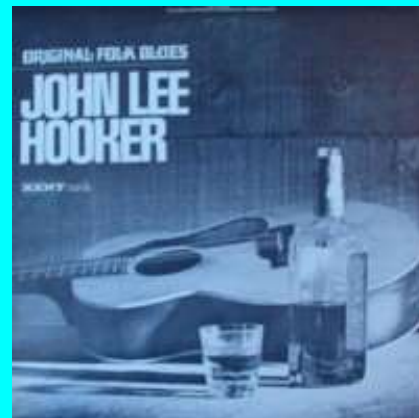


The Biharis reissue program, after the Crown budget label started out as United/Superior, the name was shortened to United in the early 70s. Original copies have a yellow label with a U/S above the spindle hole. Another variation was gold with "United" above the center hole. Later reissues had light purple logo with "United" across the top. Later jackets had various color variations on the original covers. Catalogue numbers were beginning with US 77xx. Not to be confused with United Artists this budget label reissued much of Hooker's work from the Modern, Crown, Kent and Custom labels. Some songs were retitled on Crown/United albums
Note: It is not confirmed if the editor has (or has not) mixed up some of the United/Superior and United issues in this publication. It may be a fact that mono and "so called stereo" issues may have slightly diff. covers. Image left: The Ember (UK) reissue of "Sings the Blues" (issued in 1966 as "Driftin' Thru The Blues"). Albums below: United Records "Driftin' Thru The Blues", "Folk Blues", "The Great Blues Sounds of..." and "Original Folk Blues" (with the three different label logos shown).



Crown CLP 5353 - The Great John Lee Hooker - 1963

I Need Love So Bad / Sally Mae * / Key to the Highway / How Can You Do It? / It Hurts Me So // She Left Me ** / I Got Eyes For You / Let's Talk It Over ** / I'm a Howling Wolf / Tease You Daddy
 * this is the original single (although spelt different)
 ** this is "Wednesday Evening" of ca December, 1949 (again)
 *** this is "One More Time" from April 28, 1950



Kent KLP 5025 - Original Folk Blues - 1967

Boogie Chillen / Queen Bee / Crawl'in' King Snake / Weeping Williwog Boogie / Whistlin' And Moanin' Blues / Sally Mae * // I Need Love So Bad / Let's Talk It Over ** / The Syndicator / Let Your Daddy Ride *** / Drifting From Door To Door / Baby I'm Gonna Miss You
 * the original Crown LP 5157 version
 ** the version, which was recorded August 7, 1951
 *** the Modern single version (or poss a slightly alternate)

Hooker's Very First: Vee-Jay LP 1007



Vee-Jay LP 1007 (issued August, 1959)

This LP was later re-issued with Stereo-tag, although the tracks still were in mono.

Tracks:

Dimples / Hobo Blues / I'm So Excited / I Love You Honey / Boogie Chillun / Little Wheel // I'm In The Mood / Maudie / Crawlin' King Snake / Every Night / Time Is Marching / Baby Lee



Discography:

John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Jimmy Reed,hca; Eddie Taylor,gtr; George Washington,bs; Tom Whitehead,dms

- 55-339 Time Is Marching Chicago October 19, 1955
Vee-Jay 164 (11/55)
- John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; George Washington,bs; Tom Whitehead,dms March 27, 1956
- 56-444 Baby Lee 205 (8/56)
- 56-445 Dimples 205
- 56-446 Every Night 188 (4/56)

- John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Quinn Wilson,bs; Tom Whitehead,dms March 1, 1957
- 57-634 I'm So Excited 245 (4/57)

- John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Frankie Bradford,pno; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Everett McCrary,bs; Richard Johnson,dms June 23, 1957
- 57-717 Little Wheel 255 (9/57)

- John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Joe Edward Hunter (or poss Bob Porter),pno; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Everett McCrary,bs; Richard Johnson,dms June 10, 1958
- 58-927 I Love You Honey 293 (9/58) R&B #29

- John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; with Eddie Taylor,gtr-1; Earl Phillips,dms-2 January 22, 1959
- 59-1067 Maudie -1, 2 308 (2/59)
- 59-1069 I'm In The Mood -1 308
- 59-1070 Boogie Chillun 319 (6/59)
- 59-1071 Hobo Blues 331 (10/59)
- 59-1072 Crawlin Kingsnake 331

Note the spellings of 1070 and 1072. The last four are quality remakes of some of Hooker's hits for Modern Records (with single 331 issued after the LP).

Soul Jam 600913 (2CD February 2018)
50 Original All-Time Classics 1948-1961

Featuring mostly Modern and Vee-Jay tracks (plus Sensation, King, Chess, Riverside and Galaxy). with nice inlay and fine liner-notes by Gary Blalock.

BOOGIE CHILLEN'





A Guide to Essential Hooker CD Albums (click on / touch CDs for discsogs)

The Best Anthologies: - the #1&2 choices for a collection!

"HOOKER" - 4CD box on Shout!Factory, issued 2006 (later also on German Blue Label / SPV) with 84 tracks covering 50 years of Hooker recordings 1948-1998; one CD of Detroit classics for Modern with further Besman recordings and several pseudonym recordings; one CD featuring the Chicago years (with Vee-Jay recordings including several of the tracks of "I'm John Lee Hooker" plus several "folk" recordings); one CD of his Coast-to-Coast years including some great European recordings; and one CD covering his Frisco Rosebud years (including most of the tracks of "The Best of Friends"). Box produced by Shawn Amos and Patrick Milligan. Booklet includes a nice discography. (see links to discogs)

"KING OF THE BOOGIE" - 5CD "book-box" on Craft Recordings, issued Oct 6, 2017, with 100 classic tracks: Detroit 1948-54, Chicago plus 1955-61, Chicago pt 2 & Coast-to-Coast 1962-87, Live 1960-90, and With Friends 1952-98. Only 38 of the 100 tracks also on "Hooker". Produced by Mason Williams. Liner notes by Jas Obrecht and Mike Kappus. Detailed track information.

See pages 10-13 for track lists and other details of the two super-anthologies!

Note: Both of the classic albums **"I'm John Lee Hooker"** (Vee-Jay 1955-1959) and **"The Best of Friends"** (Virgin / Pointblank 1987-1998) issued on Shout!Factory CDs (2007). Top right: Craft/Vee-Jay **"Whiskey & Wimmen"** (2017). Inserted top left: the Blue Label issue. "I'm John Lee Hooker" also issued on Charly with bonus tracks (1998 and 2003) with original LP liner notes.

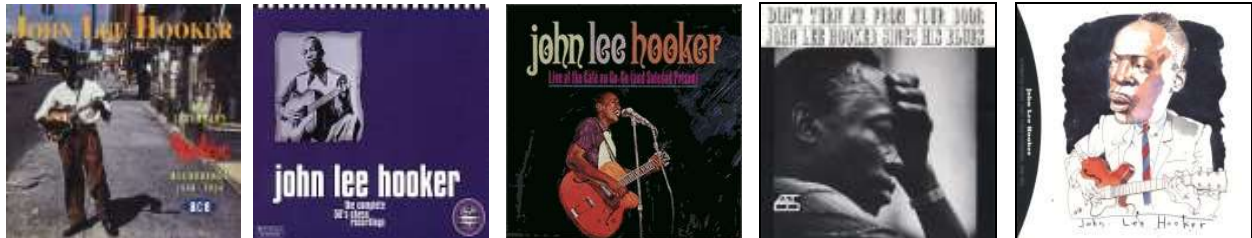


A. - the Absolute musts:



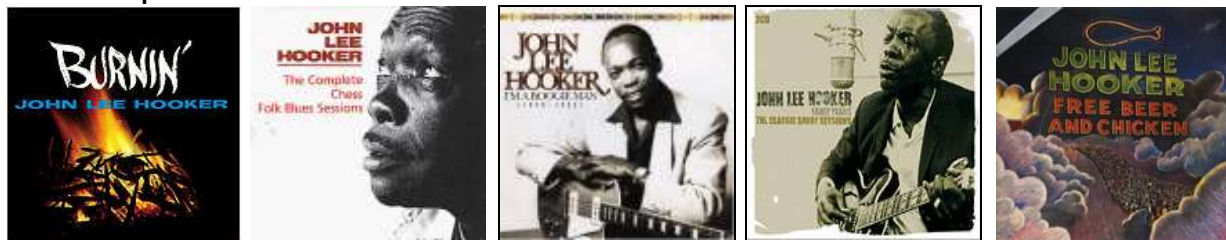
"Travelin'" - the magnificent 1960 Vee-Jay LP reissued on a Collectables CD; and on Charly CD in true stereo with bonus tracks in 1999 and 2003 with original liner notes by Nat Hentoff plus discography by Les Fancourt. **"Blues Kingpins - Blues Immortal"** - 18 Modern classics 1948-1955 on Virgin with liner notes by Bill Dahl, issued 2003 - [check Bill Dahl's liner notes and the whole booklet \(3 pages\)](#). **"Testament"** - 3CD-set on Charly issued 2001 with 60 of the best Vee-Jay recordings of 1955-1964; also featuring all the tracks of "I'm John Lee Hooker" and several of the tracks of "The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker" - with a 28-page inlay by Les Fancourt. **"The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974"** - issued on MCA in Europe 1992 and later in USA, featuring 16 tracks from Impulse, Chess, Bluesway and ABC with liner notes by Colin Escott. **"That's My Story / The Folk Blues of John Lee Hooker"** - the first two Riverside LPs from 1959 and 1960, reissued with 21 tracks on one Ace CD in 1990 - also with all 25 tracks on separate Fantasy CDs, "The Country Blues of John Lee Hooker" and "That's My Story - John Lee Hooker Sings the Blues".

B. - for a Basic collection:



"The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954" - 24 classics on Ace; Flair in the US, with liner notes by Dave Sax, issued 1993. **"The Complete 50's Chess Recordings"** - 2CD-set with 31 Chess and Fortune recordings 1950-1954 - featuring a.o. all tracks from his original two classic Chess LPs, issued on Chess/MCA in 1997/1998 and compiled by Andy McKaie with liner notes by Dave Sax and Colin Escott - imaged: the European issue. **"Live at the Café au Go-Go"** - a 1966 Bluesway LP-session with the Muddy Waters Blues Band with original album notes by Stanley Dance, reissued on Universal CD 1996 with bonus tracks from "Live at Soledad Prison". **"Don't Turn Me From Your Door - John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues"** - 16 great Henry Stone productions from 1953 and 1961, issued on Atco/Atlantic CD with liner notes by Pete Lowry in 1992- also later on Collectables CD with the original twelve LP-tracks. **"Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings, 1948-1952"** - 3CD-set issued on Capitol in 1995 with 49 Bernie Besman produced recordings (of which 32 originally were either issued on Sensation, or even early Modern originals), plus seven 1961 recordings. The CD is a reissue of two United Artists compilation LPs - produced and compiled with great inlay notes by Pete Welding.

C. - to Complete the collection:



"Burnin'" - a late 1961 Vee-Jay LP-session, reissued on Collectables CD; and on Charly CD in true stereo with bonus tracks in 2000 and 2003, with original album notes by John W. Peters and discography by Les Fancourt. **"The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions"** - the 1966 Ralph Bass album productions: "The Real Folk Blues" and "More Real Folk Blues", issued on a European MCA CD in 1991 with liner notes by Colin Escott, later retitled in US - imaged: the European issue.. **"I'm a Boogie Man"** - all 16 Texas Slim recordings of 1948-1950 plus three DeLuxe tracks of 1953, issued on Varèse Sarabande in 2004 and compiled by Cary E. Mansfield and Bill Dahl. **"Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions"** - 20 tracks from 1948/49 recorded by Elmer Barbee plus all twelve tracks from the Savoy/Muse 1961 session, issued on a UK MetroDoubles 2CD-set 2004 (licensed from Union Square) - compiled by Neil Kellas, who also wrote the great liner notes. **"Free Beer and Chicken"** - the 1974 ABC LP album produced by Ed Michel, issued on UK BeatGoesOn CD in 1991.

D. - five Definitive gems:



"**That's Where It's At!**" - the classic Stax album reissued on CD 1990 with ten 1961 Henry Stone waxings. "**Everybody's Blues**" - on Specialty and Ace, featuring eight 1950-51 Besman productions from his original Specialty LPs and twelve 1954 Specialty Detroit recordings – compiled by Billy Vera in 1993. "**The Complete 1964 recordings**" - on UK RPM/Shout, featuring Hooker's last Vee-Jay session plus the British "... And Seven Nights" LP-session – CD produced by Mark Stratford in 2000 with liner notes by Neil Slaven. "**Half A Stranger**" - 18 terrific Detroit masters recorded 1948-1955, issued on UK Mainstream in 1991 with liner notes by Darryl Stolper and by Stewart Humphries. "**Urban Blues**" - the 1967 Al Smith produced Bluesway LP, issued on CD on BeatGoesOn in 1991 and on MCA in 1993 - with differing bonus tracks

E. - some Extra essentials:



"**John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958**" - chronological CD anthology, 22 tracks on Vee-Jay Ltd Partnership, issued 1993 and compiled by Billy Vera, who also wrote the liner notes. "**It Serves You Right To Suffer**" - the classic Bob Thiele produced Impulse LP, recorded in late 1965, issued on MCA CD 1999. "**Graveyard Blues**" - the first Specialty CD; also on UK Ace; covering 20 early Bernie Besman productions 1948-1950, including several Sensation masters – CD compiled by Billy Vera in 1993. "**John Lee Hooker presents his House Rent Boogie**" - issued in 2001, compilation and archive research: Ray Topping, who also wrote the liner notes - 24 rare Modern waxings on Ace, recorded 1948-1955. "**Don't Look Back**" - the 1997 Virgin/Pointblank CD, issued with bonus tracks on Shout!Factory in 2007.

F. - plus Famous and Fine ones:



"**Hooker 'N Heat**" - the famous Liberty double-LP recorded in May, 1970, issued on a.o. EMI and BeatGoesOn - and especially on French Magic Records 2CD in 2002 with two bonus tracks. "**Endless Boogie**" - the ABC double-LP recorded in November, 1970 – all eleven masters issued on MCA CD in 1991. "**Face To Face**" - the JLNH Estate / Eagle CD of 2003, featuring recordings from 1987 – 2001. "**The Boogie Man**" - a terrific "public-domain" compilation on Proper 4CD Properbox (UK 2006) with almost all of the early Detroit singles – for Modern, King, Chess, Chance, and other labels (98 tracks covering 1948-1953+), and a 40-page booklet by Joop Visser. "**The Cream**" - John Lee Hooker and his Coast To Coast Blues Band, recorded live for a Tomato 2-set LP in Palo Alto, California in September, 1977 – issued on Tomato CD - but especially on a 2CD-set on Charly in 2004/2009, with a full 15 tracks including one extended; plus five bonus tracks recorded live in Chicago in October (previously issued on Tomato CD 96142). Liner notes by Clive Anderson.

G. - and Go for these Good ones too:



"**The Modern, Chess & VeeJay Singles Collection 1949-62**" - (2016), featuring 101 tracks from all singles for the labels with booklet by Paul Watts. "**Boogie Awhile**" - on Krazy Kat CD (UK 2000) with same cover as the double-LP from 1990, although 13 lesser tracks – still 20 left; with lots of early rare Hooker and booklet by Dave Sax. "**Gotham Golden Classics – The Rare Recordings**" - on Collectables CD (1998). "**Rare Hooker**" (with an inlay by Les Fancourt) on Charly CD (UK 1996), featuring early Detroit and Vee-Jay recordings, plus Newport with Muddy's band - later a third of the DressedToKill 3CD-set. "**The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker**" - the CD issue of Vee-Jay's 1961 LP on Charly/Snapper (2000 and 2003), with bonus tracks (and original LP notes by Pete Welding and discography by Les Fancourt)..

Note: Also check the Ultimate CDs in the session discography parts - especially "Jack O' Diamonds" on Eagle CD 20024 (2004), Ace/Vanguard VCD 79703 "Live At Newport", and the "rehearsal" session of June 10, 1958 "I'm Going Home" on The Devil's Tunes (of 2014), plus the six Body & Soul double CDs (see next page).

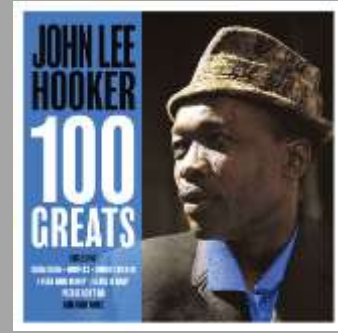
I'd like to thank the following persons for all the information they have shared with the John Lee Hooker fans:

Dave Sax, Mike Leadbitter, Neil Slaven, Paul Oliver, Mike Rowe, Ray Topping, Les Fancourt, Kurt Mohr, Frank Scott, Alan Balfour, Cliff White, Barrett Hansen, Ted Carroll, Darryl Stolper, Billy Vera, Colin Escott, Charles Shaar Murray, Thomas Jarlvik, Bill Dahl, Robert Pruter, Joop Visser, Gary Hearn, Scot Pell, Chris Strachwitz, Zakiya Hooker, Jacques Demètre, Gilles Pétard, Roger Armstrong, Andy McKaie, Norman Bates, Pete Welding, Ed Michel, Shawn Amos, Ted Drozdowski, Gary Blalock, Mike Kappus, Jas Obrecht, and Mason Williams (from Rhino to Shout!Factory ... and now Craft Recordings).

The Complete JLH 1948-1955

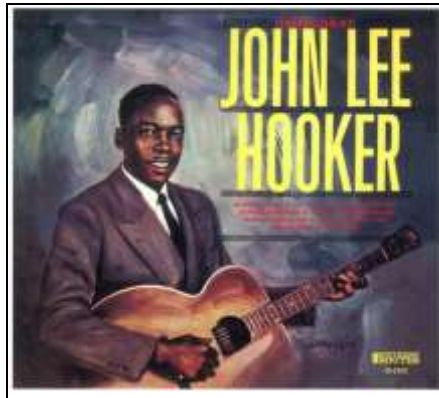


The six Body & Soul "public domain" double-CDs "The Complete John Lee Hooker" (The complete recordings of JLH in chronological order Vol. 1 – 6) issued between 2000 and 2005 and comprising principally all of Johnnie's recordings prior to Vee-Jay, 1948-1955. Nice packages with inlay booklets produced by Gilles Pétard with notes by Neil Slaven (including a discography based on Leadbitter-Slaven's "Blues Records 1943 to 1970" and the information from Dave Sax on the Crazy Kat double-LP "Boogie Awhile"). The series comprises a total of 275 recordings, featuring all previously issued alternate takes from the Greene Bottle double-LP "Johnny Lee" and all 33 tracks from "Boogie Awhile", but not the *Flyright 1951* "private" tracks.



The first Jewel single - "I Feel Good" (two parts) of 197; Inserted: A fake Staff 711 (718A ??) - meaning a fake photo montage; "Goodbye Baby" – an mp3 "re-mix" of later years with Swing Republic (with Hooker's voice from diff 1948-1949 recordings); and some rare 78's and the original "Big Soul" VJ LP. Greatest Hits / The Best of John Lee Hooker: mp 3 from you tube - 25 tracks starting with two live bootlegs plus the rest mostly original recordings (from different locations and dates – although several more strange bootleg recordings are featured. This mix is not on any disc (that I have found); "The Stone" bootleg 2CD recorded in San Francisco March 30, 1985 (featuring Carlos Santana); and "John Lee Hooker – 100 Greats" on Not Now Music NOT4CD 031 with "randomly" sorted songs from 1948-1962 (issued October 2018). [Hooker Not Now Music](#)

Is this possibly the most interesting of the Bihari / Besman compilations?



[This great CD](#), issued February 2016, features 26 classic Detroit singles (mostly Modern but also a couple from Sensation and Regal) 1948-1953 with some tracks listed as their United Artists LP issues (although with the Modern titles in brackets). Johnny Whiteside, who probably produced the compilation, has chosen a wise selection (maybe some late classics are missing). There was also a vinyl issue of July featuring 14 selections. The CD has the title and cover of Hooker's fourth Crown LP (just like the alternate P-Vine issue), but a totally different tracks list. Great Stuff!!!

The Year of the Blues – and the Blues KingPins Series Blues Immortal: John Lee Hooker



The Blues KingPins Series: John Lee Hooker - Blues Immortal
(EMI/Virgin/Capitol -- The Right Stuff/The Blues Foundation)
Cat no. 82741 of 2003 - Digipak with liner notes by Bill Dahl (12 page inlay).

Original presentation: 18 tracks, 52 minutes. **John Lee Hooker** has been no stranger to the CD reissue market, literally having a few hundred (domestic and import) titles devoted to him and his highly rhythmic blues style, but there are a number of nice surprises here. While Hooker was never recognized as a guitarist of advanced abilities, his stark, Delta-rooted approach coupled with off-kilter timing took him around the world, starting with his first recording success, *Boogie Chillen* in the late 1940s. He continued by contributing *Sally Mae* / *Hobo Blues* / *Crawling Kingsnake Blues* / *Weepin' Willow Boogie* / *Howlin' Wolf* to an already stellar catalog, and these are alongside harder to find cuts like *Love Money Can't Buy* / *Hug And Squeeze* / *The Syndicator*, a crunching *I'm Ready* and more. For someone who recorded so frequently, Hooker's early material was almost always of a very high standard and there's plenty on this set.

Editor's comments: All 18 tracks were originally issued by Modern Records of Hollywood and recorded in Detroit between circa September 1948 and circa early 1955. The tracks are running in the order of the original Modern singles releases (*Sally Mae* is the LP version) and Dahl has taken a very serious approach in his choice of music. Although the UK Ace CD "The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954" has a total of 24 tracks (and actually covers Hooker's Modern contract only up to recordings done late 1953), this "KingPins" CD takes us all the way into 1955 and Hooker's very last Modern singles.

Label images: Please note the differing layout on "S (And) His Guitar" on Hooker's very first Modern issue.

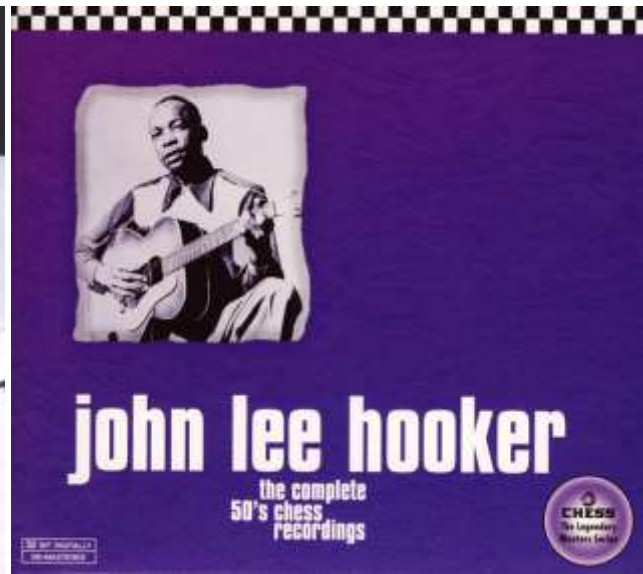
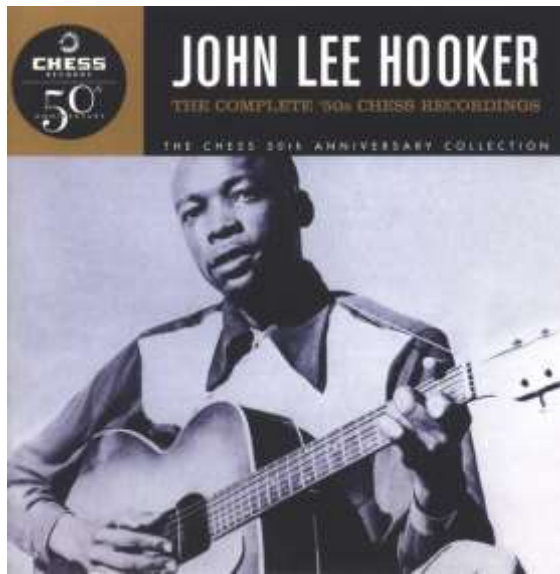


Amazon Review. This is a terrific compilation of essential John Lee Hooker. If you don't have any of his CDs, this is a great one to start with. It begins with *Boogie Chillen* and his seductive guitar groove lifts you up and takes you for a ride through the Mississippi Delta for 15 (18) terrific tracks. Hooker packs more soul and sensuality into his moaned plea, "I'm in the mood for love," than any X-rated gangsta rapper or torch-singing wannabe. To hear him play his foot-stomping boogie beat is to hear the blues in its most primal, dangerous state. A must-have. Excellent liner notes too. [Check Bill Dahl's liner notes and the whole booklet \(3 pages\).](#)



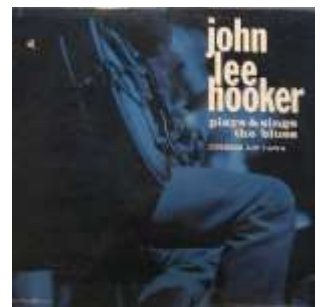
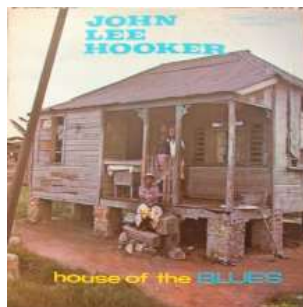
John Lee Hooker and his band of circa late 1952/early 1953. Is this photo showing Jimmy Turner or Tom Whithead on drums?, Johnny Hooks or Otis Finch on saxophone?, Hooker!, and pianist Bob Thurman or Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison? I really don't know.

The Great Early Chess Recordings



US: CHD2-9391, Europe: MCD 09391 (2-set CD Universal Records January 1998)
 Andy McKaie, producer; Colin Escott, liner notes; Dave Sax, assistant; Eric Labson, remastering
 * originally issued as John Lee Booker

Track title:	Recorded	Original single	Original LP issue Note
Mad Man Blues	Detroit 1950	Gone 60/51*, Chess 1462*	Chess LP 1454 prod by Joe Von Battle
Hey Boogie (aka Boogie Now)		" "	" "
Louise	Chicago 4/26/1951	Chess 1482*	Chess LP 1438 also on Modern 842; Kirkland, gtr
High Priced Woman	"	Chess 1505	" "
Union Station Blues	"	" "	" "
Ground Hog Blues	"	Chess 1482*	" also on Modern 842
Leave My Wife Alone	"	Chess 1467*	Chess LP 1454
Ramblin' By Myself	"	" *	Chess LP 1438
Dreamin' Blues	"	"	Chess LP 1454
Just Me And My Telephone	"	"	" with Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr
Walkin' The Boogie (undubbed)	prob Detroit 4/24/1952	"	Chess LP 8203 v.a. LP
Sugar Mama	"	Chess 1513	Chess LP 1438
Please Don't Go	"	"	Chess LP 1454
I Don't Want Your Money	"	"	"
Hey Baby	"	"	"
Bluebird	"	"	"
Walking The Boogie	"	Chess 1513	Chess LP 1438 with dubbed gtr and dms
Love Blues	"	"	"
Lonely Boy Boogie (aka New Boogie)	"	"	Chess LP 1454
Apologize	"	"	"
The Journey	"	"	"
Worried Life Blues	"	"	"
Down At The Landing	"	"	Chess LP 1438
You Have Two Hearts	prob 1952	"	unissued with unknown celeste
It's My Own Fault	1952	Chess 1562	Chess LP 1438
(aka Baby I Prove My Love To You)	"	"	v.a. Fortune LP 3002 edited issue on Fortune LP 3002, unediten on GreeneBottle LP 3130
Blues For Big Town	"	"	Bob Thurman, pno on last two
Women And Money	ca 1952	Chess 1562	Chess LP 1438 with combo
Big Fine Woman	ca 1954	Hi-Q 5018, Elmor 303	Fortune LP 3002 last four with Jimmy Miller, tpt and Johnny Hooks, ts; Bob Thurman, pno; and Tom Whitehead, dms.
Tell Me Baby (aka Love You Baby)	"	Fortune 853	"
Blues For Christmas	"	Hi-Q 5018, Elmor 303	"
Cry Baby Cry (aka Cry Baby)	"	Fortune 853	"



The original King LP 727 (issued ca December 1960)

John Lee Hooker Sings Blues
(Everyone A Pearl)



The original King LP 727

Wandering Blues
I'm Gonna Kill That Woman
Heart Trouble Blues
Don't You Remember Me
Slim's Stomp
The Numbers
Shake 'Em Up (Earl Hooker)
Happy Blues (Earl Hooker)
//

Nightmare Blues
Moaning Blues
Don't Go Baby
Thinking Blues
Late Last Night
Devil's Jump
Blue Guitar Blues (Earl Hooker)
Race Track (Earl Hooker)

Note: John's first four "Texas Slim" recordings - Stomp Boogie, Who's Been Giving You, Black Man Blues, Poor Joe - we're not included (but later issued on the European Polydor LP 2310 256 "Slim's Stomp" of 1973.



Top right - the original cover (1960) and reissue KLP-727 (label 1988). Some of the many reissues: Ember LP 3356 (12 tracks 1964), King KS-1085 (1970), UK Polydor LP 2310 256 (1973, with all 16 "Texas Slim" recordings and no dubbed drums), Gusto GD-5032X (2-set v.a. 1976), UK See For Miles CD 6009 (all 16 tracks 1998 - also on Charly CD 245), UK Castle Pulse PLSCD 349 (2000 - all 16 "Texas Slim" tracks, with the two Federal dubbed drums editions), Varese Sarabande CD 302066597-2 "I'm A Boogie Man" (best CD - 2004 - featuring all 16 Texas Slim recordings, plus bonus), Above right: Acrobat CD 51702 (2008 - 12 tracks).

The "almost authorized" bootleg



Acrobat Music CD – ACRCG 701 (2003) San Francisco or Los Angeles recordings (prob 1973), plus

Acrobat's presentation:

Half (ed.note: five) of these recordings by the late lamented John Lee Hooker have only ever been released once before, on a UK budget CD in 1997 (Carlton Sounds/Westmill). Included here is the full 18 and a half minutes of "I Hated The Day I Was Born", a slow brooding blues. This is the first time the complete song has been issued and it's a testament to the power of his presence that not a minute is wasted. Several tracks were recorded in France and feature the guest guitar of Lowell Fulson. *Ed. note:* The other six (of 11 total) are Baby Baby, Dazie-Mae, and I Feel Good (from Carson, France of 1969), Feel So Bad (from Stax 1968), and two great live gigs from circa 1974/75: a tuff version of Crawling King Snake and the funky Goin' to California.

Editors's comments: [Listen to "Hard Times"](#)

the "budget" was "Hard Times" on Carlton Sounds (reissued on Westmill - imaged below left) and "Live In Concert" on Prophecy CDs, featuring a backing band including none other than **Lightnin' Hopkins on piano**. The songs below were most probably recorded in 1973 (although often presented as of 1964). Track list on Carlton ctsy Thomas Jarlvik. The session with Hopkins could be a "fruit" of the Lightnin' Hopkins Los Angeles CD "It's a Sin To Be Rich" (produced by Ed Michel in May 1972), which featured Hooker on guitar and co-vocals. Image far right: the Fuel bootleg reissue of Carlton (six tracks plus six songs by Hopkins). The songs are also featured in the bootleg CDs "Blues Man" (2CD on Fuel in 2005) and "Live 1964 in San Francisco" (SRI Jazz in 2005, reissued on Westmill in 2016). Note: *No image of Carlton.* [John Lee Hooker at pinterest](#)



Carlton Sounds 30360 00962 (CD)
Released 1997 **Hard Times**
Hard times (1973)
Hobo blues (1973)
Hooker's shuffle (1973) not on Acrobat
I hated the day I was born (1973) ca 9 min
Rock with me (1973)
Sally Mae (1973)
Should've been gone (1973) not on Acrobat
+ two interviews 1973



175 Top Recordings (with recording date or year of issue) The Ultimate Hooker "Dream Collection"

DETROIT 1948 – 1955



- 1948 Hobo Blues
 Drifting From Door To Door
 Johnny Lee's Original Boogie
 Sally May & Sally Mae (*single & LP*)
 Wednesday Evening Blues
 (*UA version She Was In Chicago*)
 Boogie Chillen'
 (Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby's Hair
 Henry's Swing Club
 Black Man Blues
 Stomp Boogie
 Boogie Woogie (*KrazyKat*)
 Miss Lorraine (*Chance*)
 Low Down-Midnite Boogie
 Crawl'n King Snake
- 1949 Cotton Pickin' Boogie
 Highway Blues (*Prize*)
 Whistlin' And Moanin' Blues
 Hoogie Boogie
 Talkin' Boogie
 Wandering Blues (*King*)
 Weeping Willow Boogie
 The Numbers (*King*)
 Canal Street Blues
 Huckie Up Baby
- 1950 Goin' On Highway 51
 Don't You Remember Me (*King*)
 Mad Man Blues
 Decoration Day Blues
 Boogie Chillen' #2
- 1950 Notoriety Woman
 House Rent Boogie (*Staff*)
 Queen Bee
- 1951 Catfish (*Gotham*)
 (Four) Women In My Life
 Just Me And My Telephone
 Leave My Wife Alone
 Prison Bound
 Bumble Bee Blues
 How Can You Do It
 I'm In The Mood (*one-voice alt DCC*)
 I'm In The Mood (*original single*)
- 1952 Sugar Mama
 The Journey
 It's My Own Fault (*GB unedited*)
 Blues For Big Town
 Lookin' For A Woman
- 1953 Lovin' Guitar Man
 Wobbling Baby (*Chart*)
 Stuttering Blues
 Too Much Boogie
 Down Child
 No More Doggin' (*JVB*)
- 1954 Boogie Rambler (*Specialty*)
 Don't Trust Nobody
 Half A Stranger
 Baby You Ain't No Good
 609 Boogie (*Fortune*)
- 1955 I'm Ready (*Modern*)
 The Syndicator
 Hug And Squeeze



CHICAGO 1955 – 1965



- 1955 Time Is Marching
- 1956 Baby Lee
 Dimples
 Every Night
 Stop Talking
- 1957 I'm So Excited
 I See You When You're Weak
 Little Wheel
 Rosie Mae
- 1958 I Love You Honey
 Mama You Got A Daughter (*rhythm*)
- 1959 Maudie
 I'm In The Mood
 Tennessee Blues
 Boogie Chillun
 Hobo Blues
 Crawl'n Kingsnake
 Tupelo Blues (*Riverside*)
- 1960 Democrat Man
 Gonna Use My Rod
 I Need Some Money
 Canal Street Blues
 I'll Know Tonight
 Goin' To California
 Whiskey And Wimmen
 Solid Sender
 Sunny Land
 Dusty Road
 No Shoes
 I Wish You Were Here
 We're All God's Chillen
- 1961 Want Ad Blues
 Will The Circle Be Unbroken
 I'm Going Upstairs
 I Left My Baby
 I'm Mad Again
 I Lost My Job (*Galaxy - dubbed*)
 Teachin' The Blues
 You Lost A Good Man
 Don't Turn Me From Your Door
 I Just Don't Know
 When My Wife Quit Me (*Savoy*)
- 1962 Process
 Boom Boom
 Blues Before Sunrise
 Drug Store Woman
 Send Me Your Pillow
 Frisco Blues
 Let's Make It Baby (*Brunswick*)
 Matchbox (*Fantasy*)
- 1963 I Want To Ramble
 This Is Hip
 Poor Me
 I'm Leaving
 Birmingham Blues
 Don't Look Back
- 1964 It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)
 You're Mellow
- 1965 I'm Losin' You
 I Cover The Waterfront (*with brass*)



COAST-to-COAST 1965 – 2001



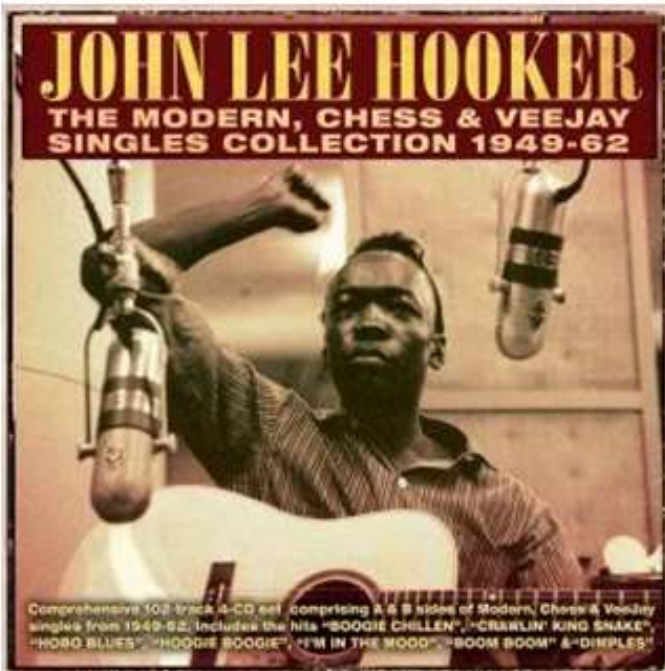
- 1965 King Of The World
 Shake It Baby (*Impulse*)
 Country Boy
 Bottle Up And Go
- 1966 Let's Go Out Tonight
 House Rent Blues
 One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer
 I'm Bad Like Jesse James
 I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive
 Heartaches And Misery
- 1967 The Motor City Is Burning
 Mr. Lucky
 Hot Spring Water
- 1968 I Don't Wanna Go To Vietnam
- 1969 Baby, I Love You
 I Wanna Be Your Puppy, Baby
 I Feel Good
 Get Back Home In The USA
 Burning Hell
 House Rent Boogie
 Doin' The Shout
- 1971 Bumble Bee, Bumble Bee
- 1972 Boogie With The Hook
- 1973 Younger Stud
 Hard Times (*Acrobat w Lightnin' Hopkins*)
- 1974 Homework
 713-714 Blues (*2 tracks*)
 Bluebird
- 1975 Crawling King Snake (*Acrobat*)
- 1976 Dark Room (*Labor*)
 Black Night Is Falling (*Ornament*)
- 1977 Bar Room Drinking (*Tomato*)
 Serves Me Right To Suffer (*Laser*)
 Roll Your Daddy Right (*Lunar #2*)
- 1978 Boom Boom (*Blues Brothers*)
- 1980 So Cold In Chicago (*w Deacon Jones*)
 Gamble On Your Love (*bootleg*)
- 1983 Early One Morning (*w M. Osborn & D. Jones*)
- 1984 We'll Meet Again (*w Bruce Kaplan*)
- 1987 Hittin' The Bottle Again (*Hooker solo*)
 Baby Lee (*w Robert Cray*)
- 1988 The Healer (*w Santana*)
 I'm In The Mood (*w Bonnie Raitt*)
- 1989 Red House (*with Randy California & Booker T*)
- 1990 Bottle Up And Go (*w John Hammond*)
- 1991 This Is Hip (*w Ry Cooder & Johnnie Johnson*)
 Up And Down (*w Warren Hayes & J. Johnson*)
 Same Old Blues Again (*w Robert Cray*)
- 1993 You Shook Me (*w B.B. King & Robert Cray*)
- 1994 Kiddio (*w Charles Brown*)
- 1996 Don't Look Back (*w Van Morrison*)
- 1998 Turn Over A New Leaf (*w Anthony Cook*)
- (1991) Loving People (*remix*)



JOHN LEE HOOKER

THE MODERN, CHESS & VEEJAY SINGLES COLLECTION 1949-62

A very interesting and actually nice and well-planned 4-set CD was issued on Acrobat Music ACQCD7103 on August 5, 2016. It contains 101 tracks (including both B-sides of "Boom Boom"). That means all (and I mean all but the reedited "New Boogie Chillen") of Johnnie's original singles for Modern (27 singles), Chess (6 singles), and Vee-Jay (17 singles) 1949 – 1962 (also including the 1948 release of "Sally May" and "Boogie Chillen" - the latter wrongly spelt "Boogie Chillun" – and it reached R&B#1 – not #6). All singles have their A- and B-sides and the tracks are featured in chronological order of issue date. None of Besman's six Sensation and Regal singles are included and none of the pirate recordings (except for the Chess singles). The main mishap in the discography is that Eddie Kirkland played guitar on the ca November 1954 session (with lead guitar on "I'm Ready"), and that the Gone/Chess single "Mad Man Blues" / "Boogie Now" was recorded at a Joe Von Battle session prob. early/mid 1950 (with Kirkland not present). Some alternate title credits are missing. Still a fine discography presentation though!



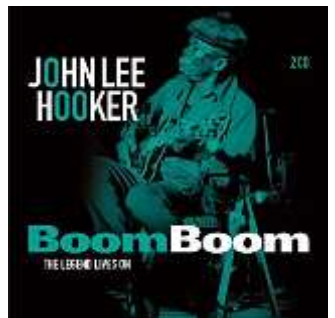
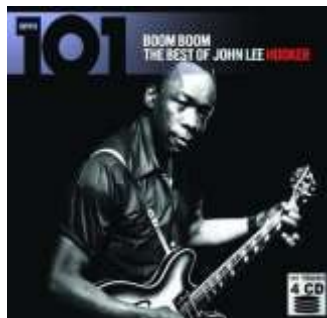
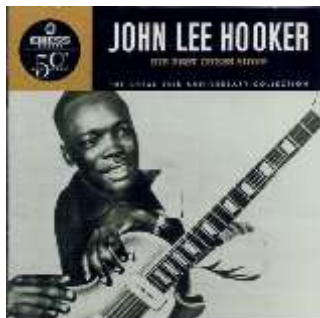
As usual (in later years) a very nice and ambitious compilation in great style with a comprehensive booklet of 24 pages. Liner notes by Paul Watts (General Manager at Acrobat, dated July 2016), and a "sessionography" borrowed from this editor's Hooker discography you are just reading (although with some minor "mishaps" and "typing errors" in the session details). * denotes alternate title credit on LP/CD. This set is really recommended (first and foremost for its great music value and its sincere production). The only thing one can possibly criticise is the lack of the Sensation and Regal singles, which would have painted the full picture – but there simply was not room enough on a 4-CD-set. A complete 1949-62 singles collection would have prompted two more CDs - if the six Sensation/Regal singles (which actually were not pirate recordings) and all the pirate singles had been included. A terrific "box" as I see it, anyhow!!

Get this one if you want Hooker's "authorized" singles 1948-62 for a cheap prize! [Acrobat Music \(Hooker\)](http://www.acrobatmusic.net)

Acrobat's presentation: <http://acrobatmusic.net/>
 John Lee Hooker is one of the true giants of blues, ranking alongside the likes of other post-war greats such as B.B. King, Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf as one of the artists who contributed massively to the development of the genre. His driving boogie style has become an essential element of the way blues is played in the modern era. He took the simple structures of Delta blues, sometimes using one and two-chord compositions, but added a fierce, relentless and hypnotically rhythmic approach, underlining the rawness of the messages in his songs. He was one of the blues artists who exerted a substantial influence on emerging stars in the rock 'n' roll era, from Bob Dylan through to Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton, and his legacy resonates through the rock music of the last half-century. He recorded prolifically under a number of names, but this great value 101-track 4-CD collection focuses on the singles he released under his own name (or in the case of some Chess singles, as John Lee Booker) on the Modern, Chess and Veejay labels from 1949 through to 1962. It naturally includes his big R&B hits during that period - "Boogie Chillen", "Crawlin' King Snake", "Hobo Blues", "Hoogie Boogie", "I'm In The Mood", "Boom Boom" and "Dimples", some of which have become blues and R&B standards. Includes comprehensive booklet with full discographical and session information. It's a thorough overview of his output during what was perhaps the key era of his career, and a fine showcase for his unique talent.

The Sensation / Regal singles not included in the "box":
 (John Lee Hooker recorded by Bernie Besman)

Sensation 21 (issued November 1949) with Eddie Burns, fca on -1
 Burnin' Hell -1 (B 7040 ca Feb-Apr 1949)
 Miss Sadie Mae (B 7054 ca Jul 1949)
Sensation 28 (issued December 1949)
 Huckle Up Baby (B 8014 ca Dec 1949)
 Canal Street Blues (B 8012 same date)
Sensation 30 (issued March 1950) with James Watkins, gtr on-1
 Let Your Daddy Ride -1 (alternate B 8017 Feb 8 or 27, 1950)
 Goin' On Highway 51 (Goin' Down Highway 51) (B 8018 same date)
Sensation 33 (issued May 1950)
 My Baby's Got Somethin' (B 8035 prob. Apr 1950)
 Decoration Day Blues (Lord Taketh My Baby Away) (B 8036 same date)
Sensation 34 (issued July 1950), **Regal 3295** (August 1950)
 Boogie Chillen #2 (I Gotta Be Comin' Back!) (B 8037 same date as above)
 Miss Eloise (Miss Eloise, Miss Eloise) (B 7032B ca Feb-Apr 1949)
Regal 3304 (issued October 1950)
 Notoriety Woman (No Place To Stay) (B 8045 Apr 25, 1950)
 Never Satisfied (Just Like A Woman) (B 8042 same date)



Chess/MCA anniversary CD of 1997 "His Best Ches Sides" CHD 9383 (15 tracks 1950-1966), a fine "public domain" "The Best of" on AP Music 4CD (2013) covering 1948-1962; and a 2cd of 2018 "public domain" VJ tracks on Factory of Sounds.

Check **PART II** for more than 80 pages of Hooker Nostalgia.

Note: The file of Part II has been lost in its Word-form
 – so if you find any discrepancy there from Part I, the information in Part I is the correct one.



Nuthin' but the Best! - 50 Super Classics from the Favorite Albums
 Officially John Lee Hooker would be a Hundred Years of Age on August 22, 2017. Here is a fictional "Celebration Album" containing representative, classic recordings (not always the most well-known) – culled from the editor's top favorite CD albums. John Lee Hooker, vocalist/guitar on all tracks. If no title on original album it has the same name as the CD. Recording locations: D, Detroit, C, Chicago, N, New York City, Ne, Newark (NJ), M, Miami, CIM, Cincinnati or Miami, L, Los Angeles, S, San Francisco, H, Hamburg, Germany
 JOHN LEE HOOKER 100th ANNIVERSARY 1917 = 2017 Note: This is a "Fiction Album"

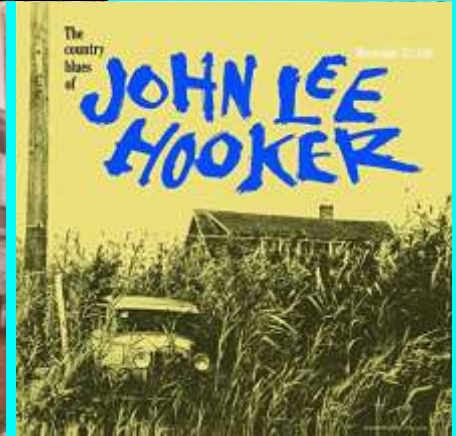
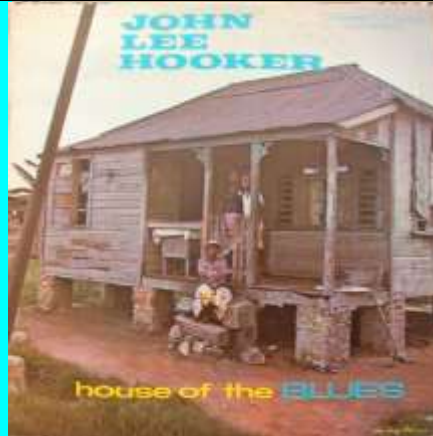
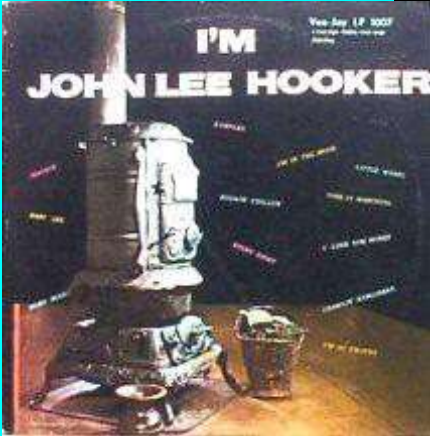
Track title	Recorded	Original album	Best CD	CD Album Title	Musicians / Producers	Track time
1. Let's Make It Baby	H 10/52	Stonesick LP100012	Charly CD DKG 5	The Boogie Man	T-Bone Walker (pno), Willie Dixon, Jump Jackson prod: Horst Henzenboien	4:36
2. Boogie Chillen - Fm The Boogie Man	L/S 6/58	Fontebank VPC049	Shout!Factory 031043	The Best of Friends	Bill Payne, Eric Clapton, Rich Kirsh, Johnny Lee Shell, Reggie McBride, Jim Keltner prod: John Porter & Mike Kappus	4:35
3. Boogie Chillen'	D 9/48	Crown LP 5157	Ace CDCHD 315	The Legendary Modern Recordings	solo prod: Bernard (Bernie) Besman	3:06
4. I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive	N 8/66	BluesWay LP 0002	Universa MCD 115301	The Ultimate Collection	(master sold or "leased" to Modern Records)	3:06
5. Just Me And My Telephone	C 4/51	Chess LP 1464	MCA MCD-18305	The Complete 50's Chess Recordings	Otis Spann, Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Snake" Johnson, Mac Arnold, Francis Clay prod: Bob Thiele	4:37
6. Canal Street Blues / No Shoes / Whiskey And Wimmen	C 3/60	See-Jay LP 1023	Charly SNAP 14500	Live at Cafe au Go-Go (Live at the Cafe au Go-Go)	Eddie Kirkland, gr prod: Leonard Chess and poss Joe Von Battle (recorded directly for Chess Records)	3:20
7. Baby You Ain't No Good (Dirty Mother)	D late 1954	Crown LP 5295	Mainstream MDC0560	Half A Stranger	Lefty Bates, Sylvester Hickman, Jimmy Turner prod: prob Calvin Carter and Al Smith	3:18
8. You Lost A Good Man (You Got To Reap What You Sow)	M 7/61	Alice LP 33-151	Alice 82363	Don't Turn Me From Your Door - J.L.H. Sings His Blues	Eddie Kirkland, gr prod: Joe Bihari & Joe Searcase	3:10
9. Throw This Old Dog A Bone (All of Notoriety Women - No Place To Stay)	D 4/50	United Artists LP 5512	Capitol 33912	Alternative Boogie - Early Studio Recordings	Earl (Hooker?), bgtr prod: Henry Stone (master purchased by Alco)	2:46
10. Blues For Big Town (master sold to Fortune, later acquired by Chess)	D 1952	Fortune LP 3002	MCA MCD 09391	The Complete 50's Chess Recordings	solo prod: B. Besman (planned for Sensation) ("Notoriety" leased to Regal/Deluxe, New Jersey)	3:03
11. Process (Cross Headed Fool) / Boom Boom / Drug Store Woman	C ca 12/61	See-Jay LP 1043	Charly CDGR 256 (SNAP 041500)	Burnin'	Bob Thurman, bgtr; extra gr (Hooker or Kirkland) prod: Bernard Besman	3:06
12. Wandering Blues	D ca 8/49	King LP 727	Varèse 302 066 267 (Varèse Sarabande)	I'm A Boogie Man	Joe Edward Hunter, Hank Cosby, Mike Terry, Larry Veeeder, James Jamerson, Benny Benjamin prod: Calvin Carter, poss also Hank Cosby	3:03
13. Hoogie Boogie (Rhythm No. 2)	D 2/49	Crown LP 5157	Ace CDCHD 315	The Legendary Modern Recordings	solo prod: Bernard (Bernie) Besman	2:44
14. Gonna Use My Rod (I'm Mad)	N 2/60	Riverside LP 13-321	Ace CDCHD 927	That's My Story - / The Folk Blues of J.L.H.	Elmer Barbree (master sold to King Records)	3:15
15. Don't You Remember Me	D ca 3/50	King LP 727	Varèse 302 066 267	I'm A Boogie Man	Sam Jones, bass; Louis Hayes, drms prod: Otis Spann (Joe Von Battle poss involved)	4:19
16. When My Wife Quit Me (When My First Wife Quit Me)	Ne ca late 1961	Savoy LP MG 18000	METROCC032 (Union Square)	The Boogie Man	solo as Texas Slim prod: Issaca Malone (master sold to King Records; some later issues have drms dubbed)	2:46
17. I'm Ready	D ca 11/54	Ace CD CHD769	Virgin 82741	Blues Immortal	Eddie Kirkland, lead gr; unknown bs, drms prod: Fred Mendelssohn	3:36
18. Bottle Up And Go	N 11/65	Impulse LP A-9193	MCAD-13025	It Serves You Right To Suffer	Bob Thurman or John Griffith, Otis Finch, Eddie Kirkland, unkn bass, Tom Whitehead prod: Joe Bihari and Joe Searcase for Modern Records	2:37
19. I'm In The Mood (three-voice)	D 8/51	Crown LP 5157	Ace CDCHD 315	The Legendary Modern Recordings	Berry Galbraith, Mill Hinton, Panama Francis prod: Bob Thiele	2:25
20. Burning Hell	L 5/70	Liberty LP 2-35002	Magic 3000232	Hooker 'N' Heat	Eddie Kirkland, gr prod: Bernard Besman for Modern	3:05
21. 713 Blues - 714 Blues -1 / Homework -2	L 5/74	ABC LP 838	800 CD-123 (East Goes On)	Free Beer And Chicken	Alan Wilson, hca prod: Skip Taylor & Robert Hill Jr.	5:27
22. Hobo Blues / Crawlin' King Snake	D 9/48	Crown LP 5157	Ace CDCHD 315	The Legendary Modern Recordings	Supercane Harris-1, Clifford Coulter (keyb & bg), Howard Roberts, Hollywood Fats-1, Wa-Wa Watson-2, Skip Olson-1, Ken Swank-1, Ron Beck prod: Ed Michel	10:03
23. House Rent Blues	C 5/66	MCA CHD 9209	MCA MCD-18305	The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions	solo prod: Bernard Besman (masters sold to Modern Records)	5:58
24. Leave My Wife Alone	C 4/51	Chess LP 1408	MCA MCD 09391	The Complete 50's Chess Recordings	Lafayette Leake, Eddie Burns, unkn bass & tamb, S.P. Leary or Fred Below (J.L.H. no gr) prod: Ralph Bass	3:46
25. I'm Going Upstairs (Younger Stud)	C 1/61	See-Jay LP 1033	Charly CDGR300 (SNAP07300)	The Folk Lore of J.L.H.	solo as John Lee Hooker prod: Leonard Chess and poss Joe Von Battle (recorded directly for Chess Records)	2:46
26. The Healer (recorded in Sarasota)	S 4/88	Charmleon LYCD 74808	Shout!Factory 4CD 10198	Hooker	The Folk Lore of J.L.H. prod: prob Calvin Carter (and poss Papa Staples?)	2:54
27. I Love You Honey	C 6/58	See-Jay LP 1067	Charly SNAP19000	I'm John Lee Hooker	Chaeter Thompson (multi-artist), Carlos Santana, Chapiro Areas, Armando Peraza, Nduja Chandler prod: Carlos Santana, Jim Gaines, Roy Rogers, Mike Kappus	5:37
28. Low Down-Midnite Boogie (Talking Boogie)	D ca 11/48	Savoy LP 5558	METROCC032 (Union Square)	Early Years - The Classic Savory Sessions	Joe E. Hunter, Eddie Taylor, Everett McCrary, Richard Johnson prod: prob Calvin Carter, Jimmy Backler, Ewart Abner	2:34
29. Doin' The Shout	S 11/70	ABC LP 730	MCA MCD-10413 and MCD-10536	Endless Boogie	solo as Birmingham Sam prod: Elmer Barbree (prob purchased by Joe Von Battle and sold to Savoy)	3:33
30. Stuttering Blues	CIM 7/53	Alice LP 33-151	Alice 82363	The Best of 1965 to 1974	Steve Miller, Geno Skaggs, Kwen Swank prod: Bill Szymczyk and Ed Michel	3:30
31. Every Night / Dimples	C 3/56	See-Jay LP 1067	Acorbat ADCCD7163	Don't Turn Me From Your Door - J.L.H. Sings His Blues	solo as John Lee Hooker prod: Henry Stone (for Stone's label "Rockin'", released on De-Luxe and later purch by Alco)	2:16
32. Bumble Bee Blues / Prison Bound	D 1951	Polydor LP 423262	Charly CDGR 176	The Modern, Chess & See-Jay Singles Collection	Eddie Taylor, George Washington, Tom Whitehead prod: prob Jimmy Backler and/or Ewart Abner	5:10
33. I Just Don't Know	M 7/61	Stax LP 2013	Stax 5CD-4134	Rare Hooker	as Johnny Williams Vernon "waggy wagg" New Hartson/pno; Curtis Foster, drms prod: Issaca Malone, Staff /SwingTime	6:40
34. Red House	L 3/89	Eagle EAGCD 228	Hip-O/Chess JCD 8590	That's Where It's At	Earl (Hooker?), bgtr prod: Henry Stone (master purchased by Stax)	3:46
35. Hug & Squeeze / The Syndicator	D mid 1955	Crown LP 5232	Mainstream MDC0560	Gold	Booker T. Jones, Randy California, Phil Chen, Bruce Gary, exec. prod: Annie Goodman	3:46
36. It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)	C mid 1964	Dynasty LP 7301	Fruit Tree 1921	Half A Stranger	Sob Thurman, Otis Finch, unkn bass, Tom Whitehead prod: Joe Bihari and Joe Searcase for Modern Records	5:35
37. Boogie Chillen #2	D ca 4/50	Specialty LP 2125	Ace CDCHD 465	Giant of Blues	unknown gr (poss. Wayne Bennett); bass; drms prod: prob Al Smith for See-Jay	3:28
38. Birmingham Blues	C mid 1963	See-Jay LP 1066	Charly SNAJ7050D	J.L.H. Anthology: 50 Years	solo prod: Bernard Besman for Sensation (also leased to Regal/Deluxe, New Jersey)	2:44
39. I Wish You Were Here (Newport, Rhode Island live bootleg recording)	7/60	On Campus	Charly 4-CD DKG 5	Blues Brother	with pno, reeds, and rhythm prod: prob Calvin Carter	2:43
40. So Cold In Chicago	C or N 1981	TV / Video	DVD	The Boogie Man	The Muddy Waters Band: Otis Spann, James Cotton, Pat Hare, Andrew Stephens, Francis Clay Deacon Jones, org; Mike Osborn, gr; Larry Hamilton, bs; Tim Richards, drms	5:21 8:38

Note: Track 11 recorded November 1961, Track 40 recorded in Ames, Iowa 1979 or 1981 (not recorded in C or N).

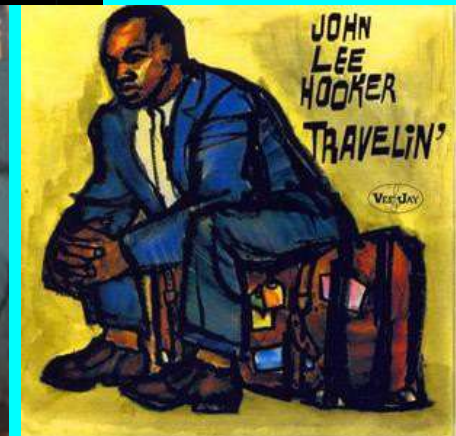
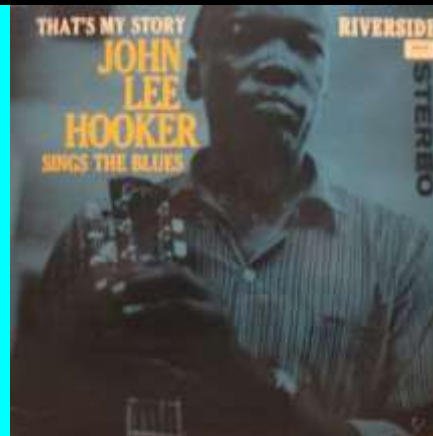
ENCORE: Hooker's Very First LPs (1959-1961)

Click on / touch label mark for discogs

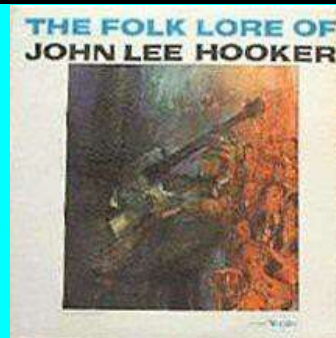
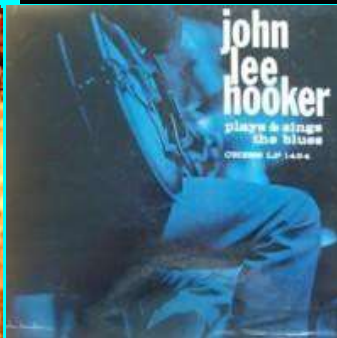
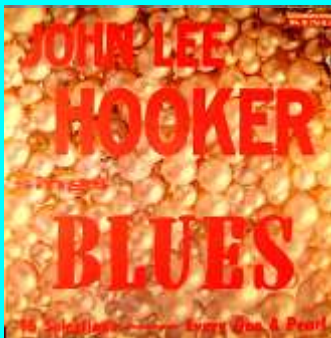
1959 Vee-Jay (Aug), Chess (Oct), Riverside (Nov)



1960 Crown, Riverside, Vee-Jay



1961 King (late 1960), Chess, Vee-Jay, Crown



THE BODY & SOUL six Double-CDs



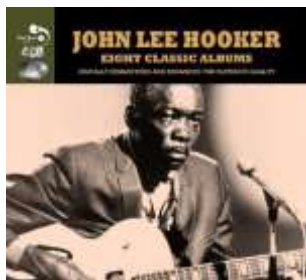
The complete discography of John Lee Hooker in chronological order, Vol. 1

Year	Title	Label	Year	Title	Label
1948	Rocky	Bluebird	1952	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1949	Rocky	Bluebird	1953	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1950	Rocky	Bluebird	1954	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1951	Rocky	Bluebird	1955	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1952	Rocky	Bluebird	1956	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1953	Rocky	Bluebird	1957	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1954	Rocky	Bluebird	1958	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1955	Rocky	Bluebird	1959	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1956	Rocky	Bluebird	1960	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1957	Rocky	Bluebird	1961	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1958	Rocky	Bluebird	1962	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1959	Rocky	Bluebird	1963	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1960	Rocky	Bluebird	1964	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1961	Rocky	Bluebird	1965	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1962	Rocky	Bluebird	1966	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1963	Rocky	Bluebird	1967	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1964	Rocky	Bluebird	1968	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1965	Rocky	Bluebird	1969	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1966	Rocky	Bluebird	1970	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1967	Rocky	Bluebird	1971	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1968	Rocky	Bluebird	1972	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1969	Rocky	Bluebird	1973	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1970	Rocky	Bluebird	1974	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1971	Rocky	Bluebird	1975	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1972	Rocky	Bluebird	1976	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1973	Rocky	Bluebird	1977	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1974	Rocky	Bluebird	1978	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1975	Rocky	Bluebird	1979	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1976	Rocky	Bluebird	1980	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1977	Rocky	Bluebird	1981	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1978	Rocky	Bluebird	1982	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1979	Rocky	Bluebird	1983	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1980	Rocky	Bluebird	1984	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1981	Rocky	Bluebird	1985	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1982	Rocky	Bluebird	1986	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1983	Rocky	Bluebird	1987	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1984	Rocky	Bluebird	1988	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1985	Rocky	Bluebird	1989	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1986	Rocky	Bluebird	1990	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1987	Rocky	Bluebird	1991	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1988	Rocky	Bluebird	1992	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1989	Rocky	Bluebird	1993	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1990	Rocky	Bluebird	1994	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1991	Rocky	Bluebird	1995	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1992	Rocky	Bluebird	1996	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1993	Rocky	Bluebird	1997	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1994	Rocky	Bluebird	1998	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1995	Rocky	Bluebird	1999	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1996	Rocky	Bluebird	2000	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1997	Rocky	Bluebird	2001	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1998	Rocky	Bluebird	2002	Blues For Me	Bluebird
1999	Rocky	Bluebird	2003	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2000	Rocky	Bluebird	2004	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2001	Rocky	Bluebird	2005	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2002	Rocky	Bluebird	2006	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2003	Rocky	Bluebird	2007	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2004	Rocky	Bluebird	2008	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2005	Rocky	Bluebird	2009	Blues For Me	Bluebird
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2009	Rocky	Bluebird	2013	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2010	Rocky	Bluebird	2014	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2011	Rocky	Bluebird	2015	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2012	Rocky	Bluebird	2016	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2013	Rocky	Bluebird	2017	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2014	Rocky	Bluebird	2018	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2015	Rocky	Bluebird	2019	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2016	Rocky	Bluebird	2020	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2017	Rocky	Bluebird	2021	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2018	Rocky	Bluebird	2022	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2019	Rocky	Bluebird	2023	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2020	Rocky	Bluebird	2024	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2021	Rocky	Bluebird	2025	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2022	Rocky	Bluebird	2026	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2023	Rocky	Bluebird	2027	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2024	Rocky	Bluebird	2028	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2025	Rocky	Bluebird	2029	Blues For Me	Bluebird
2026	Rocky	Bluebird	2030	Blues For Me	Bluebird

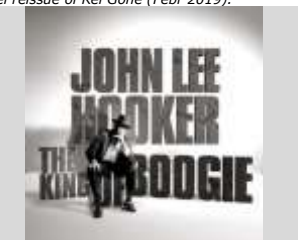
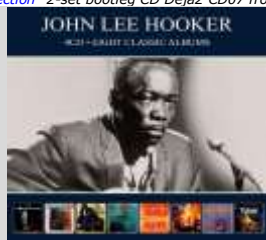


John Lee Hooker Records at [real gone \(UK\)](http://realgone.com)
[Real Gone Music \(UK\)](http://realgone.com) (amoeba.com)
 Search for rare LPs and CDs

UK public domain label. The CDs below (4CDpaks) have no inlay booklet but are nicely chronologically compiled. There will probably be a second volume of singles released in the near future. The imaged packages were issued in 2014 and 2016 (the singles compilation with A- and B-sides 1948-1954).



Below left: European "Gold Collection" 2-set bootleg CD Deja2 CD07 from 1992 (reissued in several variations). Plus a Reel to Reel reissue of Rel Gone (Febr 2019).



John Lee Hooker Compilation CDs (*Heavily Selected*)

- compiled by Claus Röhnisch and uploaded to wikipedia - original album sessions mostly omitted - (*public domain* issues marked *)

JOHN LEE HOOKER

- 1990 – *That's My Story/The Folk Blues of John Lee Hooker* (Ace) – the two original Riverside LPs with four lesser tracks on one CD (1959 "Country Blues" and 1960 session) CDCHD 927
- 1990 – *That's Where It's At!* (Stax) - reissue of Florida recordings from 1961. This is not a compilation, but a CD reissue of the original LP SCD-4134-2
- 1991 – *The Ultimate Collection 1948–1990* (Rhino 2CD-set) – anthology R2 70572
- 1991 – *The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions* (Chess/MCA) reissued in 2002 as *The Real Folk Blues/More Real Folk Blues* – 1966 recordings MCD-18335
- 1991 – *Half a Stranger* (Mainstream) - Modern tracks 1948–1955 incl unedited masters MDCD905
- 1991 – *Free Beer and Chicken* (BeatGoesOn) - album session recorded 1974. Not a compilation, but a reissue of original ABC LP BGOC2123
- 1991 – *Endless Boogie* (MCA) - album session recorded November 1970. Not a compilation, but a reissue of original ABC LP MCAD-10413
- 1991 – *Don't Turn Me from Your Door – John Lee Hooker Sings his Blues* (Atlantic/Atco) – 1953 (Rockin', DeLuxe and Chart incl bonus tracks), and 1961 recordings (16 tracks total) 7567-82365-2
- 1991 – *The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974* (MCA-Universal) – Impulse, Chess and ABC/Bluesway recordings MCAD-20539
- 1992 – *Blues Brother - 24 Vintage Sensation Recordings 1948-1951* (Ace) – only issued in UK (tracks also issued on *Graveyard Blues* and *Everybody's Blues*, except for *Boogie Chillen'*) Ace CDCHD 405
- 1992 – *Graveyard Blues* (Specialty/Ace) - 1948–1950 Besman/Sensation tracks Specialty 17018-2
- 1992 – *The Boogie Man* (Charly 4CD "book" box) – 1948–1966 recordings, except for Modern Charly DIG 5
- 1993 – *Everybody's Blues* (Specialty/Ace) – Besman tracks of 1950–51 plus two 1954 sessions direct for Specialty Ace CDCHD 474
- 1993 – *The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948–1954* (Flair/Ace) – the original singles Ace CDCHD 315
- 1993 – *Urban Blues* (MCA) – the original BluesWay album of the two 1967 sessions plus three prev. unissued bonus tracks from the 1969 BluesWay session MCAD 10760
- 1993 – *John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958* (Vee-Jay) - 22 chrono tracks NVD2-713
- 1994 – *The Early Years* (Tomato & Rhino 2CD-set) – with 30 Vee-Jay classics TOM 9906/7 & R2 71659
- 1994 – *Original Folk Blues...Plus* (Ace) - the original Kent LP plus six extra tracks CDCHM 530
- 1995 – *Alternative Boogie – Early Studio Recordings* (Capitol 3CD-set) – Besman takes 1948–1952 plus some 1961 (from United Artists LPs) 33912-2
- 1996 – *Live at (the) Café Au Go-Go (and Soledad Prison)* (Universal) – 1966 with Muddy Waters' band and another live session in 1972 MCD 11537
- 1996 – *Rare Hooker* (Charly) – 22 very rare tracks from 1948-1961 CDGR 176
- 1998 – *The Complete 50's Chess Recordings* (Chess/MCA 2CD-set) – anthology featuring the tracks from *House of the Blues* and *Plays and Sings the Blues* (1951–52) plus eight bonus tracks from Fortune 1952-1954 incl *Blues For Big Town* MCD09391
- 1998 – *The Best of Friends* (Virgin/Pointblank) – 13 recordings 1987-1998 (with one extra bonus track on Shout!Factory issued 2007) VPCLD 49
- 1998 – *I'm John Lee Hooker* (Charly) – his very first LP with bonus tracks, 1955–1959 recordings, reissued on SNAP in 2003 and without bonus tracks on Shout!Factory in 2007 CDGR 281 / SNAP 130 CD
- 1998 – *Gotham Golden Classics – The Rare Recordings* (Collectables) – 1951-52 "pirate" recordings COL-CD-5151
- 1999 – *Travelin'* (Charly) - 1960 session with bonus tracks, reissued on SNAP in 2003 CDGR 284 / SNAP 145 CD
- 2000 – *The Complete 1964 Recordings* (RPM/Shout) – last Vee-Jay session 1964 plus British London recordings (the British tracks reissued with brass overdubs as *The London 1965 Sessions* on Sequel) RPMSH 208
- 2000 – *Boogie Awhile* (Krazy Kat) – unissued early Barbee recordings 1948-53 KKCD05
- 2000 – *The Complete – Vol. 1 1948–49* (Body & Soul 2CD) 3057012 *

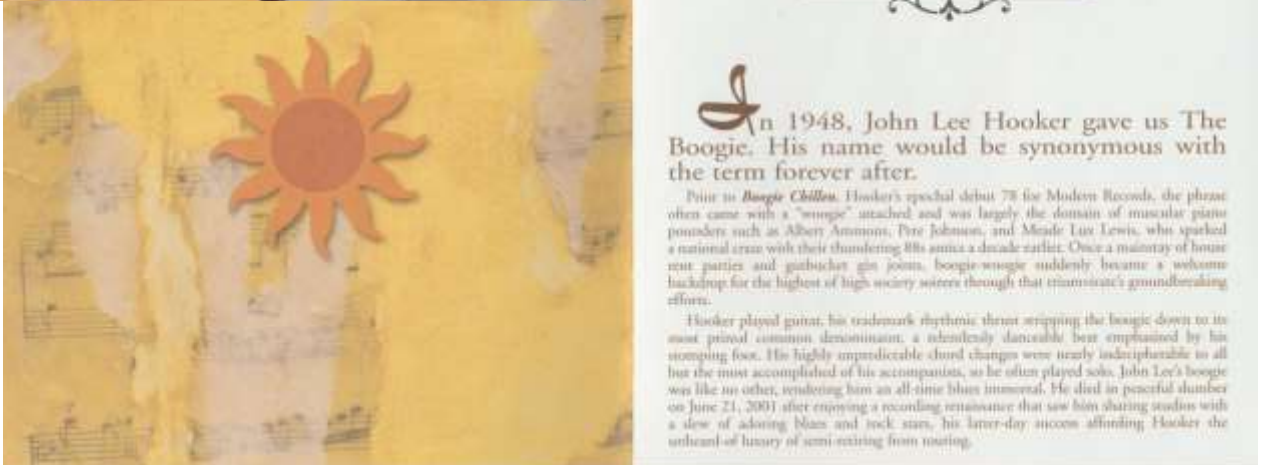
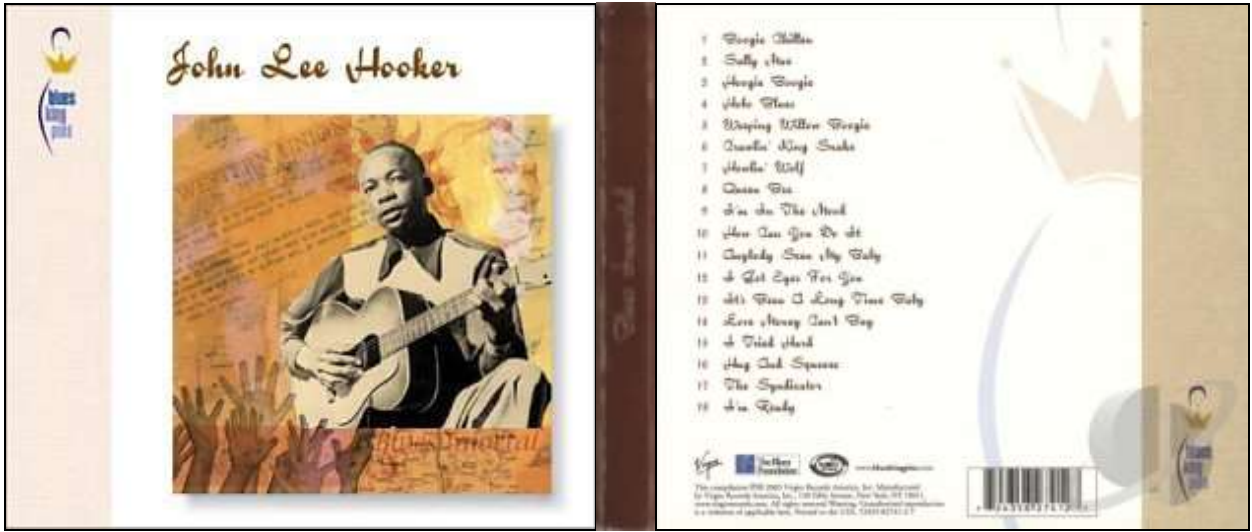
- 2000 – *Burnin'* (Charly) – the fourth VJ LP 1962 with bonus tracks, reissued on SNAP in 2003 CDGR 298 / SNAP041CD
- 2000 – *The Complete – Vol. 2 1949* (Body & Soul 2CD) 3063142 *
- 2000 – *The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker* (Charly) – his third VJ LP from 1961 with bonus tracks, reissued on SNAP in 2003 CDGR 300 / SNAP073CD
- 2001 – *The Complete – Vol. 3 1949–50* (Body & Soul 2CD) 3067872 *
- 2001 – *House Rent Boogie* (Ace) – rare early 1950s Modern recordings CDCHD 799
- 2001 – *Testament* (Charly/Snapper 3CD box) –Vee-Jay recordings 1955-1964 SNAJ 705 CD
- 2002 – *The Complete – Vol. 4 1950–51* (Body & Soul 2CD) 3074242 *
- 2002 – *Giant of Blues* (FruitTree 2CD-set) – Charly license featuring 20 of the *Testament* tracks fr21
- 2003 – *Boogie Chillen'* (Audio Fidelity) – 1949–1952 compilation by Besman and Siracuse (engineer) AFZ 005
- 2003 – *Blues Kingpins – Blues Immortal* (Virgin) – 1948–1955 Modern anthology 72435-82741-2-7
- 2004 – *Early Years – The Classic Savoy Sessions* (Metro Doubles 2CD) – recorded 1948-49 and 1961 from *Savoy Blues Legends* (Savoy in 2000 and 2002) and the 1961 Savoy recordings from *Sittin' Here Thinkin'* (32Blues in 2004 with the bonus track) METROCD3522 (*)
- 2004 – *I'm a Boogie Man* (Varèse Sarabande) – Vintage 1948–1953 Texas Slim and John Lee Hooker – a total of 19 tracks (King and De Luxe tracks featuring all the King singles) 302 066397-2
- 2004 – *The Complete – Vol. 5 1951–53* (Body & Soul 2CD) BS2500 *
- 2004 – *The Cream* (Charly 2CD) – The Tomato LP recorded in 1977, reissued with five extra bonus tracks (with a total of 20 live tracks) SNAD 542
- 2005 – *The Complete – Vol. 6 1953–54* (Body & Soul 2CD) BS2653 *
- 2006 – *Hooker* (Shout!Factory 4CD box) – chronological anthology covering 84 tracks of his entire career, reissued on Blue Label SPV 826663-10198
- 2006 – *The Boogie Man 1948–1955* (Properbox 4-CD digibox) – pseudonym and Modern recordings Properbox 111 *
- 2007 – *Gold* (Hip-O Select 2CD) – 1948–2001 chronological anthology B8500090-2
- 2008 – *The Intro Collection - The Very Best of the King of Blues Guitar* (Union Square 3CD-set) - nine 1949 Savoy and 36 Vee-Jay classics INTR0TCD01
- 2009 – *John Lee Hooker Anthology: 50 Years* (Shout! Factory 2CD) – 1948–1998 chronological anthology (most tracks also on *Hooker*) 825663-1289
- 2009 – *From Detroit to Chicago 1954–1958* (SagaBlues46) – Modern, Battle, and early Vee-Jay singles 532 122-3 *
- 2010 – *At His Very Best* (MetroUnionSquare 2CD) – Vee-Jay compilation with some late live recordings MRTRDCC644 *
- 2010 – *Blues in Transition* (Jasmine 2CD) – Vee-Jay recordings 1956–1959 plus the two Riverside sessions 1959 (50 tracks) JASCD 562 *
- 2010 – *The Essential Collection* (Union Square TIN 3CD) - Vee-Jay from above Metro 2CD plus several extras METRTN014 *
- 2016 – *Simply John Lee Hooker* (Union Square TIN 3CD) - mostly early rare pirate and Modern recordings and some Vee-Jay SMPNTNCD026 *
- 2016 – *The Great John Lee Hooker* (Southern Routes) – 26 track CD featuring famous (and other classic) Modern and Sensation recordings 1948-1953 SR-2505 *
- 2016 – *The Modern, Chess & VeeJay Singles Collection 1949-62* (Acrobat Music 4CD-set) – all his singles for the three labels, A- and B-sides (101 tracks) ACQCD7103 *
- 2017 – *Whiskey & Wimmen - John Lee Hooker's Finest* (Concord/Vee-Jay) – a CD including songs from Vee-Jay, Stax, and Riverside 08880720580
- 2017 – *King of the Boogie* (Concord/Craft 5CD bookset) – chronological anthology incl one with live recordings, covering 100 tracks of his entire career (only 38 tracks also on "Hooker") CR00015
- 2017 – *Gotta Boogie Gotta Sing* (Jasmine 2CD-set) – 52 Modern and pirate recordings 1948-1954 JASCD 3084 *
- 2018 – *Boogie Chillen' - 50 All-Time Classics* (SoulJam 2CD-set) – compilation of 1948-1961 600913 *



The Shout!Factory CD-box and its European reissue on Blue Label SPV 95942 (4CD-set); plus the Craft "King of the Boogie" book-box (5CD-set)

Blues Immortal – John Lee Hooker (*Virgin Records' blues kingpins series*) 2003 72435-82741-2-7

Some of the early recording dates are incorrect and Boogie Chillen listed without the "e"-ending. Otherwise a great presentation by Bill Dahl in The Year of the Blues.





The Boogie Man's musical career took flight when he emerged as the kingpin of the postwar Detroit blues circuit, but his musical roots harked all the way back to the blues-ferile Mississippi Delta. He was born outside of Clarksdale, Mississippi on August 22, 1917, though the year remains open to debate. Even his biographer, Charles Shaar Murray, couldn't pin it down with absolute certainty because no birth certificate was filed in Hooker's behalf. Born into a huge family headed by William Hooker, a part-time pastor who insisted that his offspring sing in church, John Lee grew up on a large farm in Yazoo, Mississippi, tending in the fields and getting by without the benefit of modern conveniences like electricity.

Hooker's first encounter with a blues singer was inadvertently his sister's doing. Tony Hollins dropped by the Hooker household to pitch wares at her and ended up giving an eager young John Lee an old Silverstone guitar (Hollins went on to record eight numbers for OKeh in 1941, notably *Crawling King Snake*, which Hooker would eventually put a hit with, and four more for Decca a decade later, including another rendition of his signature piece).

"My dad was a minister, and he had all this land," said Hooker in 1981. "And I didn't want to do that, I was born with the talent of playing a guitar when I was 12 years old. My family was really Christian, church-going people, and they didn't want me to do that." As he hit his teens, John Lee's parents split up. Incidentally, his mother Minnie hooked up romantically with a locally popular blues guitarist. Over the next year, stepfather Will Moore would become John Lee's greatest musical influence, noticeably shaping the ball's singular approach to the blues.

"My stepfather, he taught me blues," explained Hooker in 1995. "Will Moore, that was his style. I play just like him. He said, 'You don't play this way, you ain't playin' the blues.' He said, 'Rest your head back and play that guitar and sing.' That's what I did. Just throw the books away." The encouraging Moore also gave his nephew a used Stella acoustic guitar, a considerable upgrade over Hollins' hand-me-down Silverstone. It was Moore's specific brand of boogie that Hooker went on to popularize around the globe, though John Lee spiced it up with a brash electrified edge that brought it raging out of the Delta and smack into the urban milieu.

After apprenticing with Moore, Hooker struck out on his own in 1933, only in his mid-teens. "I just commenced to roam the highways," said John Lee. He ventured up to Memphis and wide-open Beale Street, snaring a gig as an usher at the New Daisy Theater (still a landmark venue on Beale, incidentally). After a year or so in Memphis, Hooker made tracks again, first for Knoxville and then Cincinnati. He began to play house parties while ensconced in the Queen City, growing more accustomed to playing for small gatherings. In the late 1930s, John Lee was on the move again, hopping a Greyhound bus headed for the Motor City.

"I left home when I was really young," said Hooker. "I didn't want to come to Chicago. There was too much competition there. All the blues singers was there. I went to Detroit where there wasn't nothin'." A brief Army stint didn't pan out, but there were plenty of factory positions to tide him over until he established himself as a bluesman. Much of Detroit's African-American nightlife centered around rough-and-rumble Hastings Street, and gradually, John Lee made friends on the city's blues circuit, playing at Ebbel club such as the Apex Bar on Monroe Street, Henry's Swing Club on Madison, and Lee's Seniors.

In 1940, record store owner Elmer Barber caught his act. Barber assumed Hooker's managerial reins and scooped him in the rear of his shop in an old yard. Then Barber introduced Hooker to Bernard Besman and Johnny Caplan, who ran Senorim Records out of a Woodward Avenue office, bringing along a word-of-mouth network of Hooker singing *Sally May* for Besman's edification. Besman already had pianist Todd Rhodes' popular R&B sextet under Senorim's contract, their sophisticated, jazz arrangements light years from John Lee's stark, unadorned approach. But Besman decided to take a chance on Hooker, recording his debut sides at the tail end of a Rhodes session at United Sound Systems, probably in late summer of '44.

"They heard me, and they liked what they heard," said Hooker. "They said it was a sound that nobody else had, that they'd never heard before. Said I had such a ringing, good voice – which I thought I did, but everybody else said I did. So they signed me right up, and I come up with some number one hits."

Instead of inflating the small rhythm section Hooker often fronted for live gigs, Besman cut him solo. Engineer Joe Stracore made John Lee's guitar in solo and rendered a drummer superfluous by liberally miking his stomping foot to create an eerie sound like no one else's on the scene. It was an audacious throwback to the Delta rendered contemporary, flying in the face of the burn-lessered jump blues then dominating the R&B hit parade. Among the fruits of that first seminal session were the brooding B-side *Sally May* (that's how Modern's original 78 label had it; it's now generally spelled *Sally Mae*), John Lee's immortal *Boogie Chillen* (which was recorded at the end of the day when Besman requested a boogie piece of some sort).

As he so often did, Hooker drew upon his own experience for his lyrics, even referencing Henry's Swing Club. "Everybody was talkin' about it, because everybody would go there," explained Hooker. "And I just wrote a song about it." But *Boogie Chillen* would not hit the streets on Besman's Senorim label. "His label was so little, he put it on a bigger label," said John Lee. Besman struck a deal with the Bihar brothers' Modern Records, based in Los Angeles with a star-studded talent roster encompassing lots of jumping R&B acts as well as a strong rural blues contingent. It didn't take long for Hooker's first slice of Modern shenanigans to conquer the market. Entering Billboard's R&B charts in January of '49, it sat at number one in mid-February.

The runaway success of *Boogie Chillen* sparked the wildest explosion of simultaneous recording activity by one artist in the history of postwar blues. Hooker waded two follow-up hits for Modern at a February 18, 1949 session in Detroit supervised by Besman – the haunting *Hobo Blues* (which went to #5 that spring) and a remake of his former mentor Hollins' surprise Christmas *King Snake Blues* (that vaulted to #6 late that year (the startling *Hollins' Wolf* in title mislabeled to Hooker's future labelmate of the same appellation, also derives from that fruitful date). The opposite side of *Hobo Blues*, the rousing *Boogie Chillen* offshoot *Boogie Boogie* (Hooker calls it "Rhythm No. 2," midway through the song), apparently hailed from a separate session and also became a hit, topping at #5. "On and on, just hit after hit," noted John Lee. "I was in." These triumphs

were the tip of the iceberg; quick cash could be made by cutting for competing labels under a slew of aliases despite his contract with Besman.

"The record company wasn't paying me that much," said Hooker. "The Bihar brothers. I was kinda hot then. Every little label wanted to do something. If they'd pay me good, I'd go out and change my name and do it." Between Elmer Barber and Hastings Street record shop operator Joe Von Barle, an avalanche of opportunities tumbled in. As Texas Slim (geographical accuracy was apparently of little concern) and later John Lee Cusket, he recorded for King, When Regent and Senorim issued John Lee's masters, he maneuvered at Delta John or the marseadly whimsical Birmingham Sam & His Magic Guitar. Hooker was the Boogie Man for Acorn and Johnny Williams for Gotham, while Chance, Declare, and Rockin' exhibited less imagination by overwriting his name as John Lee Hooker. "If they had the money, I had the time."

Besman hung onto some of The Hook's voluminous output for his Senorim imprint, reaping the rewards of a #15 hit in early 1950 on *Rockin' Up*, *Boogie* that mercifully grazed the shelves under Hooker's own name. The scorching *Weeping Willow Boogie* (Besman may have added the clattering percussive effect himself) and the throbbing *Queen Bee* ended up on Modern, retaining the stripped-down setting that made Hooker such an amazing anomaly.

One of Besman's studio brainstorms led to Hooker's second R&B chart-topper in November of 1951. By overshadowing John Lee's voice a second time onto the finished master of *I'm In The Mood* during a mid-August session (the second guitar wasn't an over-the-top, frenetic Hooker color; Little' Eddie Kirkland handled that duty), Besman and Stracore devised a gimmick that set the relentless monster so far apart from the mounds of Hooker 78s flooding the market that it actually made a highly unlikely appearance on the pop charts.

Besman produced the driving boogie *How Can You Do It and Anybody Seen My Baby*, both with Kirkland on second guitar, before health problems forced him to relocate out West, ending the pair's professional relationship. Kirkland dipped stoney ninth chords and crisp fills into *Anybody Seen My Baby* that were apropos considering Hooker's vocal allusions to mellow L.A. pianist Charles Brown in the downbeat number. The lit-musically active Kirkland, a longtime Monroe City blues staple who was born in Jamaica and raised in Alabama before settling in Detroit in 1943, was Hooker's

sympathetic partner on the rollicking *I Got Eyes For You*, probably waded Mar 22, 1952 at John Lee's last Besman-berned date, and recorded for Modern's RPM imprint himself that same year with Hooker on the other guitar.

John Lee signed directly to Modern after that, continuing to record for the company in Detroit at United Sound. His backing cast expanded radically for the trio *It's Been A Long Time Baby* and *I Found Her*, cut December 3, 1952 with bassist Johnny Hodges, pianist Boogie Woogie Red, and drummer Jimmy Turner giving John Lee a much more R&B-oriented sound. Hooks, not Hooker, topped the solos, and John Lee once again double-tracked his vocals.

Kirkland and Red were joined by drummer Leon Whithead for a June 26, 1953 session that altered the smoldering *Lovin' Money Can't Buy*. The Boogie Man's ready-to-go grinding unit an uncompromising backdrop. Hooker laid down the joyous *Hot And Spicy* and a sinner *The Syndicator* in opposite sides of a '53 Modern single with H&B's famed backing by his band, The Boogie Ramblers: Whithead's socking backbeat and splashing cymbals drove the proceedings as pianist Bob Sherman tinkled on top and tenor saxist Ottu Finch inserted jangling fills. *I'm Ready*, another '53 release mislabeled to Muddy Waters' seminal Willie Dixon-penned side of the same name, rocks like craxy blues of distorted electric axe slicing the studio air and flash wailing hard on his horn. For just a fleeting moment, John Lee threatened to make the quantum leap into rock and roll, the session also including a raucous *Snake Hater And Him*, Hooker's jumpy response to Big Joe Turner's '54 smash *Snake, Rattle And Roll*.

As rock and roll altered the rhythm and blues landscape forevermore, John Lee was on the move again when it came to recording, starting a May '54 session in Detroit with his usual cohorts for Art Rupe's L.A.-based Specialty label that only resulted in one single before landing at Chicago's Vee-Jay Records in the autumn of 1955. One of his new labelmates, acoustic harpist Jimmy Reed, performed in a sideman role as Hooker's first Vee-Jay date, though The Hook only required a rhythm section to back up the frolicking *Comin' the following year.*

Vee-Jay usually employed a staunch mix of Detroit, midway toben (including Whithead) and Windy City blues acts to back John Lee. Chicago rhythm guitarist Eddie Taylor introduced Hooker's eccentric sense of timing, just as he did for Reed. "Eddie Taylor, he was really a good guitar man," noted John Lee, who stuck around Vee-Jay for nearly a decade, though he did squeeze in a few scattered album projects for other companies during his folk blues phase.

After more than seven years off the R&B charts, John Lee returned to the hit parade at the end of 1958 on Vee-Jay with *I Love You Honey*. Two years later he scored again with *No More*. But the most enduring hit The Boogie Man handed Vee-Jay was his bosscocking 1962 smash *Boogie Down*, an inspiration stemming as usual from The Hook's everyday life.

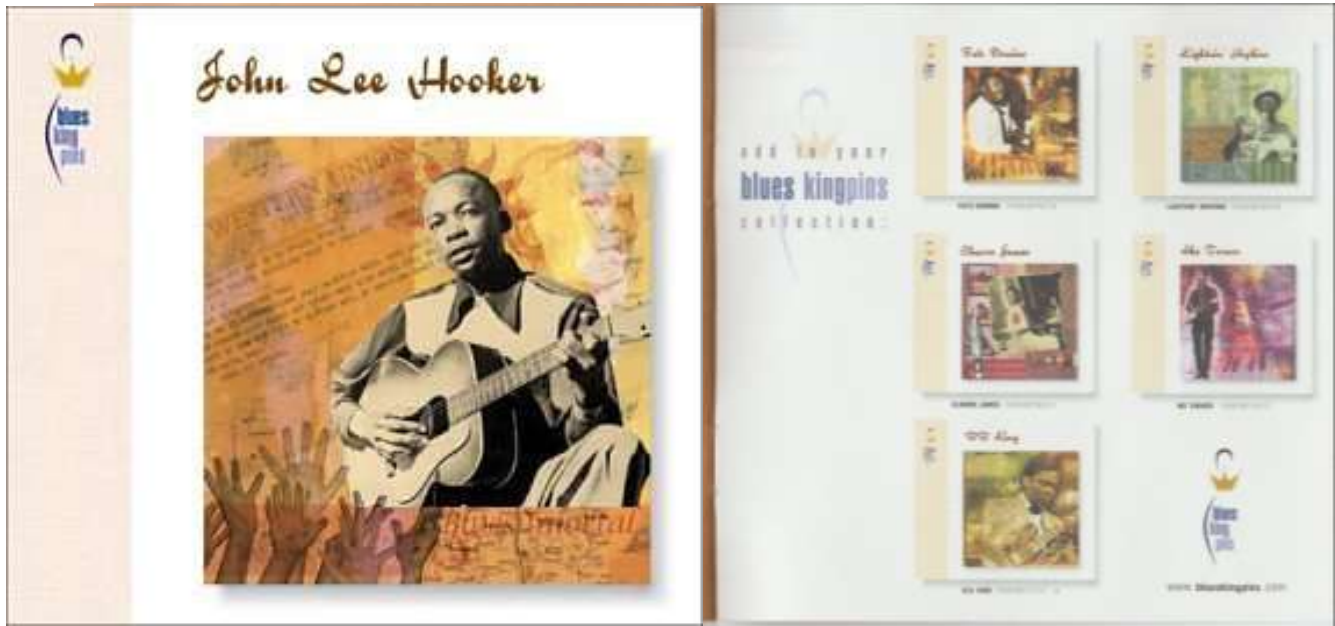
"I walked in a bar one night," he said. "I was playing there, the Apex Bar. I was never on time. The bartender, this woman, whose name was Willie, I walked in the door and she said, 'Boven boven, you're late again!' Like she was shouting a gun, put up fingers. 'Boven boven, you're late again!' And I picked up on that." Its musical impact was exponentially increased by the presence of Motown's vaunted house band, The Funk Brothers, who journeyed from Detroit to Chicago to engage in a little moonlighting. Even with studio musicians like bassist James Jamerson, drummer Benny Benjamin, snare axist Hank Gary, and longtime Hooker pianist Joe Hunter had to stay on their toes behind The Boogie Man.

"Joe Hunter, he's one of those guys that's always into something. He'd hooked up with John Lee Hooker. John Lee Hooker couldn't take a band to Chicago, and so he brought me three two songs," said the late Cusket in 2001. "So I said, 'Well, what's the music?' He said, 'There ain't no music! You have to watch Johnny Lee Hooker's hands!' In other words, every time he moved his fingers to a different position, that was a different chord. So I sat and watched him, and I wrote the chords out. That was the only way we could make it."

The early '60s folk-blues revival found Hooker reverting to his acoustic roots to court the collegiate crowd, and in 1970 – the same year he abandoned Detroit for the West Coast – he joined forces with the boogie-fired Carmel Heat for the acclaimed *Hotter N' Heat*. An onslaught of endless boogie vinyl aimed at the hippie rock demographic ground Hooker's prolific tendencies down to the nub during the '70s, but he rose like an improbably arched phoenix in 1989 with *Tom Houser*. He shared the studio with the luminous likes of Carlos Santana, Van Morrison, and Bonnie Raitt during his last celebrated decade on the planet, racking up several Grammys.

These venerated superstars knew that when they traded hits and lyrics with John Lee Hooker, they stood face-to-face with the almighty source of The Boogie. His singular groove, like these primordial pioneers for Modern Records, will live forever.

—BILL DAVID



1 Boogie Chillen <i>(Hooker)</i>	10 How Can You Do It <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>
2 Sally Mae <i>(Hooker)</i>	11 Anybody Seen My Baby <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>
3 Hoogie Boogie <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	12 I Got Eyes For You <i>(Hooker)</i>
4 Hobo Blues <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	13 It's Been A Long Time Baby <i>(Hooker - Taub)</i>
5 Weeping Willow Boogie <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	14 Love Money Can't Buy <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>
6 Crawlin' King Snake <i>(Hooker)</i>	15 I Tried Hard <i>(Hooker - Taub)</i>
7 Howlin' Wolf <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	16 Hug And Squeeze <i>(Griffin - Swann)</i>
8 Queen Bee <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	17 The Syndicator <i>(Hooker - Josea)</i>
9 I'm In The Mood <i>(Hooker - Besman)</i>	18 I'm Ready <i>(Hooker)</i>

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