

# **THE**

# **Blues Giants of the 1950s**

*Twelve Great Legends*



Presented by Claus Röhnisch  
The R&B Pioneers Series – Volume Five of twelve

## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



© Andy Freeberg

## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Introduction

(The R&B Pioneers Series was originally compiled in 2007 - up to 2011 - and subsequently enhanced and updated up to 2018).

Twelve Blues Giants are presented here with basic information on each and everyone. Some of your favorite blues performers may be missing. Several of the important Rhythm & Blues artists of the 1950s can be tagged Blues Performers – the great thrushes come to mind – Dinah Washington, Ruth Brown, LaVern Baker, and Etta James. Several other important artists like Lightnin' Hopkins, Ike Turner, Jimmy McCracklin, Johnny "Guitar" Watson, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown (who possibly would have been #13 in my book), Jimmy Rogers, and Junior Wells need mention. The early 1960s stars Buddy Guy, Slim Harpo, Lightnin' Slim, Junior Parker, Freddy King, Albert King, and Otis Rush are also strong candidates. The Rock 'n' Roll giants Fats Domino, Little Richard, Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, and Lloyd Price are favorites of many blues fans. The R&B pioneers of the 1940s, who also recorded in the '50s, could be qualified – names like Louis Jordan, Lionel Hampton, Johnny Otis, and Wynonie "Mr. Blues" Harris; and certainly the great pianists Roosevelt "the Honeydripper" Sykes, Champion Jack Dupree, Memphis Slim, et al. The early '50s West-Coast pioneers Charles Brown and Amos Milburn, and New York/Southerner Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson are definitely blues exponents. Nat "King" Cole, and Brook Benton both sang the blues. The original "soul" greats could qualify – especially Ray Charles, and the successful Bobby "Blue" Bland. Clyde McPhatter, Jesse Belvin, Sam Cooke, Jackie Wilson, James Brown, Joe Tex, Solomon Burke, and yes, even Wilson Pickett have to be nominated. I can also think of lesser famous, but classic and important singers like Richard Berry, Bobby Day, and Young Jessie; and of several of the hard-working, and ground-breaking vocal groups (which are presented in "THE Top Ten Vocal Groups of the Golden '50s"). Several of the above listed performers will get their "share" in the forth-coming presentations of "Ten Sepia Super Stars of Rock 'n' Roll", "Transitions from Rhythm to Soul – Twelve Original Soul Icons", "The True R&B Pioneers", and in "Predecessors of the Soul Explosion in the 1960s" (including some of the early 1960s vocal groups of soul, like the Temptations, Impressions, Miracles, Isley Brothers, Four Tops, and the Dells).



Probably some of your absolute favorite "blues" artists will be presented in "Ten Sepia Super Stars of Rock 'n' Roll" ("Rock 'n' Roll" – a rubric which may even be harder to define than "the Blues"). Definitions may alter, depending on who is deciding the task – but the artists presented here are – in the mind of the editor of this work – the definitive twelve most interesting and important Blues Giants of the 1950s (nine of them charter members of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame; two inducted soon after – only Fulson had to wait for his induction). You will be able to read about four Texas (and Oklahoma / Kansas) rooted pioneers of early jump-oriented blues representing the Big Cities (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Kansas City, Dallas, New Orleans, Cincinnati, and New York City); about the now legendary Delta Southerners of Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana – who became the "Big Four" of Chess' Chicago Bar Blues; and about four Mississippi born singers, who via Memphis, Tennessee (and Gary, Indiana) turned into Blues Icons of different Modern Blues styles – Down Home and Urban (Jackson-MS, Louisiana, Memphis, Detroit, Chicago, Houston, California, and Harlem-NYC). The number of Top 10 R&B Hits are noted below.

Most of the birth (and death data) for the whole series of "The R&B Pioneers" are from the super-book "BLUES – A Regional Experience" by Bob Eagle and Eric S. LeBlanc (US 2013).

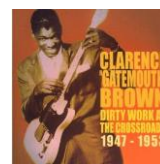
Claus Röhnisch – updated June 2018.

## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s – presented by Claus Röhnisch Twelve Great Legends in The R&B Pioneers Series

		Page	R&B Top 10	Read more
1940	<b>T-Bone Walker</b>	4	6	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T-Bone_Walker">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T-Bone_Walker</a>
1938	<b>Big Joe Turner</b>	13	17	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Joe_Turner">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Joe_Turner</a>
1946	<b>Lowell Fulson</b>	20	9	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lowell_Fulson">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lowell_Fulson</a>
1947	<b>Roy Brown</b>	24	14	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Brown_(blues_musician)">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Brown_(blues_musician)</a>
1948	<b>John Lee Hooker</b>	30	5	<a href="http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters/johnnielee.html">http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters/johnnielee.html</a>
1946	<b>Muddy Waters</b>	43	14	<a href="http://www.muddywaters.com/home.html">http://www.muddywaters.com/home.html</a>
1951	<b>Sonny Boy Williamson</b>	57	1	<a href="http://www.sonnyboy.com/">http://www.sonnyboy.com/</a>
1951	<b>Howlin' Wolf</b>	67	4	<a href="http://www.howlinwolf.com/">http://www.howlinwolf.com/</a>
1951	<b>Elmore James</b>	78	2	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elmore_James">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elmore_James</a>
1947	<b>Little Walter</b>	83	14	<a href="http://www.littlewalter.net/">http://www.littlewalter.net/</a>
1953	<b>Jimmy Reed</b>	92	10	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jimmy_Reed">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jimmy_Reed</a>
1949	<b>B. B. King</b>	103	24	<a href="http://www.bbking.com/">http://www.bbking.com/</a>

The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnisch

<http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info>

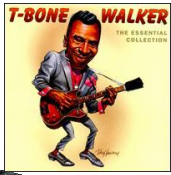
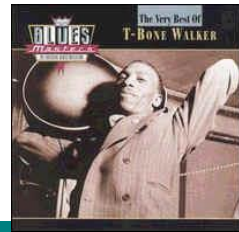


**THE GUITAR WIZARD** – “the man who invented electric guitar blues”



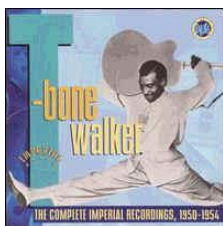


# T-BONE WALKER



"The Blues Guitar Wizard" - Texas "territory band" influenced guitarist and blues singer representing the original Los Angeles jazz-blues. A true giant - legendary - and creator of modern blues. Pioneer in developing the electric guitar sound. Inspirer of the modern exponents of "industrial guitar blues sounds". Toured with medicine shows - dancing and playing banjo - during the '20s. Worked with Cab Calloway and Milt Larkin during the '30s. Worked in Oklahoma and in the '40s in California, Detroit and Chicago, and settled in Los Angeles. Some of his important backing musicians: Bumps Myers, tenor sax; Willard McDaniel, pno; Oscar Lee Bradley, dms. Was produced by the legendary Ralph Bass (for Black & White - the masters soon bought by Capitol) and later by arranger - tenor saxophonist Maxwell Davis (for Imperial), and Nesuhi Ertegun (for Atlantic). Had severe problems with his stomach from the '50s on and sometimes inactive. The Earl Hines/Billy Eckstine recording of "Stormy Monday Blues" of 1942 is a complete different song than T-Bone's "Call It Stormy Monday". Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

**Born:** Aaron Thibeaux Walker, May 28, 1910, Linden, Texas.  
**Died** of pneumonia March 16, 1975, Los Angeles, California.  
**First recordings:** Dallas, Texas December 5, 1929 as Oak Cliff T-Bone Wichita Falls Blues / Trinity River Blues; N.Y. (or L.A.) with Les Hite Orch ca June, 1940 T-Bone Blues - Varsity 8391 (also issued on Bluebird 11210); Hollywood with Freddie Slack, pno July 20, 1942 Mean Old World / I Got A Break Baby - Capitol; Chicago October 10, 1944 Sail On Boogie / I'm Still In Love With You - Rhumboogie 4000.  
**Records for:** Black & White 46-48, Comet 1948, Capitol 1949, Imperial 50-54, Atlantic 55-59, Bluesway 67-68.



**Essential CD:** The Ultimate Collection 1929-57 – Acrobat 5CD ACFC D 7503 (2014) featuring 129 tracks including all Atlantic Blues Masters: The Very Best of... - Rhino R2 79894 (2000) or: You're My Best Poker Hand – The Definitive Collection (3CD) – Fantastic Voyage FVTD099 (featuring a.o. Capitol/Imperial/Atlantic) (2011)  
**Editor's choices:**  
 The Complete Capitol/Black & White Recordings (3CD) - Capitol 829379-2 (1995) and  
 The Complete Imperial Recordings (2CD) - EMI CDP7 96737-2 (1991) and T-Bone Blues - Atlantic 8020-2 (1989, originally issued in 1959)  
**For Collectors:**  
 The Original Source (4CD) - Properbox 38 (90 great early tracks with a 44 page booklet, 2002)  
 The Chronological T-Bone Walker 1929-1946 - Classics 5007 (2001)  
 The Complete Recordings of T-Bone Walker 1940-1964 (6CD) - Mosaic MD6 130 (144 tracks, 1990)  
 Stormy Monday Blues - the essential collection - Spectrum/MCA HMNCD 039 (the best Bluesway rec) (1998/1999)

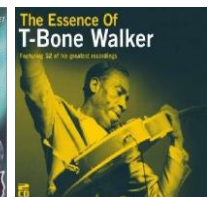
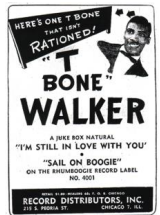
**Reading:** Stormy Monday - the T-Bone Walker Story by Helen Oakley Dance (Da Capo, 1987)

## First LPs:

Classics In Jazz – Capitol T-370 (1953)  
 T-Bone Walker Sings The Blues – Imperial LP 9098 (1959)  
 T-Bone Blues – Atlantic LP 8020 (1959)

## T-BONE WALKER, vocals/guitar "LUCKY-SEVEN"

- 1. Les Hite and His Orchestra – Vocal by T-Bone Walker**  
 (T-Bone only vocal; Frank Pasley, gtr)  
 - New York (or poss. Los Angeles), ca June 1940 or March 6, 1941:  
 US-1852-1 **T-Bone Blues** - Varsity 8391
- 2. T-Bone Walker, featuring Freddie Slack at the piano**  
 - Hollywood, July 20, 1942:  
 CAP-55-A **Mean Old World** - Capitol 10033
- 3. T-Bone Walker and His Guitar** (featuring Lloyd Glenn, pno and Bumps Myers, sax)  
 - Hollywood, September 13, 1947:  
 BW 637-3 **Call It Stormy Monday But Tuesday Is Just As Bad** - Black & White 122 (#5, 6w total 1948)
- 4. (featuring Willard McDaniel, pno)**  
 - Los Angeles, November 13, 1947:  
 BW 662-2 **T-Bone Shuffle** - Comet 53 (#7, 4w 1949)
- 5. T-Bone Walker & His Band** (featuring Jim Wynn, sax)  
 - Los Angeles, April 6, 1950:  
 IM 178 **Travelin' Blues** - Imperial 5094
- 6. T-Bone Walker** (featuring Maxwell Davis, sax)  
 - Los Angeles, December 1951:  
 IM 388-3 **Street Walkin' Woman** - Imperial 5202 (1952)
- 7. (Lloyd Glenn, pno; Billy Hadnott, bs; Oscar Lee Bradley, dms)**  
 - Los Angeles, December 14, 1956:  
 A 2274 **T-Bone Blues** – Atlantic LP 8020

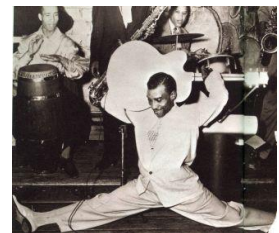
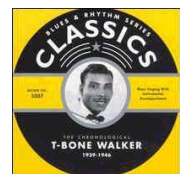


## R&B Top 10 Hits: (6 of 9 Top 40)

- 1946 Bobby Sox Baby (Blues) #3
- 1948 Call It Stormy Monday But Tuesday Is Just As Bad #5
- 1948 Long Skirt Baby Blues #10
- 1948 I'm Waiting For Your Call #8
- 1948 West Side Baby #8
- 1949 T-Bone Shuffle #7

## More Essential Songs:

- 1940 T-Bone Blues (with Les Hite)
- 1942 Mean Old World (with Freddie Slack)
- 1944 I'm Still In Love With You
- 1945 T-Bone Boogie
- 1946 I'm In An Awful Mood
- 1947 T-Bone Jumps Again (instr)
- 1948 That's Better For Me
- 1949 Hypin' Women Blues
- 1949 Plain Ole Down Home Blues
- 1949 I Wish You Were Mine (LP '63)
- 1949 I Want A Little Girl
- 1950 Strollin' With Bones (instr)
- 1950 Travelin' Blues
- 1951 Welcome Blues
- 1951 Cold Cold Feeling
- 1951 I Got The Blues Again
- 1952 Street Walkin' Woman
- 1952 Blue Mood
- 1953 My Baby Is Now On My Mind
- 1954 Bye Bye Baby
- 1954 Pony Tail
- 1954 Strugglin' Blues
- 1955 Papa Ain't Salty
- 1956 T-Bone Blues (Atlantic))
- 1957 Evenin'
- 1959 Two Bones And A Pick (instr)
- 1966 Takes A Lot Of Know-How
- 1968 Goin' To Funky Town (instr)





# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## T-BONE WALKER – REPRESENTATIVE RECORDS 1929 – 1959



1929



1940



1942



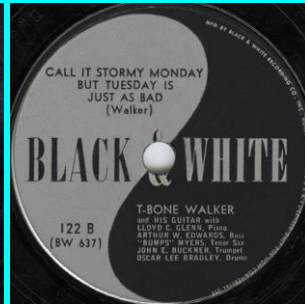
1945



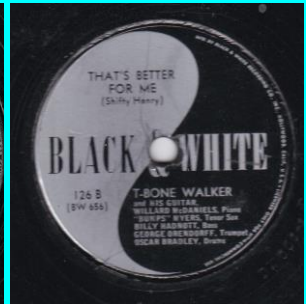
1946



1946



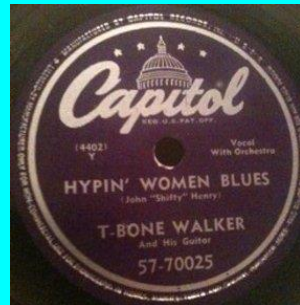
1947



1947



1948



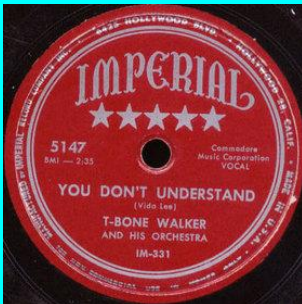
1949



1950



1950 (REISSUED 1955)



1951



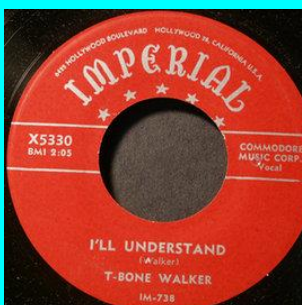
1952



1952



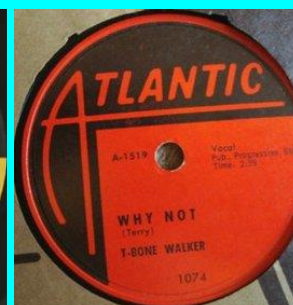
1953



1954



1955



1956



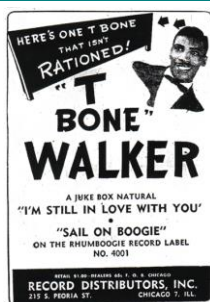
1957/1959



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### T-Bone Walker

- his Chicago, and his Capitol, Black & White, and Comet singles -



T-Bone's singles for Black & White, Comet and Capitol were all recorded in Los Angeles. One record was made for Capitol (Hollywood) July 20, 1942. The first sessions for Black & White (owned by Paul Reiner in New York) were done in September 1946, and one in December. On September 13, 1947 (four songs) T-Bone recorded his famous "Call It Stormy Monday" and the rest were also recorded for Black & White in Los Angeles (with Ralph Bass the producer). Soon Reiner bought another New York company, Comet Records. Capitol acquired all of T-Bones recordings (including the Comet ones) around mid/late 1948, re-releasing several of his Black & White recordings (and also issued some songs which hadn't been released from the mastodont November and December 1947 Black & White sessions). Dave Dexter was the architect for the releases of 1949. T-Bone was contracted to Imperial in early 1950 (and made his first recordings for them on April 6 (he hadn't recorded after December 1947). Maxwell Davis soon took care of the musical directionship (and prob also had a producer roll); Hadnott and Bradley stayed with T-Bone. Here are the famous "Black & White" singles (plus his early Chicago recordings). T-Bone Walker, vcl/gtr on all tracks, except -1 which is an instrumental. Before his Black & White period T-Bone recorded in Chicago in 1944 and 1945 for Rhumbogie (Charlie Glenn's label), Mercury and Old Swingmaster (some of those recordings were later reissued on Imperial LP). Several recordings did appear only on later LPs.

#### T-Bone Walker featuring Freddie Slack at the piano with bass and drums Capitol (1942)

15033 I Got A Break Baby - Mean Old World (also issued on Capitol Criterion 10033)

#### T-Bone Walker with Marl Young's Orchestra (rec in Chicago)

##### Rhumbogie (issued 1945/46)

4000 Sail On Boogie - I'm Still In Love With You (also issued on M33-1)

4002 T-Bone Boogie - Evening

4003 You Don't Love Me Blues - Mean Old World Blues

##### Mercury (issued 1946)

8016 My Baby Left Me - Come Back To Me Baby

##### Old Swingmaster (issued 1949)

11 She Is Going To Ruin Me (Fast Woman on Imperial later)

- My Baby Left Me

#### T-Bone Walker and His Guitar

(with Jack McVea & All Stars -2) or (with Al Killian Quintet -3)

##### Black & White (issued 1946-1948)

110 Bobby Sox Blues (#3) - I'm Gonna Find My Baby -2

111 No Worry Blues - Don't Leave Me Baby -2

115 It's A Lowdown Dirty Deal - Don't Give Me The Runaround -3

121 I'm In An Awful Mood - Hard Pain Blues -3

122 I Know Your Wig Is Gone

- Call It Stormy Monday But Tuesday Is Just As Bad (#5)

123 Long Skirt Baby Blues (#10) - Goodbye Blues

125 T-Bone Jumps Again -1 - I Want A Little Girl

126 I'm Waiting For Your Call (#8) - That's Better For Me

127 Midnight Blues (#11) - Plain Old Down Home Blues

##### Comet (issued 1948)

T50 Lonesome Woman Blues - West Side Baby (#8)

T51 Inspiration Blues - I'm Still In Love With You

T52 Description Blues (#13) - That Old Feeling Is Gone

T53 T-Bone Shuffle (#7) - First Love Blues

##### Capitol (issued 1949-1950)

70012 Vacation Blues - Prison Blues

70014 Call It Stormy Monday - I Know Your Wig Is Gone

70023 Long Lost Lover Blues - You're My Best Poker Hand

70025 Hypin' Women Blues - Born To Be No Good

70042 T-Bone Shuffle - First Love Blues

70055 West Side Baby - I'm Still In Love With You

799 On Your Way Blues - Go Back To The One You Love (#15)

944 She's My Old Time Used To Be - Too Much Trouble Blues

### The musicians in L.A.

July 20, 1942

Freddie Slack (piano); Jud De Naut (bass); Dave Coleman (drums)

September 30, 1946

with Jack McVea (ts) & All Stars: Joe "Red" Kelly, tp; Tommy Cahn, p; Frank Clarke, b; Rabon Tarrant, d

December 1946

with Al Killian (tp) Quintet: Jack McVea, ts; Kahn, Clarke, Tarrant

September 13, 1947

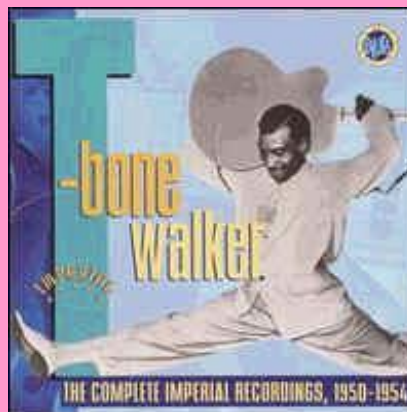
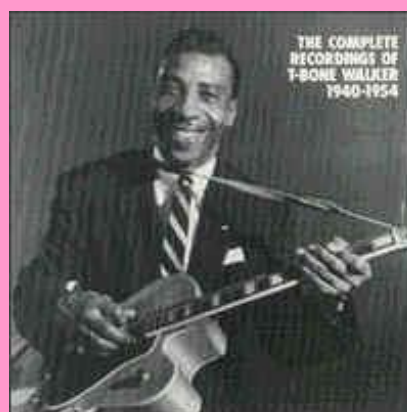
Teddy Buckner, tp; Bumps Myers, ts; Lloyd Glenn, p; Arthur Edward, b; Oscar Lee Bradley, d

November and December 1947

The mastodont sessions featured Buckner (later George Orendorf and one session Jack Trainor), tp; Myers, Willard McDaniel, p; Billy Hadnott (or subbing John Davis), b; Bradley, d

### T-Bone Walker

- the editor's favorite CDs -



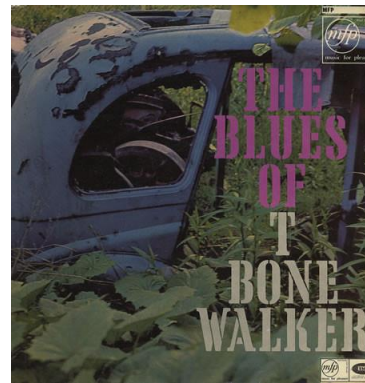
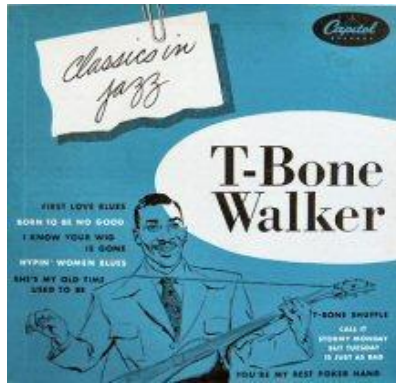
Peak positions on any of the Billboard's national R&B Charts noted left.



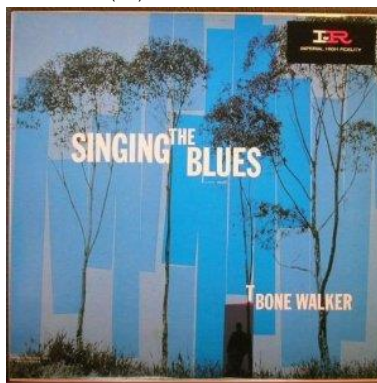
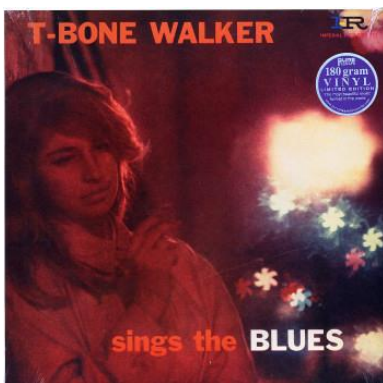
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### T-Bone Walker's original vinyl LPs

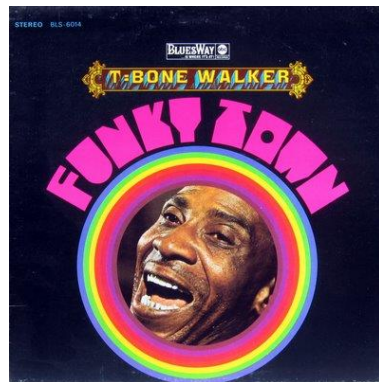
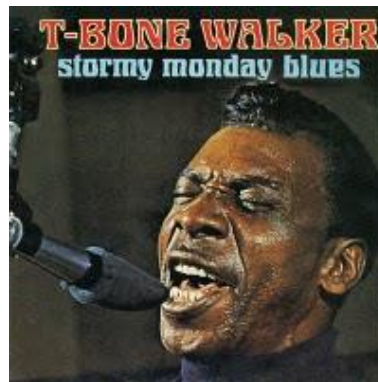
1953-1969



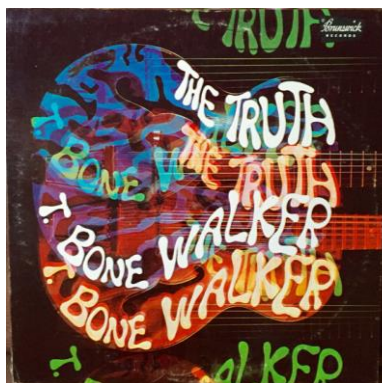
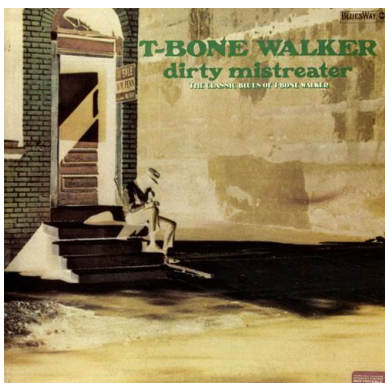
Capitol H/T 370 "Classics In Jazz" (1953), Capitol T 158 "Classic Indigo Vocals and Guitar" (1963, rec in the 1940s), Music for Pleasure (UK) MFP 1043 "The Blues of T-Bone Walker" (1965, Capitol '40's)



Imperial LP 9098 "T-Bone Walker Sings The Blues" (1959), Imperial LP 9116 "Singing The Blues" (1960), Imperial LP 9146 "I Get So Weary" (1961), Imperial (France) LP 1561451 "Hot Leftovers" (1985, Imperial '50s)



Atlantic LP 8020 "T-Bone Blues" (1959), BluesWay BLS-6008 "Stormy Monday Blues" (late 1967), BluesWay BLS-6014 "Funky Town" (1968)

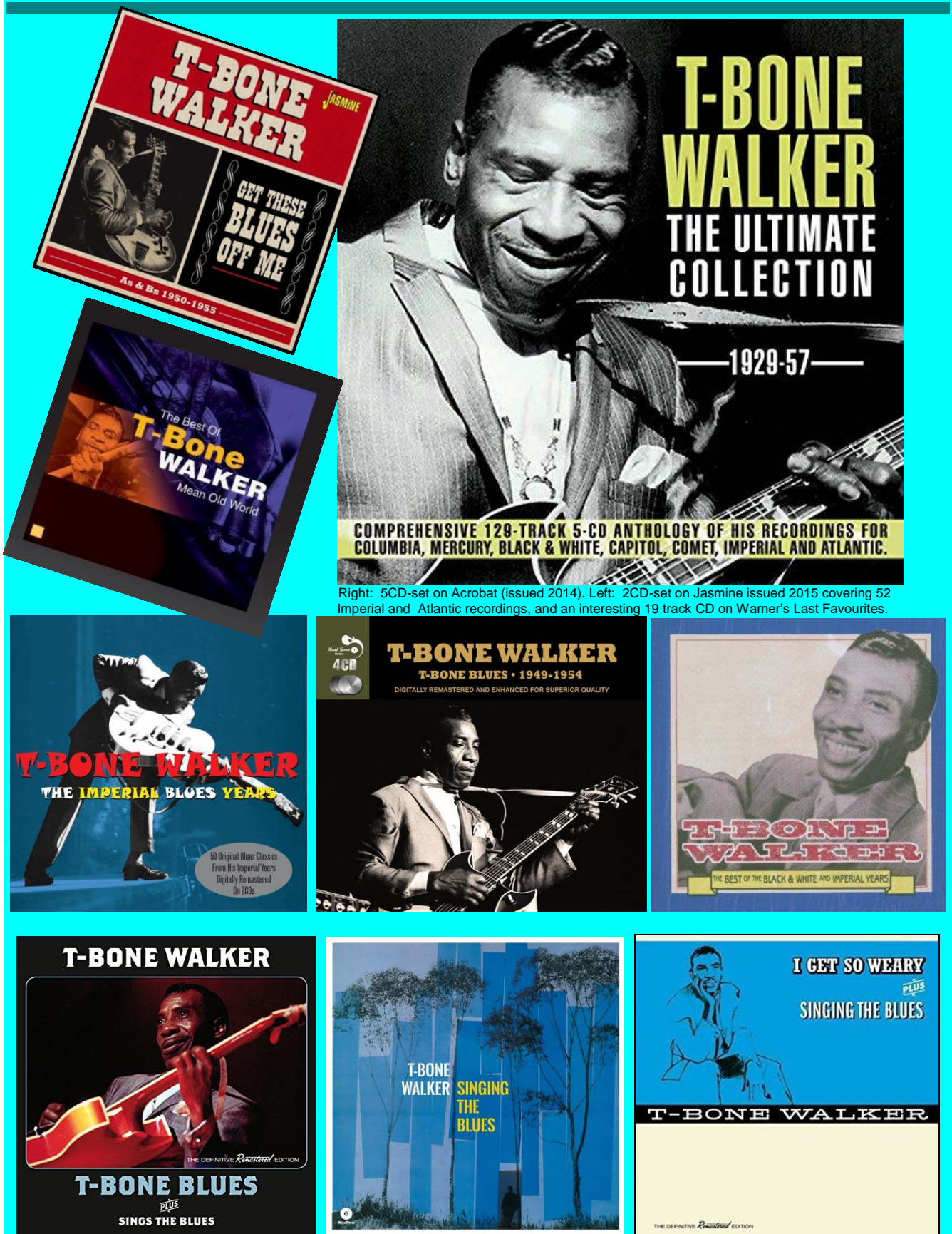


BluesWay BLS-6058 "Dirty Mistreater" (1973, compiled from the earlier BluesWays), Brunswick LP BL 754126 "The Truth" (1968, rec in Texas in 1966), Delmark LP D-633 "I Want A Little Girl" (1969, rec in Paris, November 1968); Image top right BluesTime LP29004 "Every Day I Have The Blues" (1969, rec in New York in August that year.)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SOME OF T-BONE'S LATEST CDs





## T-BONE's (nostalgia) GALLERY pt 1

### T-Bone's Bio - from Rock Hall of Fame

Inductee: Aaron Thibaux Walker aka T-Bone Walker (vocals, guitar; born May 28, 1910, died March 16, 1975)

It was T-Bone Walker, B.B. King once said, who "really started me to want to play the blues. I can still hear T-Bone in my mind today, from that first record I heard, 'Stormy Monday.' He was the first electric guitar player I heard on record. He made me so that I knew I just had to go out and get an electric guitar." T-Bone Walker was born Aaron Thibaux Walker to musical parents on May 28, 1910, in Linden, Texas. When he was two, his family moved to Dallas. Through his church choir and his street-singing stepfather, Marco Washington, he became interested in music. He got his nickname T-Bone at an early age. His mother called him T-Bow, a shortening of his middle name Thibaux, and it soon became T-Bone. By the time he was 10, T-Bone was accompanying his stepfather at drive-in soft-drink stands. Around the same time, he became the "lead boy" for Blind Lemon Jefferson, who was the most popular and influential country bluesman of the Twenties. From 1920 to 1923, Walker would lead Jefferson down Texas streets.

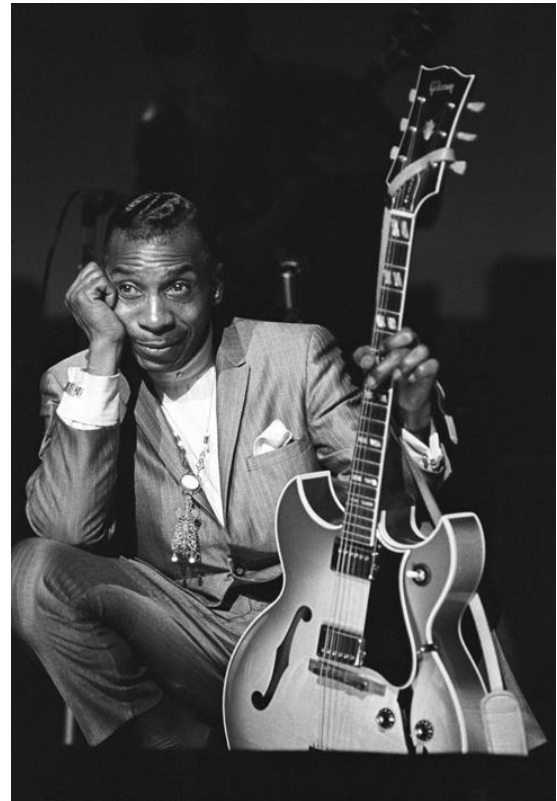
While still in his teens, Walker, who was self-taught on guitar, banjo and ukulele, toured with a medicine show and with blues singer Ida Cox. In 1929, he began recording acoustic country blues under the name Oak Cliff T-Bone. In 1934, he moved to Los Angeles. He said he began playing amplified guitar shortly thereafter. If that is true, then he was one of the first major guitarists to go electric. And, indeed, he pioneered the electric guitar sound that helped create the blues and thus influence all popular music that followed. In 1939, Walker joined Les Hite's Cotton Club Orchestra. It was a rough-and-tumble big band whose alumni included Dizzy Gillespie and Lionel Hampton. With the Hite band, Walker perfected his flowing, homelike guitar licks and his mellow blues vocals. Over the next decade, he worked with both small groups and big bands, on the West Coast and on tours through the Midwest and all the way to New York.

He first recorded as T-Bone Walker in 1942 **/editor's note: no earlier, but he made the great "Mean Old World" for Capitol that year/**, and the following year **/editor's note: - no it was in 1947/** he had his biggest hit, "Call It Stormy Monday," which as "Stormy Monday Blues" or just "Stormy Monday" **/editor's note: he usual Earl Hines/Billy Eckstine mix-up/** has become one of the most frequently covered blues songs. Walker recorded for Black & White Records, the label that released "Stormy Monday," until 1947. He recorded other classics for the label, including "T-Bone Shuffle" and "West Side Lady." In 1950, Walker signed with Imperial Records, where he remained until 1954. At Imperial, he cut "The Hustle Is On," "Cold Cold Feeling," "Blue Moon," "Vida Lee" and "Party Girl." He then moved on to Atlantic Records. He recorded sessions in 1955, 1956 and 1959, and they were finally released in 1960 on the album *T-Bone Blues*. Walker's career began to slow down during the Sixties. He made an appearance at the American Folk Blues Festival in 1962, performing with Memphis Slim and Willie Dixon, among others. In 1968, he released the album *I Want a Little Girl*. And, in 1971, he won the Grammy Award for Best Ethnic or Traditional Folk Recording for the album *Good Feelin'*.

In 1973, Walker climaxed his recording career with the double album *Very Rare*. It was produced by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, and they assembled an all-star cast of jazz veterans and young studio pros to honor the great bluesman. The following year, Walker became inactive after he was hospitalized with bronchial pneumonia. He died from the disease on March 16, 1975. T-Bone Walker's single-string solos influenced blues players like B.B. King and such rockers as Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughan. As Pete Welding wrote: "T-Bone Walker is the fundamental source of the modern urban style of playing and singing the blues. The blues was different before he came onto the scene, and it hasn't been the same since."



## T-BONE's (nostalgia) GALLERY pt 2



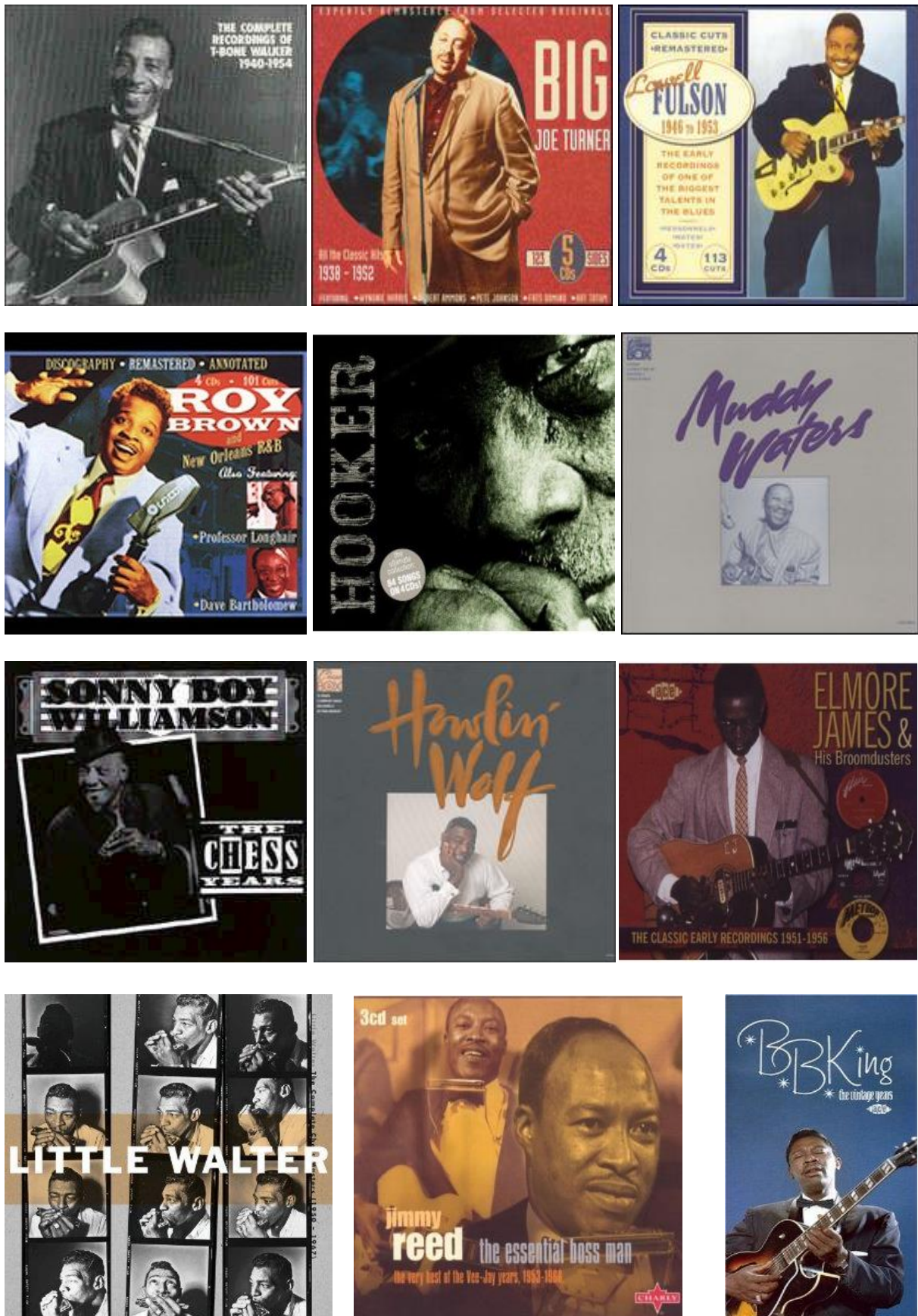
T-Bone Walker and Lottie the Body performing.





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SOME FINE CD-BOXES (in order of artist presentations)





## BIG JOE – THE BOSS OF THE BLUES



Inserted: Acrobat Music 2-set CD ADDCD3275 "The Singles Collection 1950-60" (55 tracks) featuring A- and B-sides on all Atlantic sides and selected singles pre-1952.

# BIG JOE TURNER



"The Boss of the Blues" - Jazz/blues singer - the original and ultimate Blues Shouter with roots in Kansas City and an important link between R&B and R&R. Moved to L.A. in 1941. Recorded in Kansas, New York, L.A., Texas, and N.O. Made his debut with pianist Pete Johnson, with whom he worked during several terms, and later worked with several band constellations. Was on the decline when Atlantic's Herb Abramson (who had produced him for National) "picked him up" and re-introduced him with Harry Van Walls billed at the piano. Worked with KC veteran Jesse Stone, arranger/coach for Atlantic Records. Several mid '50s records billed as Joe Turner & His Blues Kings (using legendary N.O., Chicago and N.Y. jazz and blues musicians). Mostly billed as Joe Turner on singles, but later on as "Big" Joe Turner on several LPs. Member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1983, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

**Born:** Joseph Vernon Turner May 18, 1911, Kansas City, Missouri.  
**Died:** of heart attack November 24, 1985, Inglewood, Calif.  
**First recordings:** Live at Carnegie Hall, NYC December 23, 1938 It's All Right Baby (aka Roll 'Em Pete) / Low Down Dog - issued on Vanguard in 1959. N.Y. December 30, 1938 Roll 'Em Pete / Goin' Away Blues - Vocalion 4607; June 30, 1939 Cherry Red Vocalion 4997; first post-war rec N.Y. February 1945 S.K. Blues - National 9010.  
**Records for:** Vocalion 1939, Decca 40-44, National 45-47, Aladdin 1947, Freedom 49-50, Imperial 1949, Atlantic 51-62, Bluesway 1967, Kent 1970.

**Essential CD:** The Very Best of... Rhino R2 72968 (1998) or Big, Bad & Blue-The Big Joe Turner Anthology (3CD) - Rhino R2 71550 (1994) or The Definitive Blues Collection (2CD) - Rhino 122748 (2007)  
**For Collectors:**  
 All The Classic Hits 1938-1952 (5CDbox) - JSP 7709 (2003) or The Essential '40s Collection (2CD) - Acrobat ADDCD3069 (2011) and Rocks - Bear Family BCD 17215AR (2011)

**Reading:**  
 Honkers and Shouters - The Golden Years of Rhythm & Blues by Arnold Shaw (Collier Books, US 1978)

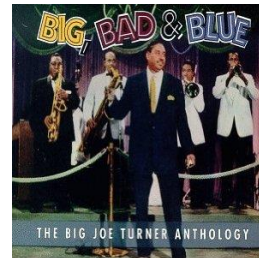
## JOE TURNER, vocals "BIG-SIX"

1. **Joe Turner with Bill Moore's Lucky Seven Band**  
 - Los Angeles, January 23, 1946:  
 NSC 142 **My Gal's A Jockey** - National 4002 (#6, 1w total)
2. **Joe Turner with Van "Piano Man" Walls**  
 - New York, January 20, 1952:  
 A 787 **Sweet Sixteen** - Atlantic 960 (#3, 8w)
3. **Joe Turner and his Band** (featuring Pluma Davis, tbn and Kathy Thomas, pno) - New Orleans, May 12, 1953:  
 A 1073 **Honey Hush** - Atlantic 1001 (#1 for 8w, 25w)
4. **Joe Turner and His Blues Kings** (featuring Edward Frank, pno)  
 - New Orleans, December 3, 1953:  
 A 1220 **You Know I Love You** - Atlantic 1026 (1954)
5. (featuring Sam Taylor, sax)  
 - New York, February 15, 1954:  
 A 1209 **Shake, Rattle And Roll** - Atlantic 1026 (#1 for 3w, 32w)
6. (with Howard Biggs, arr)  
 - New York, January 28, 1955:  
 A 1425 **Hide And Seek** - Atlantic 1069 (#3, 12w)



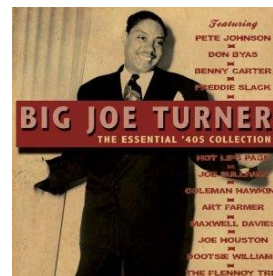
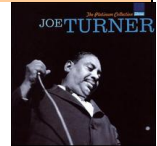
## First LPs:

The Boss Of The Blues Sings Kansas City Jazz - Atlantic LP 1234 (1956)  
 Joe Turner Rock and Roll - Atlantic LP 8005 (1957)  
 Blues'll Make You Happy - Savoy MG 14012 (1958)  
 Careless Love - Savoy MG 14016 (June 1958)



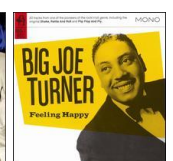
## R&B Top 10 Hits: (17 of 20 Top 40)

- |      |  |           |
|------|--|-----------|
| 1945 | S.K. Blues (with Pete Johnson's All Stars) | #3        |
| 1946 | My Gal's A Jockey                          | #6        |
| 1950 | Still In The Dark                          | #9        |
| 1951 | Chains Of Love                             | #2        |
| 1952 | The Chill Is On                            | #3        |
| 1952 | Sweet Sixteen                              | #3        |
| 1952 | Don't You Cry                              | #5        |
| 1953 | <b>Honey Hush</b>                          | #1 for 8w |
| 1953 | T.V. Mama                                  | #6        |
| 1954 | <b>Shake, Rattle And Roll</b>              | #1 for 3w |
| 1954 | Well All Right                             | #9        |
| 1954 | Flip, Flop And Fly                         | #2        |
| 1955 | Hide And Seek                              | #3        |
| 1956 | Morning, Noon And Night                    | #8        |
| 1956 | The Chicken & The Hawk                     | #7        |
| 1956 | Corrine Corrina                            | #2        |
| 1956 | Lipstick Powder And Paint                  | #8        |



## Just for Your Thrill:

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1938 | It's All Right Baby (with Pete Johnson) |
| 1939 | Cherry Red (with Pete Johnson)          |
| 1940 | Piney Brown Blues                       |
| 1941 | Blues On Central Avenue                 |
| 1944 | Rebecca (Big Joe Turner)                |
| 1945 | Johnson & Turner Blues                  |
| 1947 | New Oh-Wee Baby Blues                   |
| 1948 | Tell Me Pretty Baby                     |
| 1949 | Blues Jumped A Rabbit                   |
| 1953 | Married Woman                           |
| 1954 | You Know I Love You                     |
| 1954 | In The Evening                          |
| 1956 | Roll 'Em Pete                           |
| 1957 | <b>Red Sails In The Sunset</b>          |
| 1958 | <b>Feeling Happy</b>                    |
| 1958 | (I'm Gonna) Jump For Joy                |





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### The Very Best of Big Joe Turner – part I: the 1940s (plus)

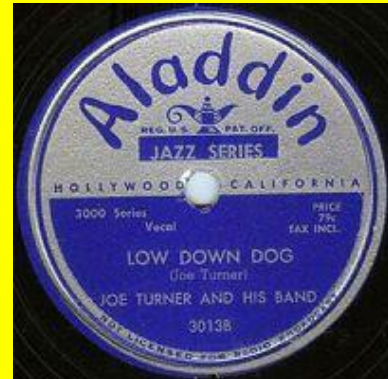
His Classic Early Years - with locations and dates of recording.



New York December 30, 1938, New York June 30, 1939, New York November 11, 1940.



Los Angeles, September 8, 1941, Chicago October 30, 1944, New York February 2, 1945.



Los Angeles January 23, 1946, Chicago October 12, 1946, New York November 6, 1947.



Los Angeles June 28 1948 (Down Beat single 173 "Tell Me Pretty Baby" – Joe Turner's Orchestra featuring Pete Johnson).  
New Orleans April 1950 (remixed/edited Imperial recording, issued on Bayou in 1953).  
Houston August 24, 1950 ("Still In The Dark" on Freedom 1531- Joe Turner and Orchestra).



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### The Very Best of Big Joe Turner – part II: the 1950s (plus)

The Atlantic Years - with locations and dates of recording.



**1951**



**1951**



**1952**



**1953**

Two songs recorded in New York April 19, 1951; New York January 20, 1952; New Orleans May 12, 1953.



**1953**



**1953**



**1954**



**1954**

Chicago October 7, 1953; Two songs recorded in New Orleans December 3, 1953 ("Married Woman" - flip of "Well All Right" - and "You Know I love You" - flip of "Shake, Rattle And Roll") The plug sides were recorded in New York February 15, 1954.



**1954**



**1954**



**1955**



**1955**

New York February 15, 1954 (which also was the recording date of "In The Evenin' When The Sun Goes Down" on EP 565; the last two recorded in New York January 28, 1955.



**1956**



**1957**



**1958**



**1983**

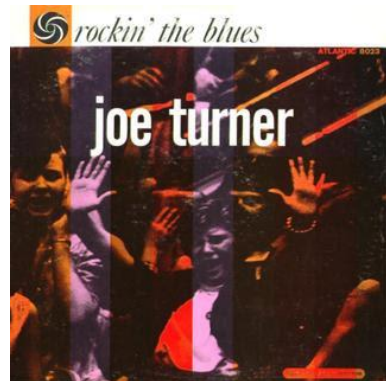
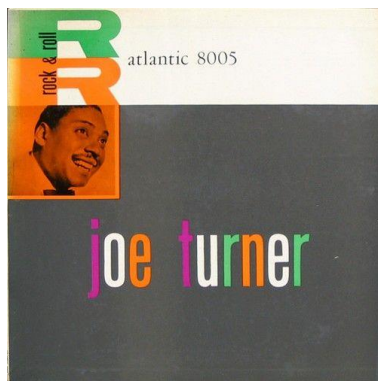
New York February 24, 1956; New York November 20, 1956 (issued February 1957); New York January 22, 1958; "Red Sails In The Sunset" re-recording 1983 ("Blues Train" LP) with Roomful of Blues (originally recorded by Joe in 1957)..



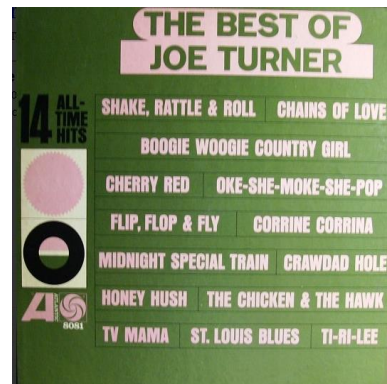
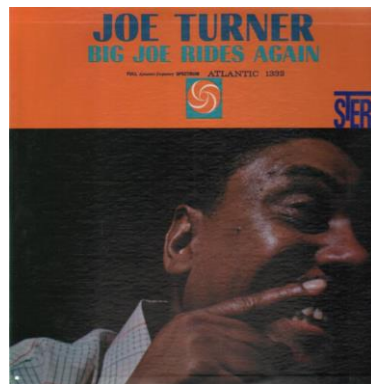
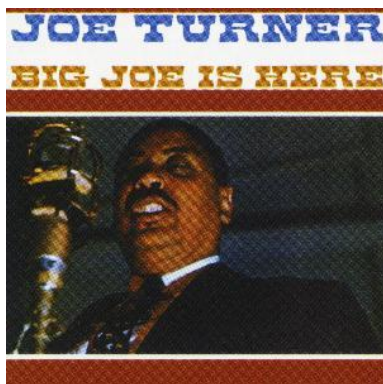
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### JOE TURNER ON ATLANTIC RECORDS LPs

Here are the original Atlantic LPs by Joe Turner. The 12/1300-series was the Jazz series and 8000-series the Pop.



1234 The Boss of the Blues (1956), 8005 Joe Turner: rock & roll (1957), 8023 Rockin' the Blues (1958)



8033 Big Joe Is Here (1959), 1332 Big Joe Rides Again (1959), 8081 The Best of Joe Turner (1963)

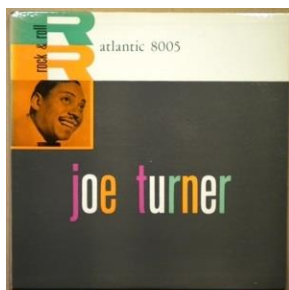
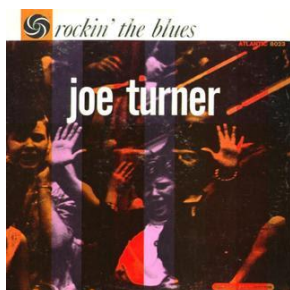


Atco SD 33-376 His Greatest Recordings (1971), SD-8812 The Boss of the Blues (1981, reissue of 1234), Atlantic 81663 Rhythm & Blues Years (2LP 1986)



Atlantic 81752 Greatest Hits (1987), Rhino R2 71550 Big Bad & Blue / The Big Joe Turner Anthology (3CD-set 1994), Rhino 122748 The Definitive Blues Collection (2CD 2007). Note that Turner was not labelled Big Joe until the later years on Atlantic.

## JOE TURNER: THREE FINE ATLANTIC COMPILATIONS

Atlantic LP 8005: *Rock and Roll - Joe Turner* (1957)Atlantic LP 8023: *Rockin' The Blues* (12/58)**Tracks 8005:**

Shake, Rattle And Roll / Flip, Flop And Fly / Feeling Happy / Well All Right / The Chicken And The Hawk / Boogie Woogie Country Girl / Honey Hush // Corrine Corrina / Midnight Special Train / Hide And Seek / Oke-She-Moke-She-Pop / Crawdad Hole / Sweet Sixteen / Chains Of Love

**Tracks 8023:**

We're Gonna Jump For Joy / Teen Age Letter / Love Roller Coaster / Lipstick Powder And Paint / Morning Noon And Night / I Need A Girl / Red Sails In The Sunset // Blues In The Night / After A While / World Of Trouble / TV Mama / You Know I Love You / Still In Love

**DISCOGRAPHY:** (Tracks listed chronologically – titles marked \* are important "bonus" tracks. The discography has at least one song per session 1951-1958). Joe Turner, vocal on all tracks; master number and original singles issues noted (all on Atlantic with best position on any of the Billboard's R&B Charts).

**Joe Turner with Van "Piano Man" Walls & His Orchestra**

brass, reeds; Harry Van Walls,p; rhythm section

NYC, April 19, 1951

A 600	The Chill Is On *	949 (#9)
A 603	Chains Of Love	939 (#2)

Taft Jordan,tp; Budd Johnson,as; Freddie Mitchell,ts; Ernest "Pinky" Williams,bs; Harry Van Walls,p; Rector Bailey,g; Leonard Gaskin,b; Connie Kay,d

NYC, January 20, 1952

A 787	Sweet Sixteen	960 (#3)
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Joe Morris,tp; Salvatore Davis,tb; Freddie Mitchell,ts; William Burchett, Ernest "Pinky" Williams,ass; Dave McRae,bs; Harry Van Walls,p; poss Shebs Hobbs,g; b, d.

NYC, September 23, 1952

A 906	Still In Love (With You)	982
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**Joe Turner & His Band**

Frank Mitchell, Tommy Sheldon,tps; Pluma Davis,tb; Auguste "Dimes" Dupont,as; Warren Hebrard,ts; poss.unknown barsax; Kathy Thomas,p; Edgar Blanchard,g; John Fernandez,b; Alonzo Stewart,d; Joe Turner,prod

New Orleans, May 12, 1953

A 1073	Honey Hush	1001 (#1)
A 1074	Crawdad Hole	1001

**Joe Turner & His Blues Kings**

Sonny Cohn,tp; Harlan Floyd or John Avant,tb; Grady Jackson, Joe Tillman,tss; McKinley Easton,bs; Little Johnny Jones, pno; Elmore James,g; Jimmy Richardson,b; Red Saunders,d

Chicago, October 7, 1953

A 1126	Ti-Ri-Lee	1053
A 1127	Oke-She-Moke-She-Pop	1016
A 1128	TV Mama	1016 (#6)

There are alternate recordings of A1126 (recorded January 28, 1955 – A1425) and A1127 (recorded May 12, 1953 – A1072). Regular mix-ups have been published in several discographies concerning this (maybe even this editor has got it wrong?)

John Girard,tp; Worthia Thomas,tb; Gus Fontenette,as; Joe Tillman, ts; Alvin "Red" Tyler,bs; Edward Frank,p; Lloyd Lambert,b; Oscar Moore,d

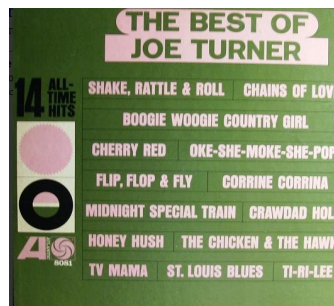
New Orleans, December 3, 1953

A 1220	You Know I Love You	1026
A 1225	Married Woman *	1040

unknown tp; Wilbur DeParis,tb; Sam Taylor,ts; Haywood Henry,bs; Harry "Van" Walls (or poss Jesse Stone),p; Mickey Baker,g; Lloyd Trotman,b; Connie Kay,d; prob Jesse Stone, Ahmet Ertegun and Jerry Wexler,vcls-1

NYC, February 15, 1954

A 1209	Shake, Rattle And Roll	1026 (#1)
A 1211	In The Evening (when the sun goes down) *	EP 565
A 1212	Well All Right -1	1040 (#9)

Atlantic LP 8081: *The Best of Joe Turner* (8/63)**Tracks:**

Shake, Rattle and Roll / Chains of Love / Honey Hush / Flip, Flop and Fly / The Chicken and the Hawk / Midnight Special Train / Oke-She-Moke-She-Pop // Corrine Corrina / Cherry Red / St. Louis Blues / Boogie Woogie Country Girl / Crawdad Hole / Ti-Ri-Lee / TV Mama

**Joe Turner & His Blues Kings**

tp; as; Al Sears,ts; prob Jesse Stone,p, b; prob Connie Kay,d; poss Howard Biggs,cond, vcl chorus

NYC, January 28, 1955

A 1424	Morning, Noon And Night	1080 (#8)
A 1426	Hide And Seek	1069 (#3)
A 1427	Flip, Flop And Fly	1053 (#2)

tp; Wilbur DeParis,tb; ts; Haywood Henry,bs; Harry Van Walls,p; g; b; Connie Kay,d; ens.vcl-1

NYC, November 3, 1955

A 1687	The Chicken And The Hawk (Up, Up And Away) -1	1080 (#7)
A 1688	Boogie Woogie Country Girl	1088 (flip hit)

**Joe Turner with Chorus and Orchestra** (also listed as & his All Stars) Jimmy Nottingham, Dick Vance,tps; Earl Warren,as; Sam Taylor,ts; Ernie Hayes,p; George Barnes and Billy Mure,gs; Lloyd Trotman,b; David "Panama" Francis,d; The Cookies,vcl-group

NYC, February 24, 1956

A 1884	Corrine, Corrina	1088 (#2)
A 1885	Lipstick Powder and Paint	1100 (#8)

**Joe Turner**

Joe Newman,tp; Lawrence Brown,tb; Pete Brown,as; Frank Wess,ts; Pete Johnson,p; Freddie Green,g; Walter Page,b; Cliff Leeman,d

NYC, March 6, 1956

A 1917	Cherry Red	issued on LP 1234
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Jimmy Nottingham,tp; Lawrence Brown,tb; Pete Brown,as; Seldon Powell,ts; Pete Johnson,p; Freddie Green,g; Walter Page,b; Cliff Leeman,d

NYC, March 7, 1956

A 1922	St. Louis Blues	issued on LP 1234
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**Joe Turner and his Blues Kings**

unknown brass, reeds, rhythm; vocal chorus -1

NYC, November 20, 1956

A 2219	After Awhile -1	1131
A 2220	Midnight Special Train	1122
A 2221	Red Sails In The Sunset -1	1131
A 2223	Feelin' Happy -1	1122

**Joe Turner with Choker Campell's Orch**

Phil Guilleau,tp; Melvin Juanzo,tb; Choker Campbell,ts; p; g; b; poss Chick Booth,d

NYC, May 13, 1957

A 2535	World Of Trouble	1146
A 2536	Love Roller Coaster	1146 (#12)
A 2637	I Need A Girl	1155

**Joe Turner with Jesse Stone's Band**

Jerome Richardson and Sam Taylor,ass; Mike Stoller,p; Allen Hanlon and Mundell Lowe,gs; Lloyd Trotman,b; Panama Francis,d; vclgrp

NYC, October 2, 1957

A 2802	Teen Age Letter	1167
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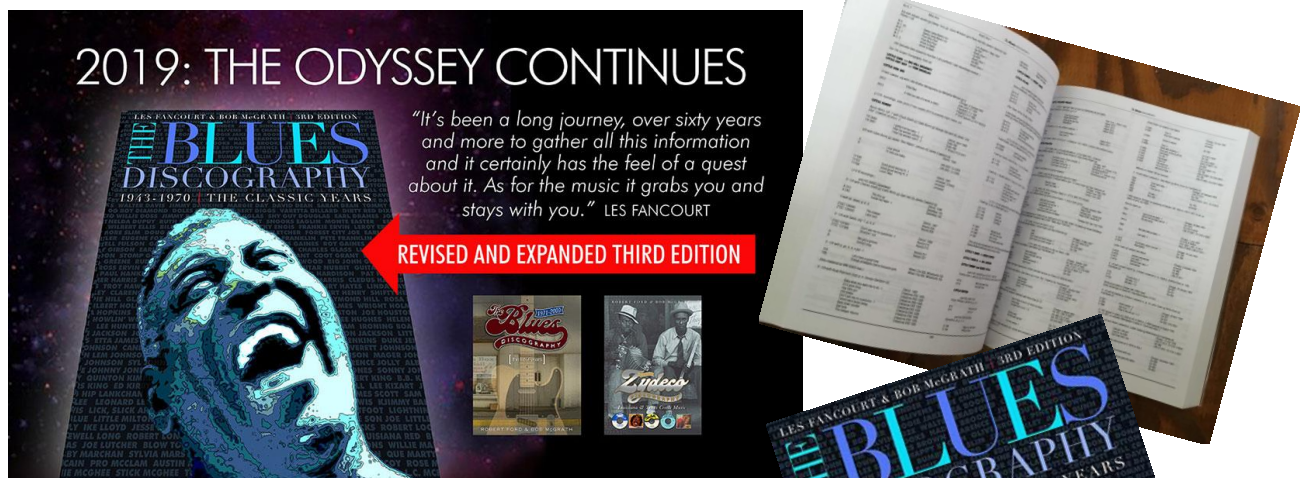
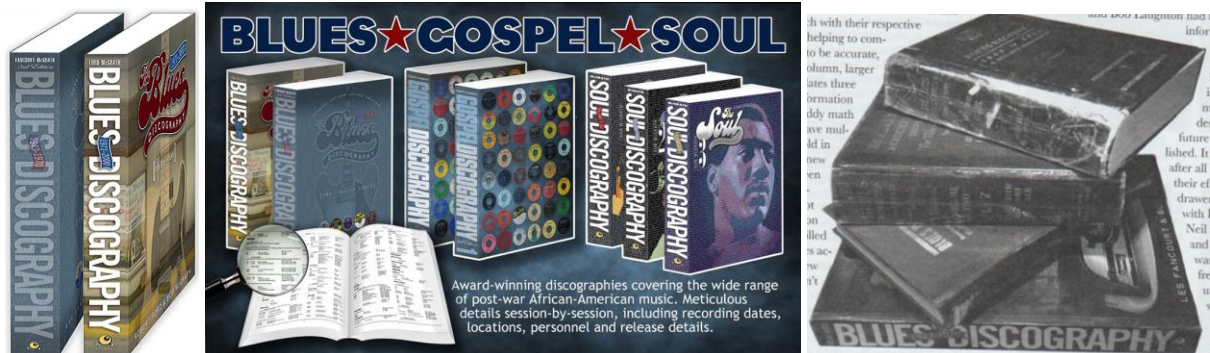
**Joe Turner with Howard Bigg's Orchestra**

Mike Chimes,hca-1; Hilton Jefferson,as; King Curtis,ts; Howard Biggs,p; George Barnes and Billy Mure,gs; Lloyd Trotman,b; Panama Francis,d; vclgrp -2

NYC, January 22, 1958

A 2930	(We're Gonna) Jump For Joy -1	1184 (#15)
A 2931	Blues In The Night -2	1184





## THE BLUES DISCOGRAPHY, THE CLASSIC YEARS 1943-70 NEW EXPANDED AND REVISED THIRD EDITION

It's the fiftieth anniversary of our trailblazing predecessor Blues Records. This new edition continues the adventure, filling gaps and revising details. The artist roster has been increased and album headings have been added, resulting in about seven times the content of the original. Around 1300 artists are now covered. Slightly changing the format has significantly reduced the page count. The Discography is listed alphabetically by artist and chronologically by session master or matrix numbers. Personnel details, unissued titles and original release details are included. A full cross-referenced accompanying musician's index follows the discography. Softback 775 large format (8.5" X 11") pages. \$99 plus shipping.

### THE BLUES DISCOGRAPHY 1971-2000

The blues rolled on long after 1970 and kept on rolling to an ever expanding international audience. Finally these later decades are given the same dignity and attention as given to the earlier years with the publication of this second volume. Compiled by Robert Ford over the last 20 years with the help of many contributors and produced by Bob McGrath, this new companion volume seamlessly continues from where The Blues Discography 1943-1970 [the classic years] left off. Continuing the careers of many artists from the first volume as well as introducing lots of new blood. 1190 artists are covered in all, shedding light on the later years leading to the millennium. The same format is used as the classic years volume, alphabetical by artist, (exclusively African American), chronologically by session, listing personnel details plus an LP/CD index. Softback 579 pages (8.5" X 11").

THE SOUL DISCOGRAPHY is currently sold out.  
If there is enough interest, there will be a second printing.  
To get on a waiting list, email [bob@eyeballproductions.com](mailto:bob@eyeballproductions.com)

**LOWELL FULSON – Tulsa Red**



**LOWELL FULSON**

Direction  
SHAW ARTISTS CORPORATION  
565 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, New York



# LOWELL FULSON



"Tulsa Red" - Leading and versatile guitarist /singer, one of the great, and often underrated legends - keeping the Texas blues traditions alive. Started out in Oklahoma, moved to Gainville, Texas and came to Oakland, California in 1943. Busy in the studios during great parts of his career. Had four major career stages: 1. The DownBeat/SwingTime Oakland phase (1946-1953), 2. The Checker Texas/Chicago/LA phase (1954-1963), 3. The "Fulson" Kent/Maxwell Davis LA phase (1964-1969), and 4. The Legend (1970-1999). Worked with pianist Lloyd Glenn - and with Ray Charles during the early '50s - produced by Jack Lauderdale on his early hits. After his Checker years he joined Kent Records (owned by the Biharis; and was produced by Maxwell Davis). Manager in later years: Fats Washington. Sometimes worked with the prolific Jimmy McCracklin during his successful Kent era, stationed in Los Angeles. Billed **Lowell Fulson** from 1965 and into the '70s. Member of Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1993.

**Born:** March 31, 1921, Atoka, Oklahoma (moved to Tulsa for a while)  
**Died** of kidney failure March 7, 1999 in Long Beach, Calif.  
**First recordings:** Oakland 1946 Crying Blues / You're Gonna Miss Me - BigTown 1068.  
**Records for:** Big Town/Down Beat 46-47, SwingTime 49-53, Aladdin 1953, Checker 54-63, Kent 64-69, Jewel 69-70.

## Essential CDs:

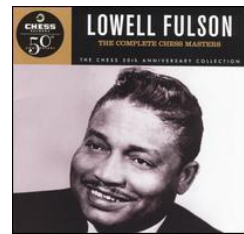
The Complete Chess Masters (2CD) – MCA/Chess 9394 (1987)  
 and Tramp / Soul - Ace CDCHD 339 (1991) and  
 Juke Box Shuffle: A Proper Introduction - Proper CD 2042 (2004)

## For collectors:

The Tramp Years - Ace CDCHD 755 (2000)  
 Lowell Fulson 1946 to 1953: The Early Recordings - JSP (4CD BOX) JSPCD7728 (113 tracks - simply great, 2004)  
**And Don't Miss** the CDs on page 16

## Reading:

The Real Rhythm and Blues by Hugh Gregory (Blandford UK, 1998)



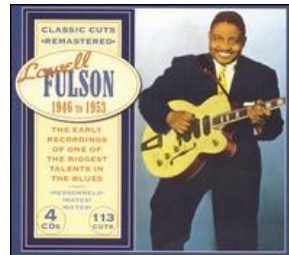
## First LPs:

Lowell Fulson (Early Recordings) – Arhoolie LP R 2003 (1962)  
 Soul (Lowell Fulson) - Kent LP (1966)  
 Every Day I Have The Blues – Ember UK LP SPE 6601 (1967)  
**Rare LP:** Lowell Fulson (2LP) – Chess 2ACMB-205 (1976)



## LOWELL FULSON, vocals/guitar "HI-FIVE"

- Lowell Fulson's Combo** (featuring Earl Brown, sax; Lloyd Glenn, pno) - Los Angeles, 1949/50:  
 196 **Everyday I Have The Blues** – SwingTime 196 (#3, 24w total)
- Lowell Fulson featuring Lloyd Glenn at the "88"**  
 - Los Angeles, 1950:  
 A 787 **Blue Shadows** – SwingTime 226 (#1 for 4w, 22w)
- Lowell Fulson** (featuring David Newman, sax)  
 - Dallas, September 27, 1954:  
 U 7711 **Reconsider Baby** – Checker 804 (#3, 15w)
- Lowell Fulson** (featuring Maxwell Davis, arr)  
 - Los Angeles, 1965:  
 431 **Black Nights** - Kent 431 (#11, 12w in 1966)
- Los Angeles, September 1966:  
 456 **Tramp** – Kent 456 (#5, 13w in 1967)

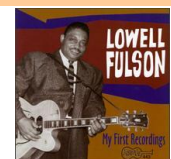


## R&B Top 10 Hits: (9 of 14 Top 40)

- |      |  |           |
|------|--|-----------|
| 1948 | Three O'Clock Blues                        | #6        |
| 1950 | Everyday I Have The Blues                  | #3        |
| 1950 | <b>Blue Shadows</b>                        | #1 for 4w |
| 1950 | Low Society Blues (instr with Lloyd Glenn) | #8        |
| 1950 | <b>Old Time Shuffle Blues</b>              |           |
|      | (instr as Lloyd Glenn and Th' Fulson Unit) | #3        |
| 1950 | Lonesome Christmas                         | #7        |
| 1951 | I'm A Night Owl                            | #10       |
| 1954 | Reconsider Baby                            | #3        |
| 1967 | Tramp (Lowell Fulson)                      | #5        |

## Some Other Goodies:

- |      |                                      |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1947 | San Francisco Blues (as Fulson Trio) |
| 1952 | Guitar Shuffle (instr)               |
| 1953 | There Is A Time For Everything       |
| 1955 | <b>Loving You</b>                    |
| 1956 | Trouble Trouble                      |
| 1956 | Tollin' Bells                        |
| 1958 | That's All Right                     |
| 1960 | I Want To Know                       |
| 1960 | Blue Shadows (Checker Rec.)          |
| 1964 | Baby                                 |
| 1964 | Everytime It Rains                   |
| 1965 | Black Nights                         |
| 1967 | Year Of 29                           |
| 1967 | Tomorrow                             |
| 1969 | Sleeper                              |
| 1969 | Price For Love                       |
| 1970 | My Baby                              |
| 1970 | The Ol' Blues Singer                 |



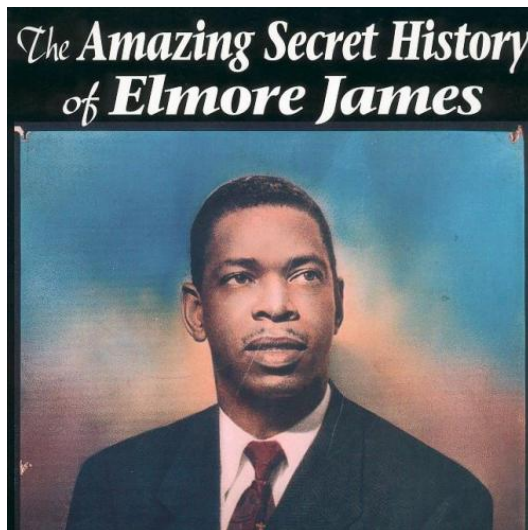
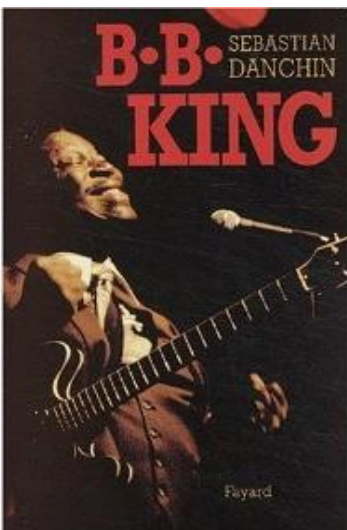
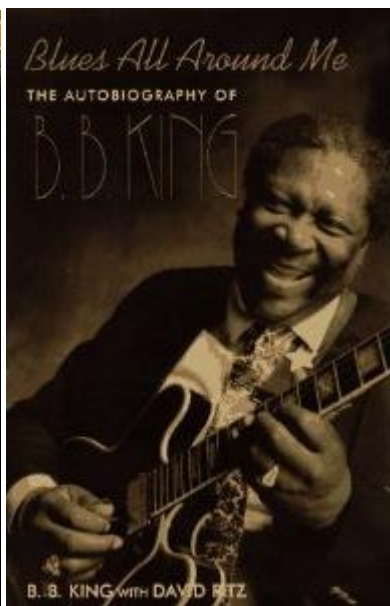
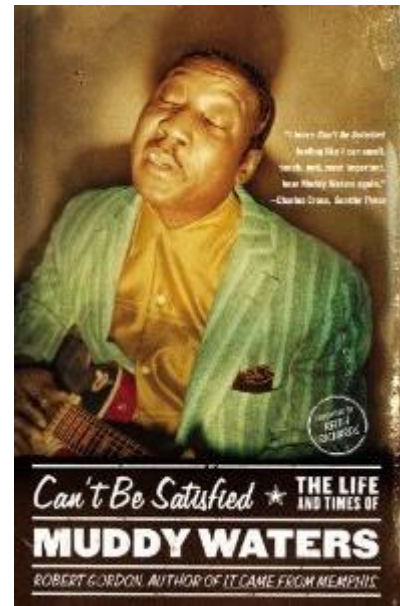
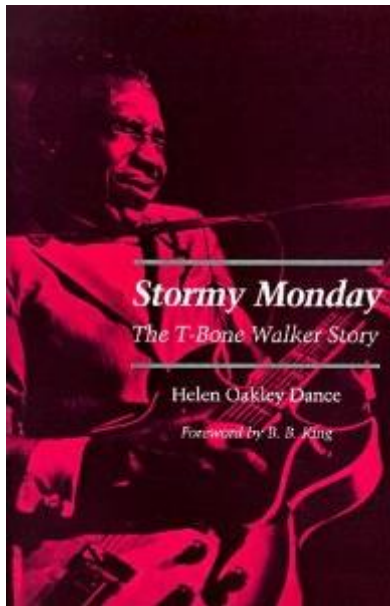
A COUPLE OF LOWELL'S LATEST CDs





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SOME BIOGRAPHIES (Sonny Boy, Wolf, Little Walter, and Jimmy Reed - see presentations)



**THE MIGHTY-MIGHTY MAN – Good Rockin' Brown**



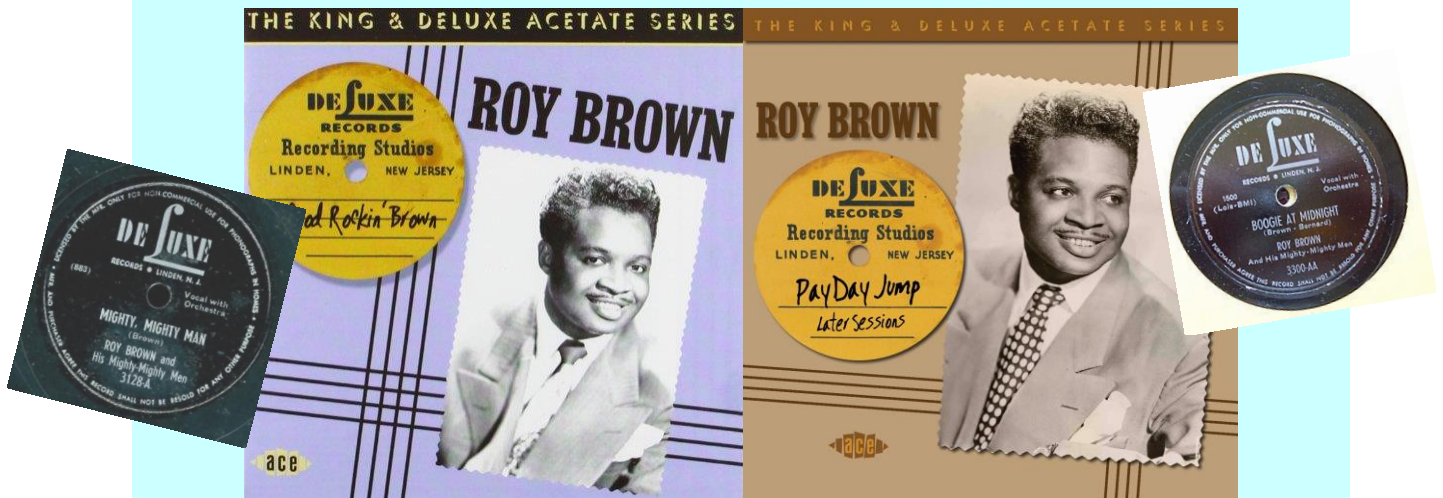
Inserted: A 30-track Hoodoo CD (263588, 2018) featuring his whole career.



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

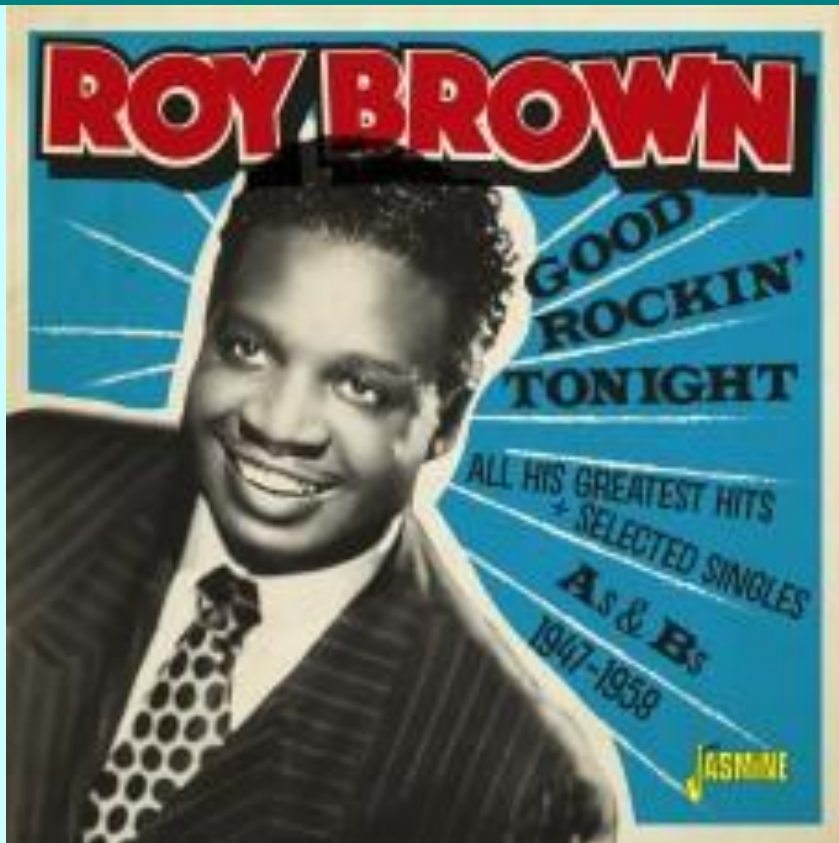
### RB – TWO GREAT ACE CDs

Don't miss these great super-sounding CDs, containing great acetates from Roy's early DeLuxe recordings (several alternates and even more unissued ones). Spanning from July 1947 to June 1950, and covering every session he made. A total of 48 tracks. Produced by Tony Rounce.



CDCHD 1072 with recordings from 1947 (issued 2005), and CDTOP 1423 with recordings from 1949-1950 (issued 2015)

### RB – His Chrono Jasmine 2-set issued 2018

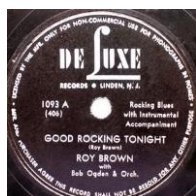
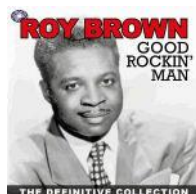


JASMCD 3098 (produced by Bob Fisher)

The 59 tracks CD features every one of his chart hits, - hits that made him one of the most influential R&B stars of the 1950s.

The CD-pak has the original versions of "Mighty, Mighty Man" and "Fanny Brown" (1128 in 1947) although listed as the re-recorded 3128 (1949).

# ROY BROWN



"The Mighty Mighty Man" - "Good Rockin' Brown" - New Orleans-based singer (sometimes pianist) and originator of the "crying blues" - later regarded as the main influence for Rhythm & Soul. He formed a gospel group as a teenager, and became a professional boxer. Started secular singing after the war, working especially in Texas (he landed in Houston at age 14), and became one of the most important originators of the New Orleans R&B sound with his "Mighty, Mighty Men" and "taught" the crying to such greats as B.B. King, Clyde McPhatter, Jackie Wilson, Little Richard, Elvis Presley, and many others. Started his hit career on the Braun brothers DeLuxe (who were stationed in New Jersey but made records in New Orleans) which was bought up by Syd Nathan's King Records in August, 1948 - who reissued all the early DeLuxe tracks, originally in the 1000-series on a new 3000-series - the most famous being remastered versions of Miss Fanny Brown c/w Mighty Mighty Man (originally issued on DeLuxe 1128 in late 1947 and reissued in the new versions on DeLuxe 3128 in early 1949 - these two great recuts are sure improvements and are not on any of Brown's late Rhino, Classics, Collectables or Ace early CD compilations, but can be found on the CD "Hard Luck & Good Rocking"). Wynonie Harris recorded a cover of Brown's classic "Good Rockin' Tonight" on King 4210 in Cincinnati on December 28, 1947, which topped the charts in 1948. Nathan also recorded Brown in Cincinnati, Ohio. Roy later also worked in Memphis and moved to California during later years of his "ups & downs" career. Member of Blues the Foundation Hall of Fame in 1981.

**Born:** Roy James Brown September 10, 1920 (not 1925), Kinder Allen Parish, Louisiana. **Died** May 25, 1981, Los Angeles, Calif.  
**First recordings:** Houston, Tex 1947 Deep Sea Diver / Bye Baby Bye - Gold Star 636 and New Orleans July 1947 Good Rocking Tonight / Lolly Pop Mama - DeLuxe 1093.  
**Records for:** DeLuxe 47-48, DeLuxe/King 49-51, King 52-55, Imperial 56-58, King 1959, Home of the Blues 1960, Bluesway 67-68

## Essential CDs:

Good Rockin' Man - The Definitive Collection (2CD) - Fantastic Voyage  
 50 great songs 1947-1960 (2011) or  
 Good Rocking Tonight - The Best of... - Rhino R2 71545 (1994) or  
 Rockin' At Midnight - The Very Best of... Collectables COL 2882  
 (25 chronological tracks) (2004)

**And Don't Miss the two Ace CDs issued 2005 CDCHD 1072 and 2015 CDTOP 1423, containing alternates and original acetates 1947-1950 !**

## CD for Collectors:

Roy Brown and New Orleans R&B (4CD) - JSP 7756 (2005) featuring 50 Roy Brown tracks plus Professor Longhair and Dave Bartholomew

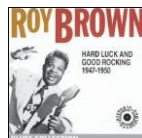
## Editor's choices:

The Chronological Roy Brown 1947-1949 - Classics 5021 (2001) and 1950-1951 - Classics 5036 (2002) or Blues DeLuxe 1950-1951 - Charly CD 289 (1991), plus 1951-1953 Classics 5090 (2004).

The CDs cover the complete issued single recordings of Roy Brown between 1947 and 1953 in chronological order (except for the remakes of early 1949 - see above. 5036 & 289 have same tracks).

## For Collectors:

Hard Luck & Good Rocking 1947-1950 - EPM CD 16017 (2002)  
 Mighty Mighty Man! - Ace CDCHD 459 (1953-1960) (1993)  
 Saturday Night! (1952-1957) - El Toro R&B 112 (2008)



## Reading:

King of the Queen City - The Story of King Records by Jon Hartley  
 Fox (US 2009)

## First LPs:

Battle of the Blues - Roy Brown / Wynonie Harris - King 607 (1957)  
 Sings 24 Hits - King LP 956 (1966)



## ROY BROWN, vocals "HI-FIVE"

### 1. Roy Brown with Bob Ogden & Orch.

- New Orleans, July 1947:

D-406 **Good Rocking Tonight** - DeLuxe 1093 (#13, 1w 1948) / DeLuxe 3093 (#11, 2w 1949) 3w total

### 2. Roy Brown and his Mighty Mighty Men

(featuring Batman Rankins, sax) - New Orleans, January 1949:

D-881 **Rockin' At Midnight** - DeLuxe 3212 (#2, 16w)

3. - New Orleans, January 1949, remade from Oct 1947 DeLuxe 1128:

D-882-2 **Miss Fanny Brown** - DeLuxe 3128 (#8, 1w total)

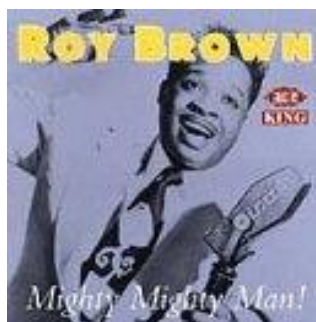
4. (featuring the Griffin brothers, pno and tbn)

- Cincinnati, April 19, 1950:

D-1513 **Hard Luck Blues** - DeLuxe 3304 (#1, 18w)

5. (featuring Edgar Blanchard, grt) - Cincinnati, May 15, 1950:

D-1516 **Love Don't Love Nobody** - DeLuxe 3306 (#2, 11w)



## R&B Top 10 Hits: (14 of 16 Top 40)

1948 **'Long About Midnight** #1 for 1w  
 1949 'Fore Day In The Morning #6  
 1949 Rainy Weather Blues #5  
 1949 Rockin' At Midnight #2  
 1949 Miss Fanny Brown #8  
 1949 Please Don't Go #9  
 1949 Boogie At Midnight #3  
 1950 **Hard Luck Blues** #1 for 3w  
 1950 Love Don't Love Nobody #2  
 1950 Long About Sundown #8  
 1950 Cadillac Baby #6  
 1951 **Big Town** #8  
 1952 Bar Room Blues #6  
 1957 **Let The Four Winds Blow** #5



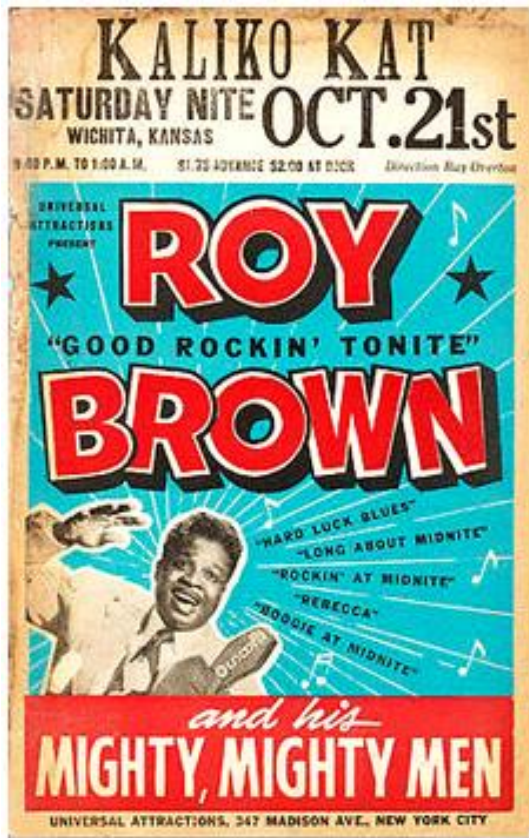
## Worthwhile Classics:

1947 Good Rocking Tonight  
 1947 Mighty, Mighty Man  
 1949 Butcher Pete  
 1950 Good Man Blues  
 1951 Beautician Blues  
 1952 Good Rockin' Man  
 1953 Laughing But Crying  
 1953 Travelin' Man  
 1954 Fannie Brown Got Married  
 1954 Worried Life Blues  
 1960 **Rocking All The Time**





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



### Roy Brown's DeLuxe session dates with repr. Recordings

Roy made some unissued recordings for Regal in New Orleans with Paul Gayten.

**New Orleans** (all early recordings made at Cosimo Matassa's J&M Studios):

July 1947 - Good Rocking Tonight (w. Bob Ogden & orch f. Earl Barnes,ts)

Sept 1947 - Special Lesson No 1 & Roy Brown Boogie (original version) (w. Walter Daniels, pno; Bill Jones, gtr)

Oct 1947 - Mighty, Mighty Man (w Earl M Barnes and his orchestra, featuring Leroy Rankins,ts and Bill Jones,gtr)

Oct 1947 - Miss Fanny Brown (and His Mighty-Mighty Men)

Dec 1947 - Long 'Bout Midnight (w Leroy "Batman" Rankins, sax)

Oct 1948 - Miss Fanny Brown Returns (single version w. "Batman", sax)

Jan 1949 - remakes of Miss Fanny Brown/Mighty, Mighty Man plus Rockin' At Midnight

March 22 - w. members of Lucky Millinder's orch (unissued at the time).

ca July 1949 - Please Don't Go (single version)

**Dallas:**

Sep 29, 1949 - Boogie At Midnight (w Johnny Fontenette, sax)

**Cincinnati:**

Nov 2, 1949 - Butcher Pete (w Leroy Rankins, sax)

Apr 19, 1950 - Hard Luck Blues & New Rebecca

(w Edward Griffin, pno & Jimmy Griffin, tromb)

June 15, 1950 - Love Don't Love Nobody

(w Leroy Rankins, sax & Edgar Blanchard, gtr)

June 22-23, 1950 - Bar Room Blues & Double Crossin' Woman

Jan 16, 1951 - Good Rockin' Man & Big Town (w Red Prysock)

Sep 27, 1951 - Brown Angel (w Johnny Fontenette)

Note: After this session Roy continued recording for King Records in New Orleans, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Miami up to 1956 when he was contracted to Imperial. Roy went back to King in 1959.



## CHICAGO BLUES GREATS

Still available? - some great compilations issued in later years (all originally issued during the new millennium, several recently).



**Little Walter** – The Complete Chess Masters (1950-1967)

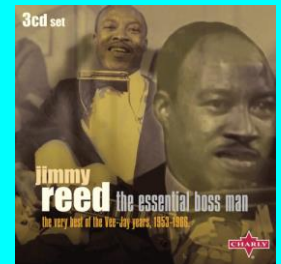
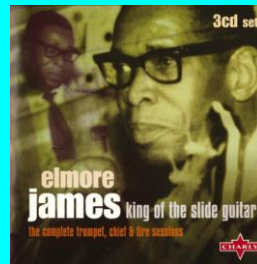
– Hip-O-Select (5CD) B0012646-02 (126 tracks)

**Muddy Waters** – Hoochie Coochie Man: The Complete Chess Masters

Volume 2, 1952-1958 – Hip-O-Select (2CD) B0002758-02 (51 tracks)

**Howlin' Wolf** – Smokestack Lightning, The Complete Chess Masters

1951-1959 – Hip-O-Select (4CD) 1530902 (97 tracks)

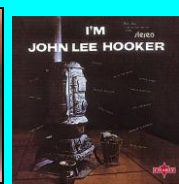
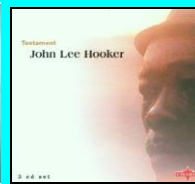
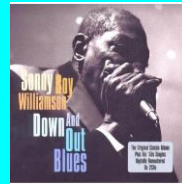


**Elmore James** – King of the slide guitar – The Complete Trumpet,

Chief & Fire Sessions – Charly (3CD) SNAJ722CD (63 tracks)

**Jimmy Reed** – The essential boss man – The Very Best of the

Vee-Jay Years, 1953-1966 – Charly (3CD) SNAJ728CD (76 tracks)



**Sonny Boy Williamson** – Down And Out Blues

– Not Now (2CD) NOT2CD356 (32 Trumpet and 16 early Checker)

**John Lee Hooker** – Testament – Charly (3CD) SNAJ705CD (60 tracks)

**I'm John Lee Hooker** – Charly SNAP130CD (16 tracks)

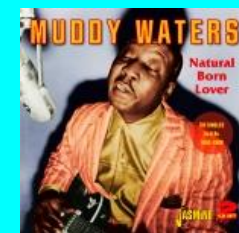
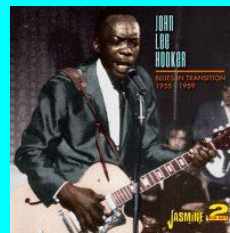
**Jasmine Records** – British Public domain 2CD-series.

<http://www.jasmine-records.co.uk/index.html>

Issued in 2010 and 2011 – probably much more to come.

Featuring "The singles, As and Bs". Each set has 50 tracks

(Muddy 54, Wolf 46)



**John Lee Hooker** - Blues In Transition 1955-1959 - JASCD 562

(featuring 25 Vee-Jay tracks and all tracks of the first two Riverside LPs)

**Little Walter** – Boom Boom 1952-1960 - JASCD 3015/6

**Muddy Waters** – Natural Born Lover 1953-60 - JASCD 3017/8

**Howlin' Wolf** – The Wolf is at your door 1951-1960 (Chess) - JASCD 3020/1



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

Available CDs by **ROY BROWN** (as of amazon.co.uk May 4, 2015)





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

.... and then **Some More** (including CDs and some LPs)



**JOHN LEE HOOKER – (and a 2016 “public domain on Union Square)**

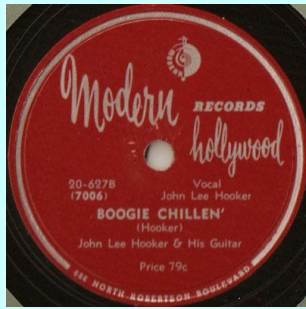
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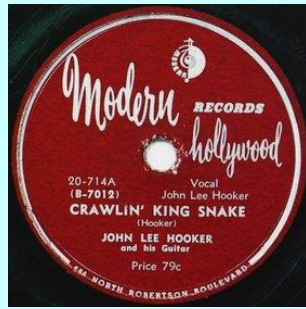


# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## JOHN LEE HOOKER - ONE RECORD PER YEAR 1948 – 1967



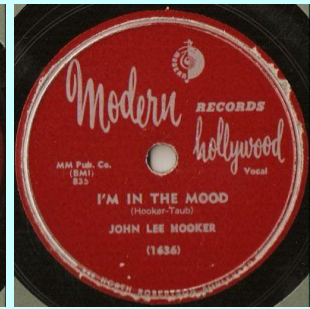
1948



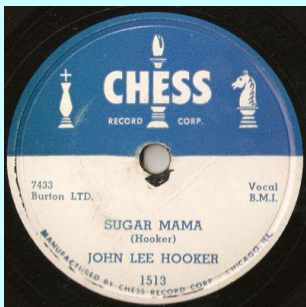
1949



1950



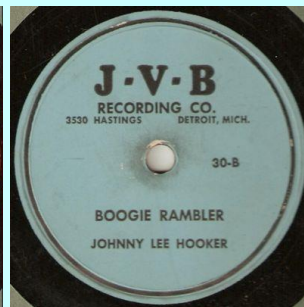
1951



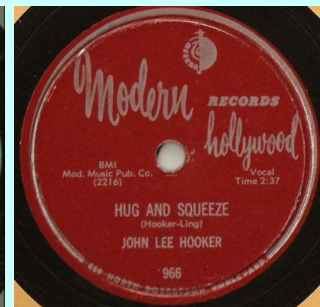
1952



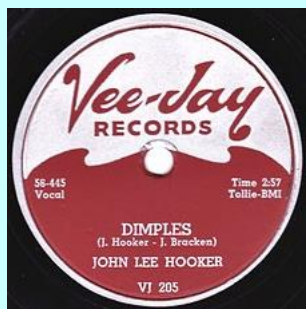
1953



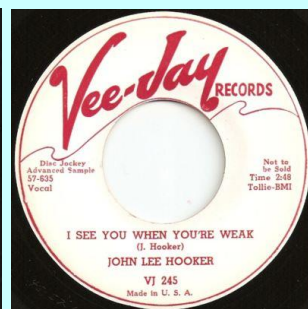
1954



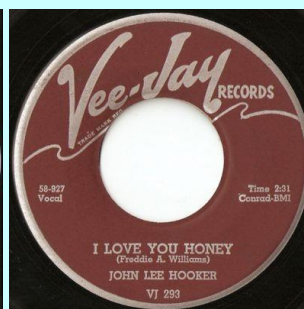
1955



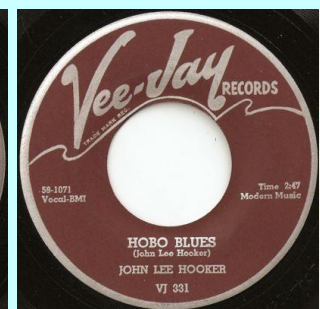
1956



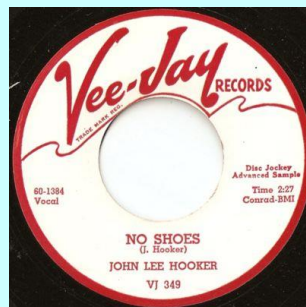
1957



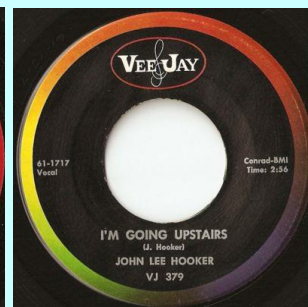
1958



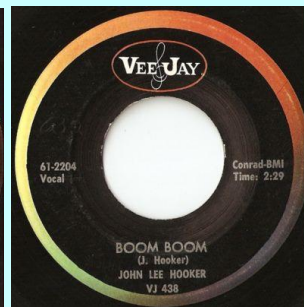
1959



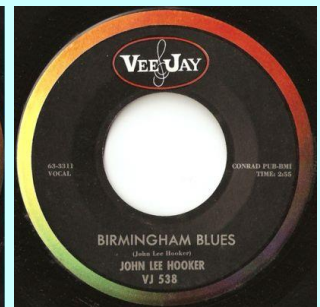
1960



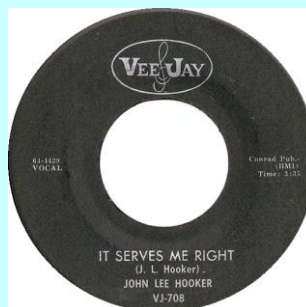
1961



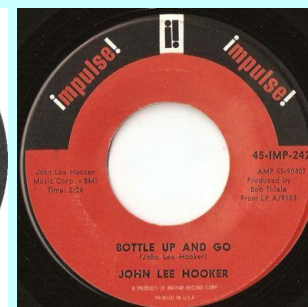
1962



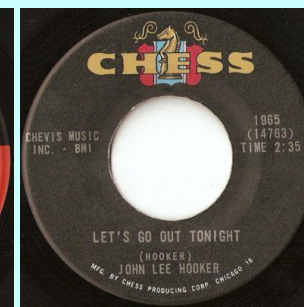
1963



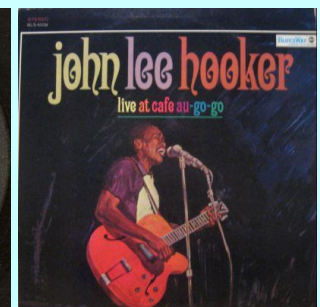
1964



1965



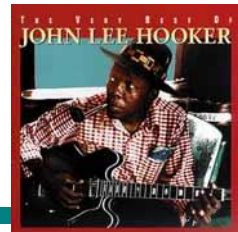
1966



1967

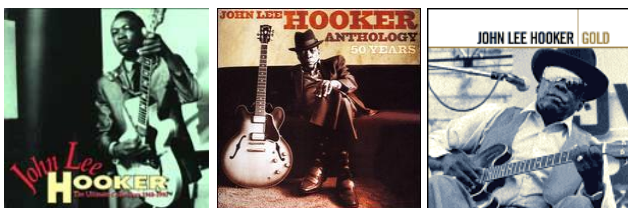


# JOHN LEE HOOKER



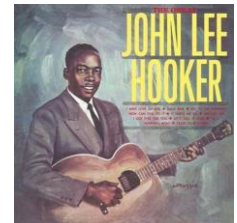
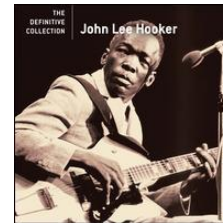
"King of the Boogie", "The Boogie Man" – "Father of Blues" - "Po' Slim" - "The Hook" - "The Blues Giant" - Guitarist and modern urbanized country blues singer, with roots in the rich Delta tradition. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1991.

Hooker left Mississippi and moved to Memphis in circa 1933. He soon "hoboed" again - this time he spent a period in Knoxville, Tennessee and arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio in circa 1935, singing the blues and working with gospel groups. The years between 1939 and 1943 are unaccounted for (except for a short spell in the army). He started his career with his arrival in Detroit in circa 1943. 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 "discovered" 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, after the Besman introduction, for other record labels, 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 Studios Inc. at 5840 2nd Blvd. Besman leased several tracks to the Bihari brothers (Modern - of Hollywood) and soon issued others on Sensation. Almost a hundred alternates and variations were "kept in the can" and later issued on album compilations.



After Hooker's success with "Boogie Chillen" (later known as "Boogie Chillin") Hooker started "moonlighting" under different pseudonyms for other Detroit producers, especially for manager Elmer Barbee and for Joe Von Battle in Joe's Record Shop at 3530 Hastings Street. Records were issued as Texas Slim, Birmingham Sam, John Lee Booker, Johnny Williams, and several other pseudonyms. The first issue was "Black Man Blues" c/w "Stomp Boogie" on King. In 1951 and 1952 J.L.H. cut two sessions direct for Chess Records in Chicago and Detroit - experts still argue if it was Bernie Besman, Joe Von Battle, Elmer Barbee or Leonard Chess who produced the sessions. In between the classic Chess recordings Hooker waxed his biggest hit, "I'm In The Mood" for Besman (still leased to Modern Records) in Detroit on August 7 of 1951. He toured with guitarist Eddie Kirkland especially during 51-53. Besman moved to Los Angeles in mid 1952, and Joe Bihari had to travel to Detroit and Joe Siracuse for further recordings. J.L.H. worked with his own band from 1953 - the Boogie Ramblers in

Detroit (including Bob Thurman and sometimes Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison, pno; Tom Whitehead, dms; Jimmy Miller, tpt; and Johnny Hooks and later Otis Finch, sax). Hooker's contract with Modern was terminated around mid or late 1955 (Hooker made some Specialty recordings in mid and late 1954, but the Modern recordings continued for a little longer). Hooker signed a contract with Vee-Jay Records around October 1955 and switched recording locations to Chicago (Universal Studios) during 1955 - 1964 (with Jimmy Bracken, Ewart Abner and Calvin Carter producing - later also Al Smith). From 1965 Hooker regularly recorded in New York, due to his new-signed contract with ABC Records after Vee-Jay's bankruptcy (the first couple of albums produced by Bob Thiele). Hooker moved to Oakland, California in 1970 (something he had longed for, and came natural after his separation with his long-time wife Maude Mathis). He regularly recorded in Los Angeles and San Francisco during the early '70s - often produced by Ed Michel. His accompanying Coast To Coast Blues Band of the Frisco/L.A. area (with several famous white rock musicians) backed him in the '70s (and variations including his son Robert Hooker, Luther Tucker on guitar and later Deacon Jones on keyboard toured with him during the '80s and '90s). Hooker settled in the San Francisco Bay suburbs during the '90s. The Blue Rose organization from 1989 (making Hooker a rich man during later years): manager Mike Kappus, producer Roy Rogers, artist J.L.H.



**Born:** August 22, 1912 (or poss 1917) in Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County, south of Clarksdale, Coahoma County, Mississippi. Several other birth dates have been offered (from 1915 – 1923).  
**Died** in his sleep in Los Altos (outside San Francisco), California on the morning of June 21, 2001.

**First recordings:** Elmer Barbee demo recordings June 12, 1948 Rocks (unissued); ca August, 1948 Leavin' Chicago and Wednesday Evening Blues (both unissued), plus demos of (When) My First Wife Left Me (later re-recorded as Driftin' From Door To Door – Modern 714, issued October, 1949). Note: War Is Over and She Was in Chicago below are remakes of the two first.

**Records for:** Modern 48-55, Sensation 49-40, several pseudonym recordings for a.o. King, Gotham, Chess, DeLuxe and Fortune 48-54, Specialty 1954, Vee-Jay 55-65, Riverside 1959-1960, Impulse 1965, Chess 1966, ABC/Bluesway 66-74, Chameleon 1989, Pointblank 90-98. Eagle 2003, Shout! Factory 2006-.

**Hooker's first regular recording session:** (Hooker vcl/gtr)  
**United Sound Studios, Detroit September 3, 1948**

Bernie Besman, producer; Joe Siracuse, engineer. Recorded under contract with Besman - the first single leased to Modern, issued on November 3, 1948.

- B 7003 Sally May (aka Sallie Mae) - Modern 627, Crown LP 5353  
Sally Mae (alternate) - Crown LP 5157
- B 7004 War Is Over (Goodbye California)  
(aka Highway Blues or Highway 51) - Specialty LP 2127  
See, See Baby (alternate of above) - Greene Bottle LP 3130
- B 7005 She Was In Chicago (aka Wednesday Evening Blues)  
- United Artists LP 5512  
Crazy 'Bout That Woman (alternate of above) - Greene Bottle LP 3130
- B 7006 Boogie Chillen' (aka Boogie Chillin) - Modern 627, Crown LP 5157  
Henry's Swing Club (alternate of above) - Specialty LP 2127  
Johnny Lee's Original Boogie (prob first take) - United Artists LP 127

**Same session**

- B 7007 Drifting From Door To Door - Modern 714, Crown LP 5232
- B 7008B Hobo Blues - Modern 663, Crown LP 5157  
Long, Long Way From Home (alternate of above) - United Artists LP 127
- B 7009 Numbers Blues (aka Playin' The Numbers) - Ace CD CHD 799  
She Ain't Good For Nothin' (alternate of above) - Greene Bottle LP 3130
- B 7010? Alberta - Specialty LP 2125
- B 7011 Howlin' Wolf (aka I'm A Howling Wolf) - Modern 730, Crown LP 5353
- B 7012 Crawling King Snake (aka Crawl'n Kingsnake Blues)  
- Modern 714, Crown LP 5157  
I Rule My Den (alternate of above) - United Artists LP 127

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 late 1948 he offered the Boogie Chillen'-session and at least one take of all ten songs above. Some evidence point to the fact that the alternate of Numbers Blues, Well I Got To Leave (from ca. December 1949), issued on United Artist LP 127, is actually the alternate of the above and the alternate listed here is from the 1949 session.



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



### The Most Essential and Best CDs:

Hooker (4CD box-set covering 1948-1998) - Shout!Factory 826663-10198 (2006)  
King of the Boogie (5CD box-set 1949-1998) - Concord Craft CCRA28930 (2017)

### Interesting 2CD compilations (whole career):

John Lee Hooker Anthology: 50 Years - Shout!Factory 826663-11289 (2009)  
John Lee Hooker Gold - Hip-O/Chess CD 8590 (2007)  
The Ultimate Collection: 1948-1990 - Rhino R2 70572 (1991)

### 1CD-Collections:

The Very Best of ... - Rhino R2 71915 (1995)  
The Definitive Collection - Hip-O/Universal CD 6127 (2006)  
The Best of JLH 1965 to 1974 - MCAD-10539 (1992)  
That's My Story/The Folk Blues of... - Ace CDCHD 927 (1990)

### Editor's Choice:

Testament - Charly (4CD-set) SNAJ 705CD with 60 great Vee-Jay tracks (2001)

### For the Collector:

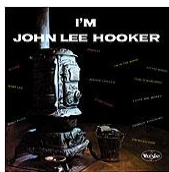
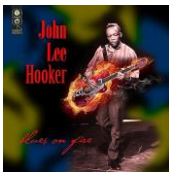
Blues King Pins - Blues Immortal - Virgin 82741 (Modern recordings 1948-1955) (2003)  
Live at the Cafe au Go-Go (and Soledad Prison) - Universal MCD 11527 (Bluesway recordings August, 1966 and in 1972) (1996)  
Travelin' (reissue of a 1960 LP) - Collectables CD 7101 (2000)  
- also issued on Charly/Snapper SNAP 145CD with bonus tracks (2003)  
Burnin' (reissue of a 1962 LP) - Collectables CD 7106 (2000)  
- also issued on Charly/Snapper SNAP 041CD with bonus tracks (2003)  
The Boogie Man - Charly 4CD "Digi-Book" CD DIG 5  
- covering Chess, Vee-Jay and several rare tracks 1948 - 1966 (1994)  
The Boogie Man (4CD-set) - Properbox 111  
(1948-1955 with Modern and pirate recordings) (2006)

### First LP:

I'm John Lee Hooker - Vee-Jay 1007 (1959)

### Reading:

Boogie Man - The Adventures of John Lee Hooker by Charles Shaar Murray (Viking, 1999; reedited in 2011)  
Delta Blues by Ted Gioia (W W Norton, 2008)



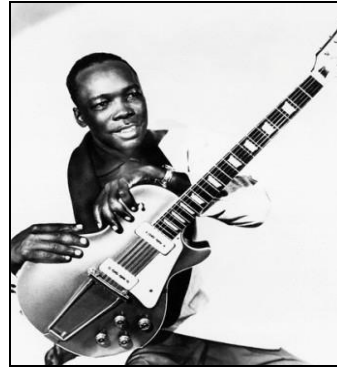
### The very first LPs:

1959 I'm John Lee Hooker - Vee-Jay 1007  
1959 House of the Blues - Chess 1438  
1959 The Country Blues of JLH - Riverside 12-838  
1960 The Blues - Crown 5157  
1960 That's My Story - Riverside 12-321  
1960 Travelin' - Vee-Jay 1023  
1960 Sings Blues - King 727  
1961 Plays and sings the Blues - Chess 1454  
1961 The Folk Lore of JLH - Vee-Jay 1033  
1961 Sings The Blues - Crown 5232  
1962 Folk Blues - Crown 5295  
1962 Burnin' - Vee-Jay 1043  
1962 John Lee Hooker ("Lost My Job") - Galaxy 8201  
1962 The Best of JLH - Vee-Jay 1049  
1963 The Great John Lee Hooker - Crown 5253  
1963 The Big Soul of JLH - Vee-Jay 1068  
1963 Don't Turn Me From Your Door - Atco 33-151  
1963 On Campus - Vee-Jay 1066  
1963 Live at Sugar Hill - Galaxy 8205  
1964 Concert at Newport - Vee-Jay 1078  
1964 Burning Hell - Riverside (UK) RM 008  
1965 ... And Seven Nights - Verve-Forecast FT 3003  
1965 Is He The World's Greatest Blues Singer - Vee-Jay 8502  
1966 It Serve You Right To Suffer - Impulse AS 9013  
1966 The Real Folk Blues - Chess 1508  
1967 Original Folk Blues - Kent 5025



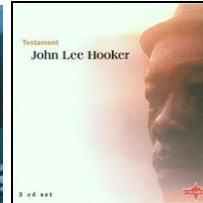
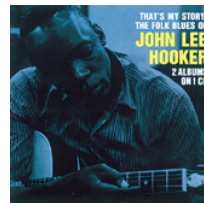
### R&B Top 10 Hits: (5 of 9 Top 40)

1949 **Boogie Chillen'** #1 for 1w  
1949 Hobo Blues #5  
1949 Hoogie Boogie #9  
1949 Crawling King Snake #6  
1951 **I'm In The Mood** #1 for 4w



### JOHN LEE HOOKER, vocals/guitar "GREAT-EIGHT"

1. **John Lee Hooker & His Guitar** - Detroit, September 3, 1948:  
B 7006 **Boogie Chillen'** - Modern 627 (#1, total 18w in 1949)
2. **John Lee Hooker** (featuring Eddie Kirkland, gtr)  
- Detroit, August 7, 1951:  
MM 1636 **I'm In The Mood** - Modern 835 (#1, 15w)
3. (featuring Eddie Taylor, gtr) - Chicago, March 17, 1956:  
60-1384 **No Shoes** - Vee-Jay 349 (#21, 2w)
4. (featuring Sam Jones, bs, Louis Hayes, dms)  
- New York, February 8, 1960:  
321 **Gonna Use My Rod** - Riverside LP 321
5. (featuring Lefty Bates, gtr) - Chicago, March 1, 1960:  
60-1384 **No Shoes** - Vee-Jay 349 (#21, 2w)
6. (featuring Joe Hunter, pno and Hank Cosby, sax)  
- Chicago, ca December 1961:  
61-2204 **Boom Boom** - Vee-Jay 438 (#16, 8w total in 1962)
7. (from last Vee-Jay session) - Chicago, ca mid 1964:  
64-4424 **It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)** - Vee-Jay 708, 1965
8. (featuring Lafayette Leake, pno, Eddie Burns, gtr)  
- Chicago, May 1966:  
14778 **House Rent Blues** - unissued (released on Chess CD 9329, 1991)

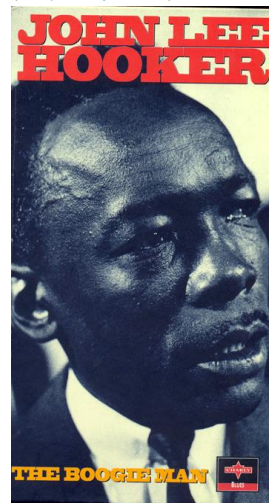


### The Very Best of the Rest:

1949 Moaning Blues (as Texas Slim)  
1950 Wandering Blues (as Johnny Williams)  
1950 **Give Me Your Phone Number**  
1950 Huckle Up Baby  
1951 John L's House Rent Boogie  
1951 Leave My Wife Alone (as John Lee Booker)  
1951 **Just Me And My Telephone**  
1953 Boogie Rambler  
1954 Stuttering Blues (as John Lee Booker)  
1954 It's My Own Fault  
1954 Half A Stranger  
1954 I'm Mad  
1955 The Syndicator  
1955 Hug And Squeeze (You)  
1956 Every Night  
1956 Dimples  
1956 Baby Lee  
1957 I'm So Excited  
1957 **I See You When You're Weak**  
1958 I Love You Honey  
1959 Tupelo (Riverside)  
1959 Hobo Blues (The Hobo) (Vee-Jay)  
1959 Maudie  
1960 I Need Some Money  
1960 No Shoes  
1961 Teachin' The Blues  
1961 Don't Turn Me From Your Door  
1961 Want Ad Blues  
1962 Boom Boom  
1962 Frisco Blues (San Francisco)  
1963 Birmingham Blues  
1963 Don't Look Back  
1964 It Serves Me Right To Suffer  
1965 Bottle Up And Go  
1966 One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer  
1967 I'm Bad Like Jesse James  
1967 Mr Lucky  
1970 Burning Hell (w. Canned Heat)  
1970 House Rent Boogie (Blues)  
1974 Homework  
1986 We'll Meet Again  
1989 The Healer  
1997 Frisco Blues (from Don't Look Back)



(Newport July 3, 1960)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Hooker's interesting "Real Folk Blues" sessions

**Recorded in Chicago, May 1966 - Ralph Bass, producer; Marshall Chess, supervision**  
featuring Hooker, vcl/gtr; 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 – with 9 tracks, several reissues - even one as "More Real Folk Blues"

**"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.

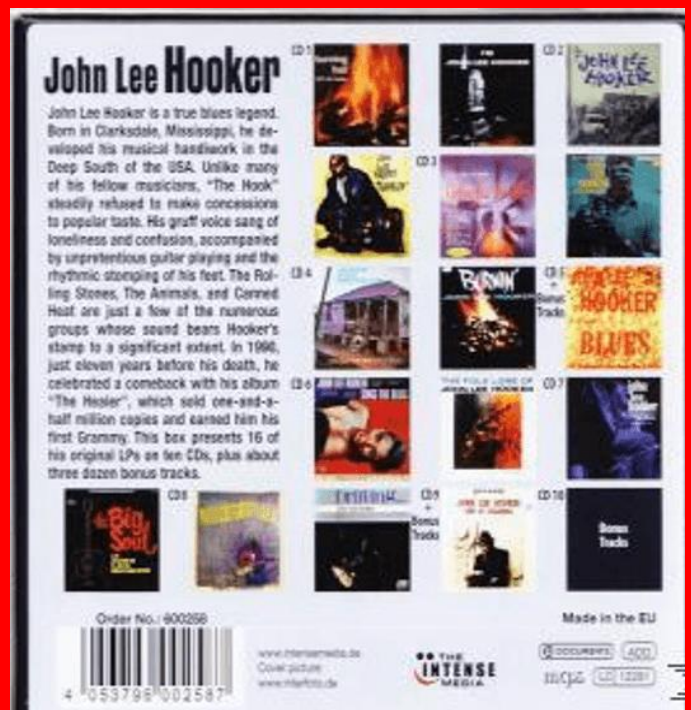
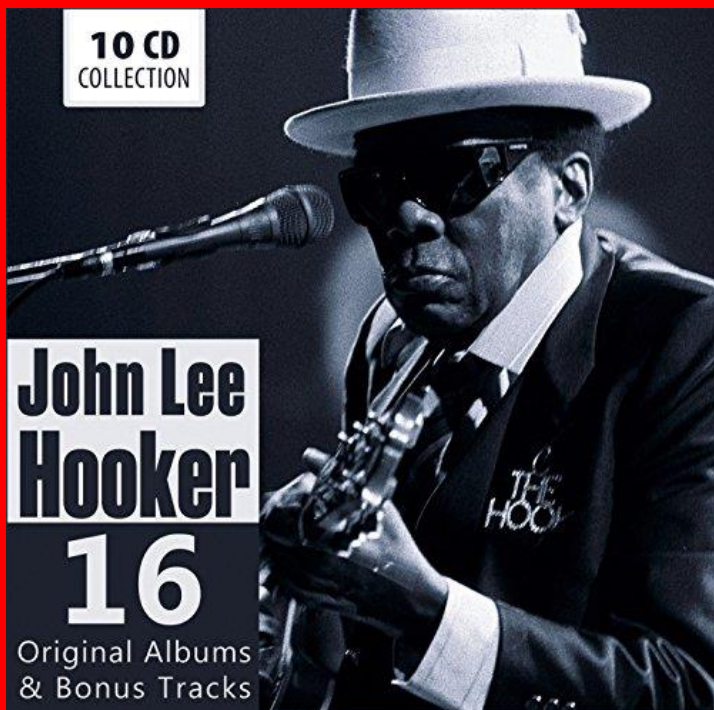
These two albums reissued on one CD titled **"The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions"** in Europe on MCA MCD-18335 in 1991  
and **"The Real Folk Blues / More Real Folk Blues"** in US on MCA/Chess 112821 in 2002.

**Tracks:** (The 18 tracks have master numbers U 14761 through U 14778; although not in track order as below)

I'm InThe 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) / Noboyd Knows / Deap 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



### New 10CD Box "Public Domain" on Documents (issued in Nov 2015)





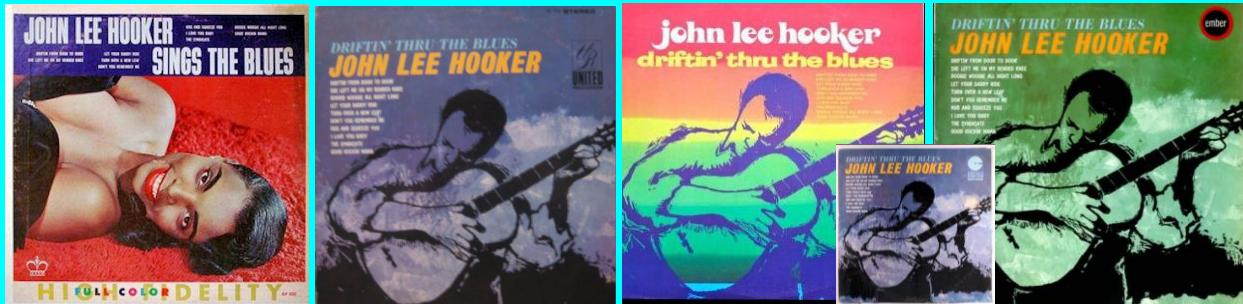
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### JOHN LEE HOOKER's CROWN LPs and their U.S. reissues

Images number four are examples of European issues. Both Crown, United and Kent issued most of Hooker's LPs also listed in fake "Stereo".



"The Blues" on Crown CLP-5157 (1960); United/Superior US-7725 (ca 1970) and its alternate pressing; plus a French issue on America.



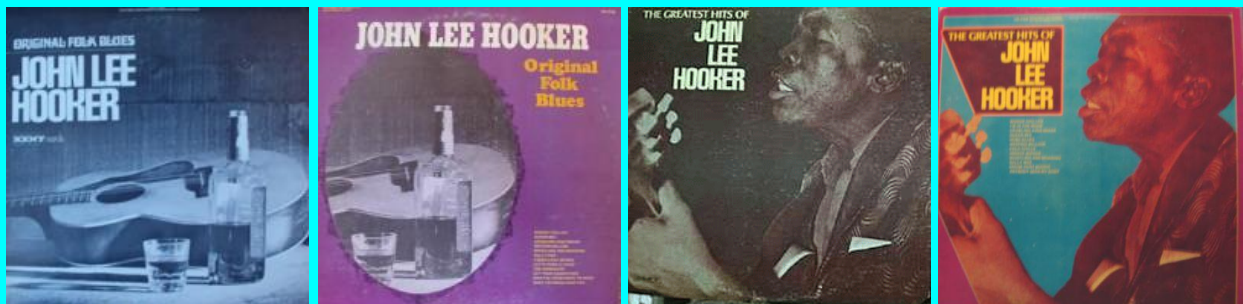
"Sings The Blues" on Crown CLP-5232 (1961); two versions of United/Superior US-7710 (1969) "Driftin' Thru The Blues"; the 1966 issue of Custom LP 1048 (a Bihari label); and the British issue on Ember.



"Folk Blues" on Crown CLP-5295 (1962); two versions of United/Superior US-7729 (ca 1971); and the French issues on BYG and Goody.



"The Great" on Crown CLP-5353 (1963); "The Great Blues Sounds of" on United/Superior US-7731 (ca 1971) and its United cover; plus French America LP 6077



Hooker's two Kent LPs (a Bihari label): "Original Folk Blues" on Kent LP 5025 (KST 525) (1967); the United US 7746 (ca 1972); plus Kent LP "The Greatest Hits of" on Kent KST 559 (1971), and its reissue on United 7769 (in ca 1974) – the latter two are reissues of Crown's "The Blues".



# 12 Blues Giants – and some of their famous early “side-men” - part 1



**T-Bone** with Freddie Slack, “Stormy Monday-lineup”, Lloyd “Mr. 88” Glenn, and Maxwell Davis.



**Big Joe** with Pete Johnson, Wild Bill Moore, Harry Van (Vann) “Piano Man” Walls, and Sam “The Man” Taylor.



**Fulson** with Lloyd “Mr. 88” Glenn, David “Fathead” Newman, and Maxwell Davis.



**Roy Brown** with Paul Gayten, Leroy “Batman” Rankin (no image), “Buddy” Griffin (pno), Jimmy Griffin (tromb), Edgar Blanchard, and Lee Allen.



**Johnnie Lee** with Eddie Burns, Eddie Kirkland, William “Lefty” Bates, and Joe (Edward) Hunter.



**Muddy** with Sunnyland Slim, Jimmy Rogers, Otis Spann, James Cotton, Pat Hare, plus Francis Clay and James “Pee Wee” Madison.(no images).



# 12 Blues Giants – and some of their famous early “side-men” - part 2



**“Sonny Boy”** with Robert Jr. Lockwood, Lafayette Leake, and Odie Payne Jr.



**Wolf** with Willie Dixon, Willie Johnson, Ike Turner, Hubert Sumlin, and Henry Gray.



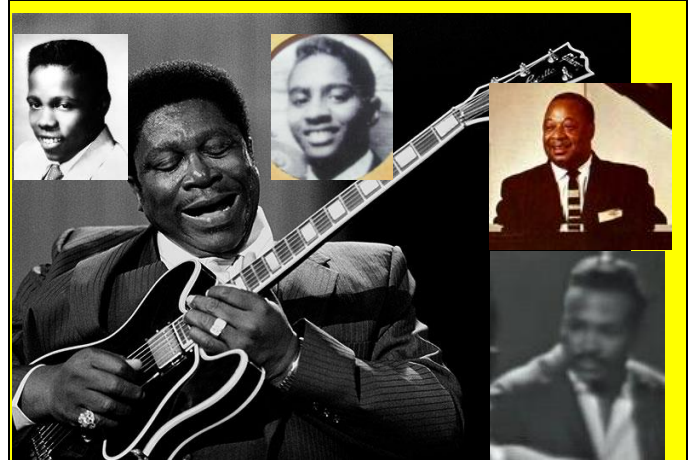
**Elmo** with Little Johnny Jones, J. T. Brown, and Johnny “Big Moose” Walker.



**Little Walter** with Louis and David Meyers, Fred Below, Robert Jr. Lockwood, and Luther Tucker.



**Jimmy Reed** with Eddie Taylor, Lefty Bates, Earl Phillips, and Mary “Mama” Reed.

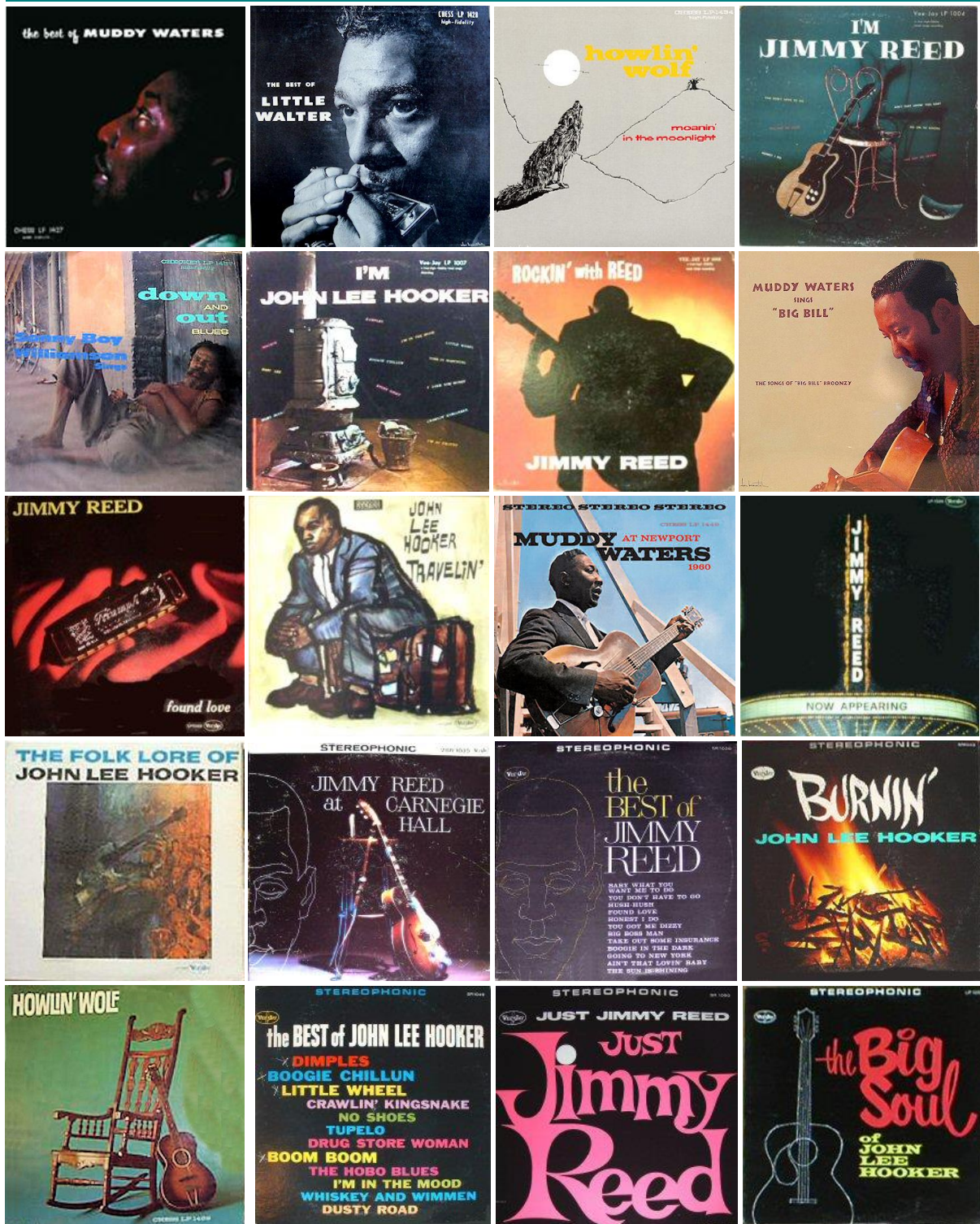


**B.B.** with Johnny Ace, Earl Forest; Bill Harvey (no image); Willard McDaniel; Maxwell Davis, Willard Lee, Johnny Board, and Bobby Forte (no images), plus Sonny Freeman.



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

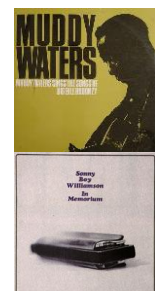
### GIANTS OF CHICAGO BLUES – early LPs on Chess and Vee-Jay, plus



Chess LP 1427, Chess/Checker LP 1428 (1957), Chess LP 1434 (1958), Vee-Jay LP 1004 (August 1958); Checker LP 1437 (early 1959), Vee-Jay LPs 1007 (1959), 1008 (September 1959), Chess LP 1444 (early 1960); Vee-Jay LP 1022, SR 1023 (1960), Chess LPs 1449 (1960), Vee-Jay LP 1025 (1961); Vee-Jay LP 1033, 2SR 1035 (1961), SR 1039 (1961 reissue of one half of SR 1035), SR 1043 (early 1962); Chess LP 1469 (1962), Vee-Jay LPs SR 1049, SR 1050 (1962), SR 1058 (1963).

**Next page:** - note there are several more Vee-Jay LPs by Reed and Hooker after 1963, although the Chess LPs feature more vintage recordings. Vee-Jay LPs SR 1066, SR 1067, SR 1072 (1963), Chess LP 1483 (early 1964); Chess LPs 1501, 1502, 1503 (1965), SphereSound LP 7002 (1965); Chess LPs 1507, 1508, 1509, 1511 (1966); Chess LP 1512 (1967), Checker LP 3004 (1967 reissue of 1428), Chess LPs 1535, 1536 (1969); Chess LPs 1537 (1969); 1539 (1969 reissue of 1427), 1540 (1969 reissue of 1434), 1553 (1970); Chess LP 407 (1970), Chess-GRT LPs CHV 416 (1974); CHV 417, CHV 418 (1975).

Images right: The European issues of Chess 1444 ("Muddy Waters sings the songs of Big Bill Broonzy", and 1503 ("Sonny Boy Williamson In Memorium").



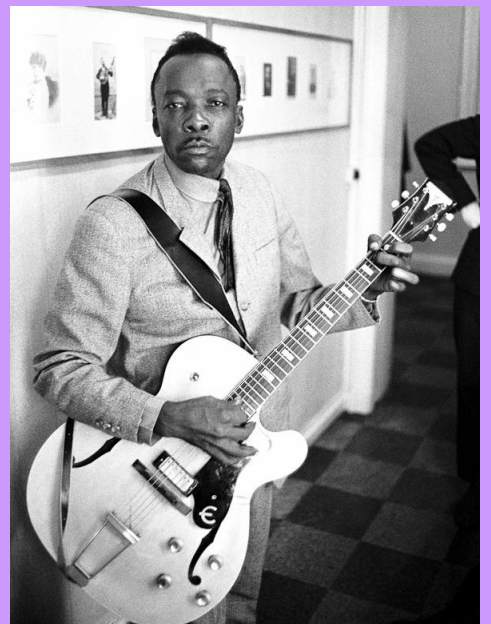
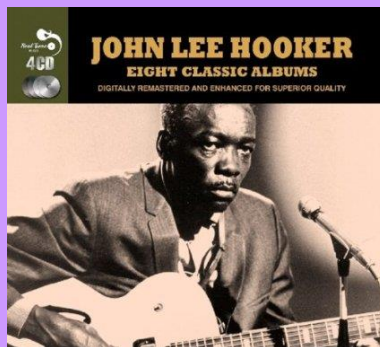
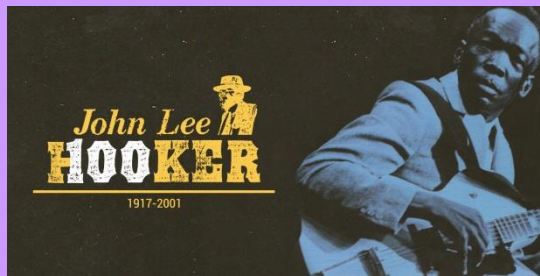
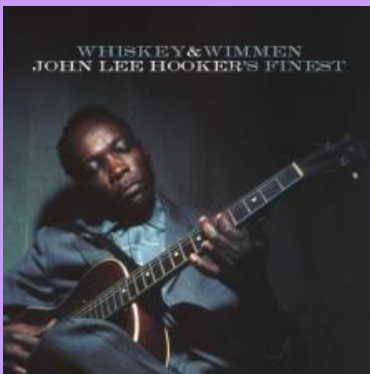


# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s





Craft Recordings 5CD "super book-box" of September 2017



**Real Gone Music's Hooker Box**

- "Burning Hell" (1964 – not 1958) Riverside
- "I'm John Lee Hooker" (1959) Vee-Jay
- "Travelin'" (1960) Vee-Jay
- "That's My Story" (1960) Riverside
- "Sings Blues" (late 1960 – not 1961; reissued 1968) King
- "The Folklore Of John Lee Hooker" (1961) Vee-Jay
- "Burnin'" (1962 - not 1961) Vee-Jay
- "Folk Blues" (1962) Crown

Note: Sadly the Real Gone boxes lack bio/disco information.



## Twelve Great Blues Singers – Twelve Favorite Blues Songs

<p><b>T-BONE WALKER and His Guitar</b></p>  <p><b>That's Better For Me</b> Los Angeles November 12, 1947 Black &amp; White 126 (issued 1948) <b>T-Bone Walker</b>, vcl/gtr: with orchestra lead by George Orendorff (tp). Bumps Myers, tensax; Willard McDaniel, pno; Billy Hadnott, bs; Oscar Lee Bradley, dms.</p>	<p><b>JOE TURNER</b></p>  <p><b>New Oh-Wee Baby Blues</b> (Wee Baby Blues) New York October 12, 1946 National 9100 (issued 1950) <b>Joe Turner</b>, vcl: feat Ike Perkins, pno; Red Saunders, dms</p>	<p><b>LOWELL FULSON</b></p>  <p><b>Loving You</b> Chicago Jan 13, 1955 Checker 812 (#14 May 1955) <b>Lowell Fulson</b>, vcl/gtr; feat Earl Brown, alt sax; Otis Spann, pno; Willie Dixon, bs; prob Fred Below, dms</p>
<p><b>ROY BROWN with his Mighty-Mighty Men</b></p>  <p><b>Rockin' At Midnight</b> New Orleans January 1949 DeLuxe 3212 (#2 March 1949) <b>Roy Brown</b>, vcl; feat Leroy "Batman" Rankins, tensax</p>	<p><b>JOHN LEE HOOKER</b></p>  <p><b>Hug And Squeeze</b> Los Angeles prob early 1955 Modern 966 (issued August 1955) <b>John Lee Hooker</b>, vcl/gtr; feat Otis Finch, tensax; Bob Thurman, pno; Tom Whithead, dms</p>	<p><b>MUDDY WATERS with Rythm Accompaniment</b></p>  <p><b>I Can't Be Satisfied</b> b/w I Feel Like Going Home Chicago c. December 1947 Aristocrat 1305 (issued 1948) <b>Muddy Waters</b>, vcl/gtr; Big Crawford, bs</p>
<p><b>"SONNY BOY" WILLIAMSON</b></p>  <p><b>No Nights By Myself</b> Jackson, MS November 2, 1954 Ace 511 (late 1955 purchased from Trumpet) <b>Sonny Boy Williamson</b>, vcl/hca; Dave Campbell, pno; J.W. Turner, gtr; Johnny Morgan, bs; Junior Blackman, dms</p>	<p><b>HOWLING WOLF</b></p>  <p><b>Brown Skin Woman</b> (aka Chocolate Drop) West Memphis, AR February 12, 1952 from Crown CLP 5240 (1961) <b>Howling Wolf</b>, vcl/hca; Ike Turner, pno; Wille Johnson, gtr, unknown bs; Willie Steel, dms</p>	<p><b>ELMORE JAMES and his "Broomdusters"</b></p>  <p><b>Standing At The Crossroads</b> Los Angeles c. August 1954 Flair 1057 (issued late 1954) <b>Elmore James</b>, vcl/gtr; James Parr, tpt; Maxwell Davis and Jewel Grant, saxes; Willard McDaniel, pno; Ralph Hamilton, bs; Jesse Sailes, dms</p>
<p><b>LITTLE WALTER and his Night Caps</b></p>  <p><b>Sad Hours</b> Chicago October 1952 Checker 764 (#2 January 1953) <b>Little Walter</b>, hca; Louis Myers, Dave Myers, Fred Below (or poss. Muddy Waters, Jimmy Rogers, Below)</p>	<p><b>JIMMY REED</b></p>  <p><b>Take Out Some Insurance</b> Chicago March 26, 1959 Vee-Jay 314 (issued June 1959) <b>Jimmy Reed</b>, vcl/gtr; Lefty Bates and Eddie Taylor, gtrs; Earl Phillips, dms</p>	<p><b>B. B. KING</b></p>  <p><b>Don't You Want A Man Like Me</b> (the song was re-recorded – totally different – in 1954) Memphis January 8, 1951 RPM 318 (issued c. March 1951) <b>B. B. King</b>, vcl; E. A. Kamp, tensax; Ford Nelson, pno; James Walker, bs; Solomon Hardy, dms</p>

# Same Twelve Great Blues Singers .... Some More Favorites

<p><b>T-BONE WALKER and his Orchestra</b></p>  <p><b>Travelin' Blues</b> Los Angeles April 7, 1950 Imperial 5094 (autumn 1950) <b>T-Bone Walker</b>, vcl/gtr; with orchestra lead by Jim Wynn (saxophone)</p>	<p><b>JOE TURNER and his BLUES KINGS</b></p>  <p><b>TV Mama</b> Chicago October 7, 1953 Atlantic 1016 (#6 Jan 1954) <b>Joe Turner</b>, vcl: feat Elmore James, gtr; Johnny Jones, pno; Red Saunders, dms</p>	<p><b>LOWELL FULSOM</b></p>  <p><b>Black Nights</b> Los Angeles 1965 Kent 431 (#11 Dec 11965) <b>Lowell Fulson</b>, vcl/gtr; feat Maxwell Davis, arr/pno</p>
<p><b>ROY BROWN</b></p>  <p><b>Rocking All The Time</b> Memphis 1960 Home of the Blues 110 (issued 1960) <b>Roy Brown</b>, vcl; feat Willie Mitchell, tp; Jimmy Mitchell, tensax; Joe Hall, pno; Al Jackson, dms</p>	<p><b>JOHN LEE HOOKER</b></p>  <p><b>I'm Going Upstairs</b> Chicago January 4, 1961 Vee-Jay 379 (issued February 1961) <b>John Lee Hooker</b>, vcl/gtr; William "Lefty" Bates, gtr; Quinn Wilson, bs; Earl Phillips, dms; poss. Pops Staples, gtr</p>	<p><b>MUDDY WATERS and his guitar</b></p>  <p><b>Manish Boy (Mannish Boy)</b> Chicago May 24, 1955 Chess 1602 (#5 July 1955) <b>Muddy Waters</b>, vcl/gtr; Junior Wells, hca; Jimmy Rogers, gtr; Willie Dixon, bs; Fred Below, dms</p>
<p><b>SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON</b></p>  <p><b>It's Sad To Be Alone</b> Chicago January 30, 1960 Checker 943 (issued 1959) <b>Sonny Boy Williamson</b>, vcl/hca; Otis Spann, Robert Jr Lockwood, Luther Tucker, Willie Dixon, Fred Below</p>	<p><b>HOWLIN' WOLF</b></p>  <p><b>Howlin' For My Darling</b> - image shows reissue - Chicago January 30, 1960 Chess 1762 (issued 1960) <b>Howlin' Wolf</b>, vcl; Abe Locke, tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard, pno; Hubert Sumlin and Abraham Smothers, gtrs; S.P. Leary, dms.</p>	<p><b>ELMO JAMES</b></p>  <p><b>Fine Little Mama</b> New York May 23/24 1960 Fire 1031 (issued late 1960) <b>Elmore James</b>, vcl/gtr; James Parr, tpt; Maxwell Davis and Jewel Grant, saxes; Willard McDaniel, pno; Ralph Hamilton, bs; Jesse Sailes, dms</p>
<p><b>LITTLE WALTER</b></p>  <p><b>You're Sweet</b> Chicago December 1959 (unissued) from MCA/Chess CD 2-9357 (1995) <b>Little Walter</b>, vcl/hca; Robert Jr Lockwood and Luther Tucker, gtrs; Willie Dixon, bs; George Hunter, dms</p>	<p><b>JIMMY REED</b></p>  <p><b>Blue Blue Water</b> (studio recording - not "Carnegie") Chicago August 24, 1959 from Vee-Jay 2LP 1035 (Oct 1961) <b>Jimmy Reed</b>, vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor and Phil Upchurch, gtrs; Earl Phillips, dms</p>	<p><b>B. B. KING</b></p>  <p><b>Paying The Cost To Be The Boss</b> (from BluesWay LP 6011 "Blues on Top of Blues") Chicago September 14, 1967 BluesWay 61015 (#10 April 1968) <b>B. B. King</b>, vcl/gtr; Johnny Pate, arr/cond Henry Boozier, John Browning, Hobart Dotson, tpts; Pluma Davis, tb; Lawrence Burdine, Johnny Board, Barney Hubert, saxes; Duke Jethro, org; Leo Lauchie, bs; Sonny Freeman, dms</p>

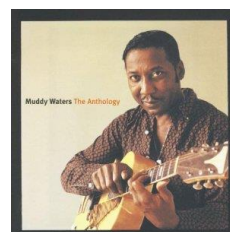


**KING OF CHICAGO BLUES** - The Hoochie Coochie Man



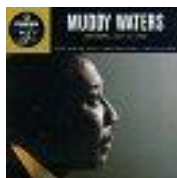
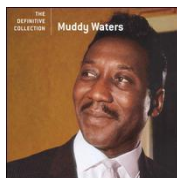
Inserted: Robert Palmer's fine book "Deep Blues" (1981)

# MUDDY WATERS



"King of Chicago Blues" - "Dreamy Eyes" - Singer/guitarist and Chicago Bar Blues Patriarch, who heavily influenced the British blues boom of the early '60s. Switched from the harmonica to guitar in the early '30s. Was stationed near Clarksdale during the '30s and arrived in Chicago in 1943 calling himself "Muddy Water" (without the s-ending). Was introduced to the Chess brothers Leonard and Phil by "Bluebird" pianist Sunnyland Slim. Muddy modernized (and internationalized) the pre-war Delta country blues, first with his Hoochie Coochie Men in the '50s and later internationally with his Chicago Blues Band. Some pressings of "I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man" titled "I'm Your Hoochie Kooche Man" (and later retitled "Hoochie Coochie Man"). Some important members: Little Walter, hca; Jimmy Rogers, gtr; Otis Spann, pno; and later James Cotton, hca; George Smith, hca; Pat Hare, gtr; James Madison, gtr; Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Georgia Boy" Johnson, gtr; Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson, and Pinetop Perkins, pno. His most famous drummers were Elga Edmonds, Fred Below, Francis Clay, S. P. Leary, and Willie Smith. Muddy toured heavily and several of his band members were regular session men for other Chicago acts or made a career as soloists. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

**Born:** McKinley A. Morganfield, April 4, 1913 (not April 14, 1915 as stated earlier), Jug's Corner Comm, Issaquena County, near Rolling Fork, Miss. **Died** April 30, 1983, Chicago, Ill.  
**First recordings:** Stovalls Plantation near Clarksdale, 1941  
 Country Blues / I Be's Troubled - Library of Congress AAFS 18.  
 First in Chicago: 1946 Mean Red Spider with James Carter - 20th Century 20-51B; and late 1947 Gypsy Woman - Aristocrat 1302 (as Muddy Water with Sunny Land Slim). First Chess: February 1950 Rolling Stone - Chess 1426.  
**Records for:** Library of Congress 41-42, Aristocrat 47-50, Chess 50-75, Blue Sky 76-80.



## Muddy's harp players on stage:

Before 1947: Little Johnny Jones and later Jimmy Rogers; 1947-1952: Little Walter; 1952: Little Junior Wells; 1953: Big Walter "Shakey" Horton, who also occasionally played with Muddy on later dates; 1953-1954: Henry "Pot" Strong; 1954: Little George "Harmonica" Smith; 1955: Junior Wells and later Elgie "Little Sonny" Willis; 1956-1959: James Cotton, who stayed with Muddy for several dates up to the mid '60s - sometimes substituted by Little Walter. Other stand-ins - 1959: Willie Anderson; 1960-1966: George "Mojo" Buford; New players - 1966-1967: George Smith; 1967-1971: Paul Oscher with 1968 and 1970 stand-in Birmingham Jones; 1970 and early 70s: Carey Bell with stand-ins James Cotton, George Smith, and Mojo Buford; 1974-1980: Jerry Portnoy.

## Essential CDs:

The Anthology (2CD) - Chess 112649 - 50 great chronological tracks (2001) or Gold (2CD) - Universal (2007)  
 The Definitive Collection - Geffen CD 6273 (2006) or  
 His Best 1947-1955 - MCA/Chess CHD 9370 and  
 His Best 1955-1964 - CHD 9380 (a total of 40 great tracks, 1997) or The Chess Box (3CD) - MCA/Chess CHD3-80002 (1990)

## For Collectors:

Rollin' Stone - The Golden Anniversary Collection (1947-1952) - MCA (2CD) 088 112301-2 (2000) and  
 Hoochie Coochie Man - The Complete Chess Masters, Volume Two (1952-1958) - Hip-O Select (2CD) 0002758-02 (2004)  
 You Shook Me - The Complete Chess Masters, Volume Three - (1958-1963) Hip-O-Select (2CD) B0017581-02 (2013)  
 One More Mile - Chess Collectibles Vol 1 (2CD) - Chess 9348 (1997)  
 Authorized Bootleg - Geffen/Chess B0012650-02 or 2517-98291 (2009) (live recordings with his band from 1966 feat. George Smith, hca) - you simply have to purchase the above - it's prob the best ever live record  
 Breakin' It Up, Breakin' It Down - Waters, Winter, Cotton - Epic CD 07283 (great new-found live stuff from BlueSky, 2007)  
 King of Chicago Blues - Properbox #102 (4CD 1941-57) (2006)

## Editor's Choice:

The Complete Muddy Waters 1947-1967 (9CD)  
 - Charly CD RED Box 3 (1992) and  
 The Chronological Muddy Waters 1941-1947 - Classics 5008 (2001)



**Reading:** Muddy Waters - The Mojo Man by Sandra B Toozee (ECW Press, 1997)  
 and Can't Be Satisfied - The Life and Times of Muddy Waters by Robert Gordon (Little, Brown and Co, 2002)

## First LP:

The Best of Muddy Waters - Chess LP 1427 (1957)

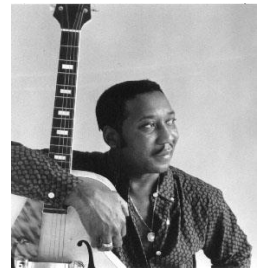
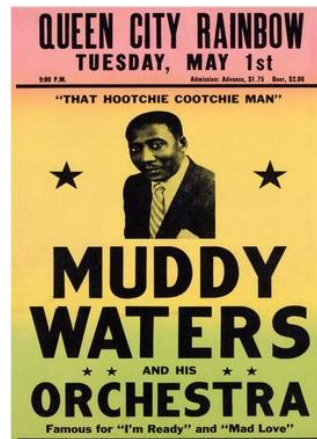
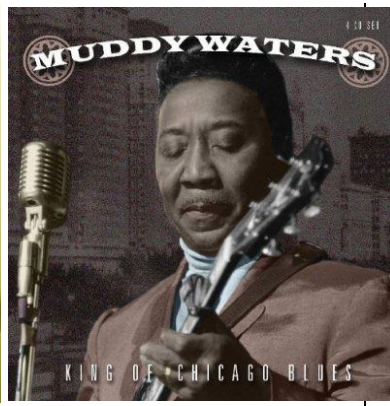


## MUDDY WATERS, vocals/guitar "FINE-NINE"

- 1. Muddy Waters with Rhythm Accompaniment** (sic)  
 - Chicago, April 1948:  
 U 7112 **I Can't Be Satisfied** - Aristocrat 1305
- 2. Muddy Waters and his Guitar** (featuring Little Walter, hca)  
 - Chicago January 23, 1951:  
 U 7304 **Long Distance Call** - Chess 1452 (#8, 1w total) (*live 1968*)
- 3.** (featuring Little Walter, hca, Jimmy Rogers, gtr, Otis Spann, pno  
 - Chicago, January 7, 1954:  
 U 7589 **I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man** (Hoochie Coochie Man)  
 - Chess 1560 (#3, 13w)
- 4.** (featuring Little Walter, hca; Fred Below, dms)  
 - Chicago, April 13, 1954:  
 U 7630 **Just Make Love To Me** (I Just Want To Make Love To You) - Chess 1571 (#4, 13w)
- 5.** (featuring Junior Wells, hca) - Chicago, May 24, 1955:  
 U 7846 **Manish Boy** (Mannish Boy) - Chess 1602 (#5, 6w)
- 6. Muddy Waters**  
 (featuring Little Walter, hca plus Pat Hare and Hubert Sumlin, gtrs)  
 - Chicago, December 1, 1956:  
 8389 **Rock Me** - Chess 1652 (1957)
- 7.** (feat James Cotton, hca, Otis Spann, pno) - Chicago, June 1959:  
 9504 **Take The Bitter With The Sweet** - Chess 1733
- 8.** (featuring Cotton, Spann and Pat Hare, gtr)  
 - Newport, R.I. July 3, 1960 originally recorded in January 1957 with Little Walter on hca for a 1957 single, but this is the live (and greater) version  
 10544 **Got My Mojo Working** (Parts 1 and 2)  
 - Chess LP 1449 & pt 1 on single 1774 (1960)
- 9.** (featuring Spann, Buddy Guy or PeeWee Madison, gtr)  
 - Chicago, April 9, 1964:  
 13151 **You Can't Lose What You Ain't Never Had** - Chess 1895

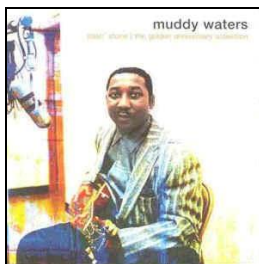


## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



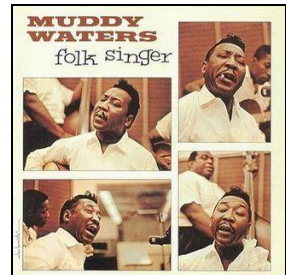
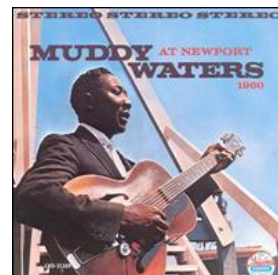
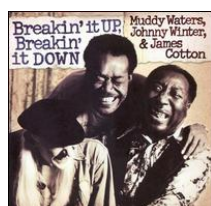
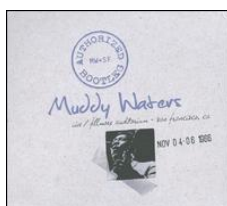
### R&B Top 10 Hits: (14 of 16 Top 40)

- 1951 Louisiana Blues #10
- 1951 Long Distance Call #5
- 1951 Honey Bee #10
- 1951 Still A Fool #9
- 1952 She Moves Me #10
- 1953 Mad Love (I Want You To Love Me) #6
- 1954 I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man #3
- 1954 Just Make Love To Me #4  
(I Just Want To Make Love To You)
- 1954 I'm Ready #4
- 1955 Manish Boy (Mannish Boy) #5
- 1956 Trouble No More #7
- 1956 Forty Days And Forty Nights #7
- 1956 Don't Go No Farther #9
- 1958 [Close To You](#) #9



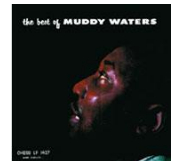
### Some of His Other Best Songs:

- 1941 Country Blues (as McKinley Morganfield)
- 1946 Hard Day Blues (as McKinley Morganfield)
- 1947 Gypsy Woman  
(as Muddy Water with Sunny Land Slim)
- 1948 I Can't Be Satisfied
- 1948 [I Feel Like Going Home](#)
- 1949 Screaming And Crying
- 1950 Rolling Stone
- 1950 You're Gonna Need My Help (I Said)
- 1955 Sugar Sweet
- 1956 Rock Me
- 1957 Got My Mojo Working
- 1958 She's 19 Years Old
- 1959 [South Bound Train](#)
- 1959 Take The Bitter With The Sweet
- 1960 I Got My Brand On You
- 1962 You Shook Me
- 1963 Five Long Years
- 1963 My Home Is In The Delta
- 1964 The Same Thing
- 1964 You Can't Lose What You Ain't Never Had
- 1966 Making Friends
- 1966 Black Night
- 1971 Who's Gonna Be Your Sweet Man When I'm Gone

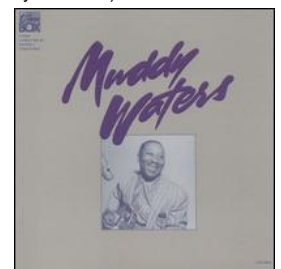


### Muddy's original Chess LPs:

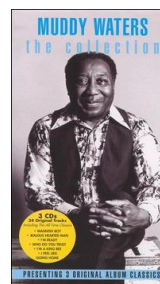
- 1427 The Best of Muddy Waters (1957)
- 1444 Muddy Waters Sings "Big Bill" (Broonzy) (1960)
- 1449 Muddy Waters At Newport (1960)
- 1483 Folk Singer (1964)
- 1501 The Real Folk Blues (1965)
- 1507 Brass And The Blues (1966)
- 1511 More Real Folk Blues (1966)
- 1539 Sail On (reissue of 1427) (1969)



- 2-127 Fathers And Sons (1969) (reissued on 50033, 1972)
- 1553 They Call Me Muddy Waters (1970)
- 60006 McKinley Morganfield AKA Muddy Waters  
(2-set, 1971) (reissued as LP 203, 1976)
- 50012 Live (At Mr. Kelly's) (1972)
- 50023 Can't Get No Grindin' (1972)
- 60013 The London Muddy Waters Sessions (1972)
- 60026 London Revisited (w Howlin' Wolf) (1972)
- 60031 "Unk" In Funk (1974) (reissued on 915313)
- 60035 The Woodstock Album (1975)
- 4000 Muddy Waters – Chess Masters (Charly UK 1981)
- 4006 Muddy Waters Vol. 2 (Charly UK)
- 4015 Muddy Waters Vol. 3 (Charly UK)
- 8202 Rolling Stone (Sugar Hill 1982)
- 9180 Rare & Unissued (1984)
- 6-80002 Muddy Waters (6-LP box, 1985)
- 9291 Trouble No More (1989)
- Cadet**
- 314 Electric Mud (1968)
- 320 After The Rain (1969)
- BlueSky**
- 34449 Hard Again (1977)
- 34928 I'm Ready
- 35712 Muddy "Mississippi" Waters Live
- 37064 King Bee

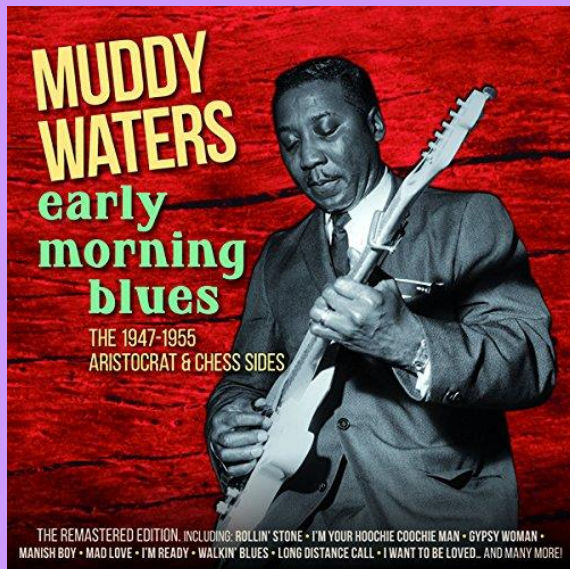
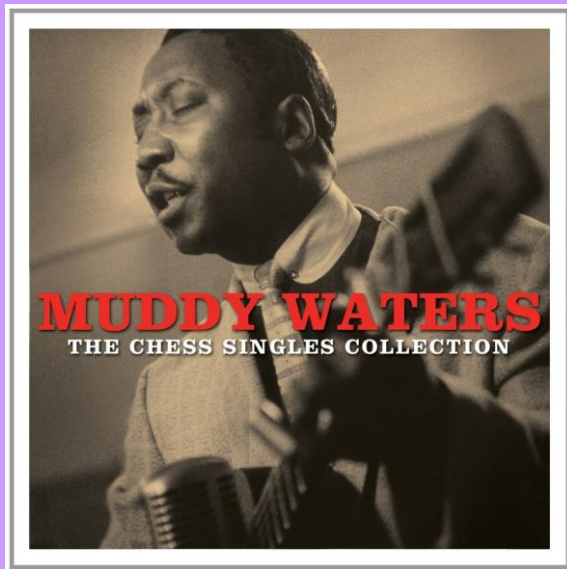


(I Just want to make love to you – live 1978 – with guests)

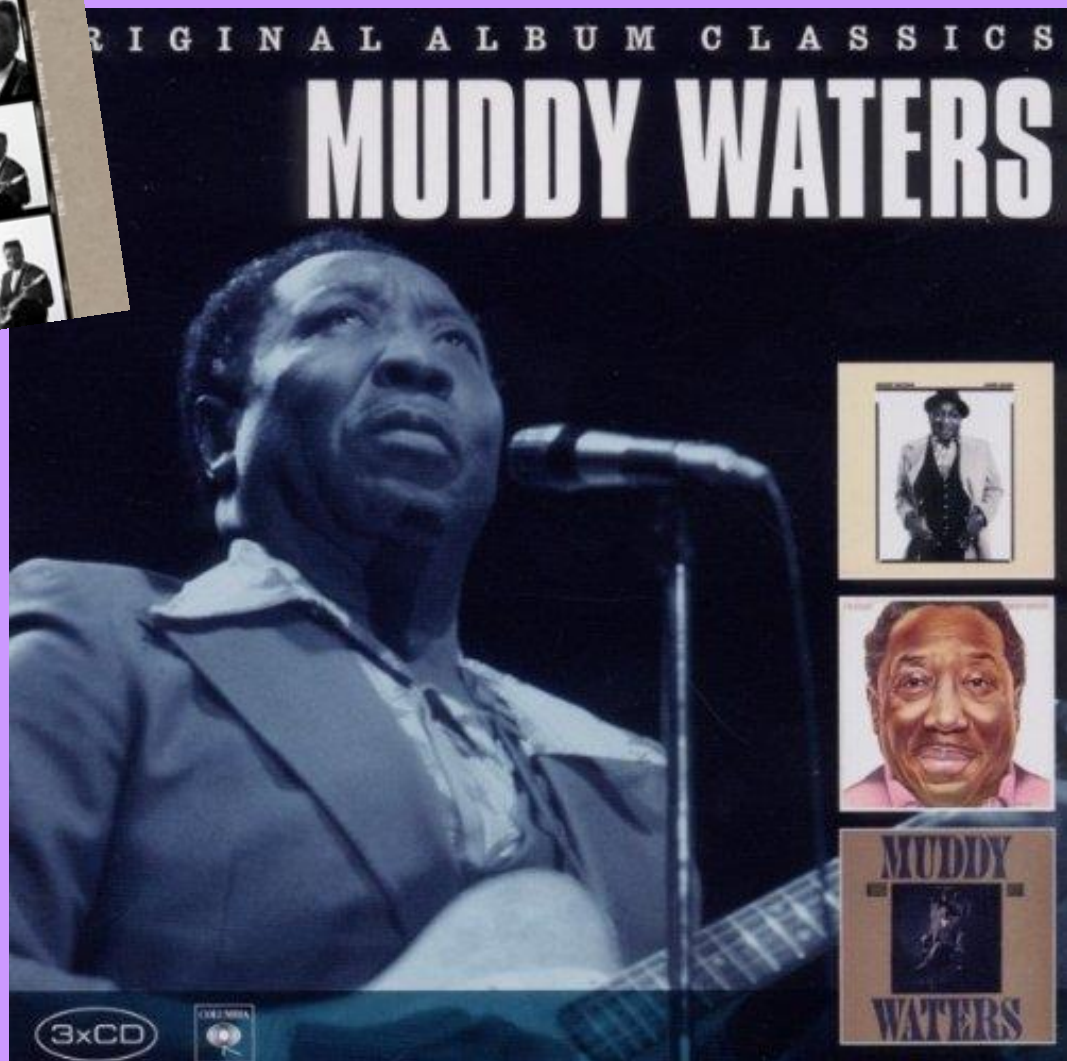




**MUDDY WATERS: NEW CDS**



Not Now 3CD Box (2015), and SoulJam 1CD (2015) + insert: You Shook Me (Hip-O-Select 2013)



Sony Music (2011) – his three Johnny Winter-produced studio albums plus nbonus tracks



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### MUDDY WATERS – His Very Early Singles from 1948 to “Juke”-session 1952

Note: Muddy Water (or Muddy Waters) was co-credited on some records by Sunny Land Slim, and by Leroy Foster, and recorded as side-man on other labels. The 7/51 session was the first one featuring Jimmy Rogers. The flip on Chess 1514 was a reissue of 1305A now titled “Looking for my baby”.



3/48 (rec 47), 6/48 (both sides), 10/48



2/49, 6/49 (both rec 11/48), 11/49 (rec 7/49), 2/50 (rec 9/49)



4/50, 6/50 (both sides – all three recorded 2/50), 9/50 (first one featuring Little Walter; rec 8/50)



11/50 (rec 8/50), 3/51, 7/51 (both rec 1/51), 10/51 (rec 7/51)



12/51 (rec 7/51), 4/52 (both sides – rec 7/51 and 12/51), 6/52 (rec 5/52 – the “Juke” session)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Muddy – The Hoochie Coochie Boy & some of his many “authorized” live CDs

#### Authorized Bootleg – Live at Filmore Auditorium

Recorded in San Francisco November 4-6, 1966

Geffen/Chess 98291 (2009)

with Muddy Waters, vocals and guitar; George “Harmonica” Smith, harmonica; Luther “Georgia Boy/Snake” Johnson, guitar; Sammy Lawhorn, guitar; Mac Arnold, bass; Francis Clay, drums (no piano present – Otis Spann was not present at this session – although he stayed with Muddy up to 1969)

#### Muddy “Mississippi” Waters Live (Legacy Edition)

Recorded at Harry Hope’s Club, Cary, Illinois March 18, 1977

Epic Legacy CD 86559 (2003) 2CD-set with several bonus tracks

with Muddy Waters, vocals and guitar; Joe Willie “Pinetop” Perkins, pno/vcl; Jerry Portnoy hca; Johnny Winter gtr/vcl; Bob Margolin gtr; Luther “Guitar Junior” Johnson, gtr/vcl; Calvin Jones, bass; Willie Smith, drums

#### Mojo – The Live Collection Demon/Music Club MCCC 425 (2000)

Recorded at Washington and at Oregon University, Nov. 1971

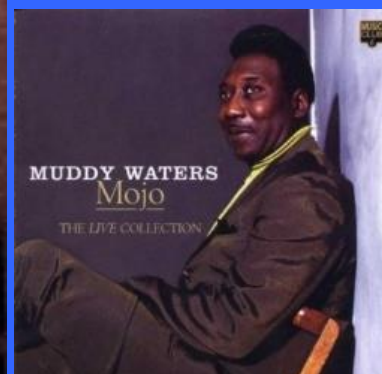
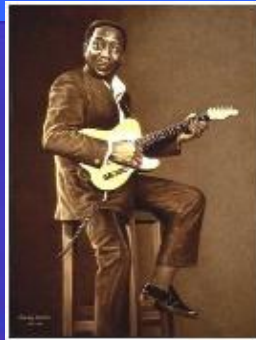
with Muddy Waters, vocals and guitar; George “Harmonica” Smith, harmonica, Sammy Lawhorn, guitar; James “Pee Wee” Madison, guitar; Joe Willie “Pinetop” Perkins, piano; Calvin “Fuzz” Jones, bass; Willie “Big Eyes” Smith, drums; Bee Houston; guest guitar (one track)

Note: Top Cat BFTC 02982 features 12 tracks from these sessions.

and in Monthey, Switzerland, November 4, 1976

with Muddy Waters, vocals and guitar; Luther “Guitar Junior” Johnson, guitar; Bob Margolin, guitar; Jerry Portnoy, harmonica; Joe Willie “Pinetop” Perkins, piano; Calvin “Fuzz” Jones, bass (also vocal one track); Willie “Big Eyes” Smith, drums

Note: Jazz Helvetica CD02/Landscape LS2908 features 21 tracks from the 1976 session. Monthey is located near Montreaux. Music Club wrongly dates the session in April, and “Guitar Junior” as vocalist on “Dust My Broom”.

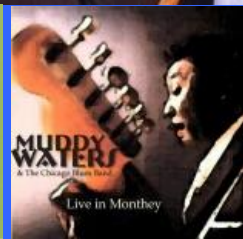
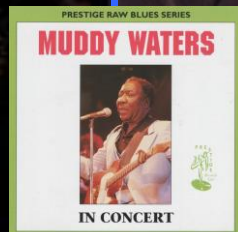


#### Muddy Waters In Concert

Prestige CDSPG 0150 (1994) [discogs](#)

**MUDDY WATERS BLUES BAND** with Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; Luther “Guitar Jr” Johnson, Bob Margolin, gtrs; Joe Pinetop Perkins, pno (and 2<sup>nd</sup> vcl on one track); Jerry Portnoy, hca; Calvin Jones, bass, Willie Smith, drums.

Eleven tracks recorded in Warsaw, Poland October 22, 1976. 17 tracks from this session originally issued on PolJazz LPs and Blues Collection CDs, and 12 further tracks from Dortmund Germany, prob recorded October 29, issued on a Corrina LP.

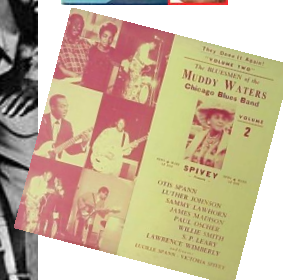




## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### The important profiles of Muddy Waters' Legendary Blues Band

This is a try to establish a sheet covering the members of Muddy Waters' blues band thru the years. All dates are approximative, and as you can see several of Muddy's side-men returned to the band after short (or longer) periods out elsewhere. The band had several more "short-termed" members. Only the most important are listed (no famous "guests"). When a band-member did not record with the band he is marked \*. Little George Smith and Harmonica Smith are the same individual, but the two Johnsons are really two. **Names in bold** indicate main period - (brackets indicates not regular member). *This indicates: not a band member / probably more among those not indicated.*



1953/54 (Muddy, Jerome Green, Spann, Henry "Pot" Strong, Elga Edmonds, and Rogers). Far right: 1966 and top 1968 (LPs featuring Victoria Spivey and "Snake" Johnson). 1977/78 (top James Cotton, Muddy, Big Walter Horton, Pinetop Perkins, Bob Margolin; bottom Jerry Portnoy, Johnny Winter, "Big Eyes" Smith)  
Image bottom right: "Live at Ebbets Field" (May 30, 1973) with B.B. King guesting the Muddy Waters Blues Band - CD issued on Klondike KLCD 5025 in 2015.

Harmonica	Piano	Guitar (I)	Guitar (II)	Bass	Drums
<b>"Muddy Water" and His Blues Combo 1946 - 1949 In The Beginning</b>					
<b>The Roots:</b> Muddy Waters, gtr/hca Little Walter, hca/gtr	James Clarke Sunnyland Slim Little Johnny Jones	Claude "Blue Smitty" Smith, gtr	Jimmy Rogers, gtr/hca Floyd Jones	Ransom Knowling Ernest "Big" Crawford	Snooky & Moody (gtr & hca) Judge Riley
<b>"The Headhunters" 1949-1950</b>					
Little Walter		Jimmy Rogers			"Baby Face" Leroy Foster (also gtr)
<b>Muddy Waters Blues Boys 1950 - 1952</b>					
Little Walter Little Junior Wells		Jimmy Rogers			Elga Edmonds
<b>The Hoochie Coochie Men 1953 - 1955</b>					
<b>Big Walter Horton</b> Henry "Pot" Strong * Little George Smith * (Junior Wells) Little Walter (in studio)	Otis Spann	Jimmy Rogers	(Eddie Taylor)	(Willie Dixon)	Elga Edmonds Fred Below
<b>1956 - ca 1963</b>					
<b>James Cotton</b> (Little Walter) (George "Mojo" Buford)	Otis Spann	Pat Hare	Hubert Sumlin Luther Tucker	Andrew "Stephens" Stephenson	Francis Clay Willie "Big Eyes" Smith
<b>The Chicago Blues Band 1964-1968</b>					
<b>George "Harmonica" Smith</b> James Cotton George "Mojo" Buford Paul Oscher	Otis Spann	<b>James "Pee Wee" Madison</b> Luther "Georgia Boy Snake" Johnson	<b>Sammy Lawhorn</b> Matt "Guitar" Murphy	Milton Rector Calvin "Fuzz" Jones Mac Arnold Lawrence Sonny Wimberley	<b>S.P. Leary</b> Willie "Big Eyes" Smith Francis Clay Sam Lay
<b>1969 - 1973</b>					
<b>Paul Oscher</b> <b>Carey Bell</b> (James Cotton) <b>George Smith</b> (Junior Wells) (George "Mojo" Buford)	<b>Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins</b>	<b>James "Pee Wee" Madison</b> (Louis Myers) Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson	<b>Sammy Lawhorn</b> (Dave Myers) (Hollywood Fats *)	Sonny Wimberley Calvin "Fuzz" Jones	<b>Willie "Big Eyes" Smith</b> (Fred Below)
<b>The Muddy Waters Blues Band 1974 - 1981 "The Hoochie Coochie Boys"</b>					
<b>Jerry Portnoy</b> (Walter Horton) (James Cotton) George "Mojo" Buford	<b>Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins</b>	<b>Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson</b>	<b>Bob Margolin</b> (Johnny Winter)	(Charles Calmese) <b>Calvin "Fuzz" Jones</b>	<b>Willie "Big Eyes" Smith</b>



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Profiles of Muddy Waters' Legendary Blues Band



Little Walter, Sunnyland Slim, Little Johnny Jones, "Baby Face" Leroy Foster, Jimmy Rogers, Elga Edmonds



Junior Wells, Big Walter Horton, George Smith, Otis Spann, Fred Below, James Cotton



Pat Hare, Francis Clay, Luther Tucker, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, S. P. Leary, James "Pee Wee" Madison



Sammy Lawhorn, George "Mojo" Buford, Paul Oscher, Carey Bell, Luther "Georgia Boy Snake" Johnson, Sonny Wimberley (not pictured), Calvin "Fuzz" Jones



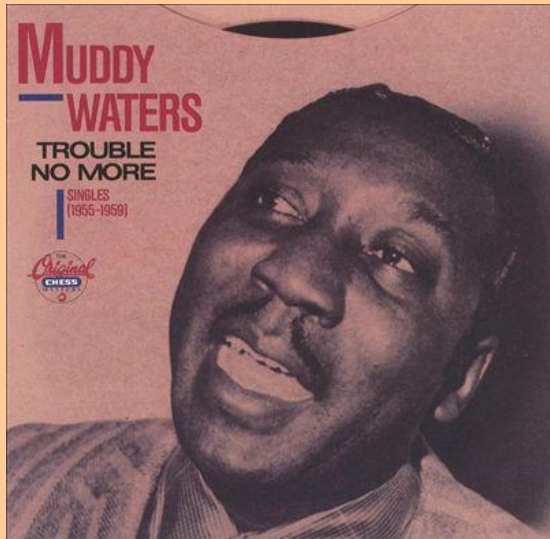
1966 with "guest" Big Mama Thornton (Otis Spann, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Georgia Boy Snake" Johnson, Francis Clay, and James Cotton); plus five albums with Muddy's band featuring Big Mama, George Smith, John Lee Hooker, Otis Spann, and Luther "Georgia Boy Snake" Johnson.

Bottom: Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins, Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, Jerry Portnoy, Bob Margolin



## Two rare Muddy Waters albums and his "ultimates"

American Muddy-fans had to wait until 1989 to get hold of several of Muddy's mid/late 1950s singles (if they wanted them on album). Europeans didn't have to wait. At least three albums on the bootleg label Syndicate Chapter had been issued already in the 1970s. Below you'll find the rare "Trouble No More" album. All recordings made in Chicago.



**MCA/Chess LP/CD CH/CHD 9291 (1989)**

### Tracks:

Sugar Sweet / Trouble No More / All Aboard / Don't Go No Further / I Love The Life I Live, I Live The Life I Love / Rock Me // Got My Mojo Working / She's Got It / Close To You / Mean Mistreater / Take The Bitter With The Sweet / She's Into Something

### Discography:

(note that Muddy does not play gtr on any of the tracks)

Muddy Waters,vcl; Little Walter (or poss Walter Horton),hca; Otis Spann,p; Jimmy Rogers,g; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d

U 7938	Sugar Sweet	November 3, 1955
		Chess 1612 (R&B #11)
U 7939	Trouble No More	1612 (R&B #7)

Muddy Waters,vcl; Little Walter,hca and James Cotton or Walter Horton, hca overdub; Pat Hare and Hubert Sumlin,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d  
February 2, 1956

8013 All Aboard  
This is the flip of "Forty Days & Forty Nights (R&B 7)".

Muddy Waters,vcl; Little Walter,hca; prob Pat Hare and Hubert Sumlin,gs; Otis Spann,p; Willie Dixon,b; Odie Payne,d

8148	Don't Go No Farther	June 29, 1956
		1630 (R&B #9)

Muddy Waters,vcl; Little Walter,hca; Pat Hare and Hubert Sumlin,gs; Otis Spann,p; Willie Dixon,b; prob S.P. Leary,d

8388	A Love The Life I Live (I Live The Life I Love)	December 1, 1956
8389	Rock Me	1680
		1652

Older discographies list James Cotton,hca on above two.

8392	Go My Mojo Working	January 12 or 16, 1957
		1652

Muddy Waters,vcl; James Cotton,hca; Otis Spann,p; Pat Hare,g; Willie Dixon,b; prob Fred Below,d

8733	She's Got It	ca January 1958
		1692

Muddy Waters,vcl; Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann,p; Pat Hare and Luther Tucker,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Francis Clay or George Hunter,d

8980	Close To You	August 1958
		1704 (R&B #9)

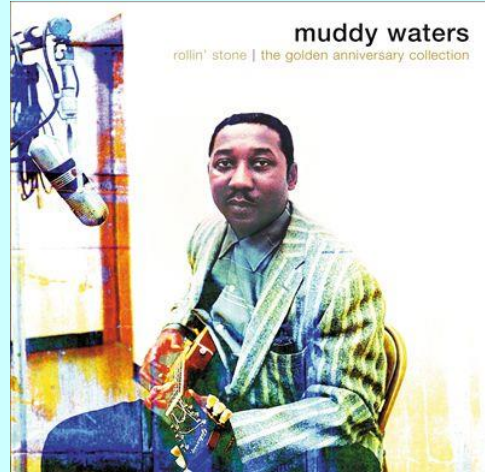
Muddy Watera,vcl; Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker,g; Andrew Stephens,b; Francis Clay,d

9194	Mean Mistreater	January 1959
		1718

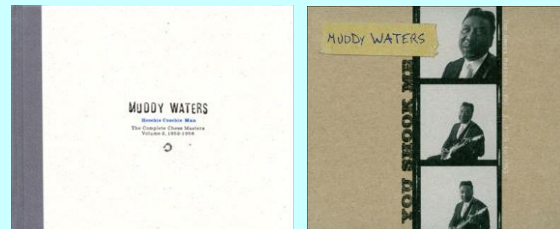
Muddy Watera,vcl; James Cotton,hca; Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker,g; Andrew Stephens,b; Francis Clay,d

9504	Take The Bitter With The Sweet	June 1959
		1733
9505	She's Into Something	1733

### The Ultimate Muddy Waters Collection: The Hip-O-Select CD Series:



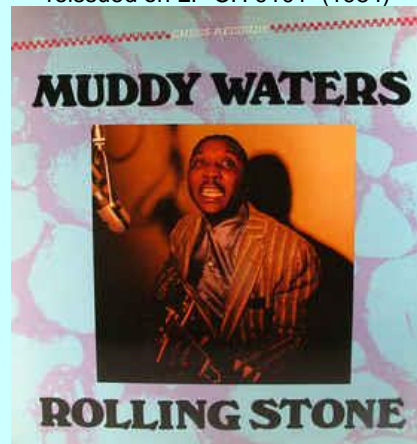
Rollin' Stone - The Golden Anniversary Collection (1947-1952)  
- MCA (2CD) 088 112301-2 (2000)



Hoochie Coochie Man - The Complete Chess Masters, Volume Two  
(1952-1958) - Hip-O Select (2CD) 0002758-02 (2004)

and  
You Shook Me - The Complete Chess Masters, Volume Three  
(1958-1963) - Hip-O-Select (2CD) B0017581-02 (2013)

### Rolling Stone – Chess LP CH 8202 (1982) reissued on LP CH 9101 (1984)



Walking Thru The Park, Gone To Main Street, She Moves Me,  
I Just Want To Make Love To You, Tiger In Your Tank,  
I Want You To Love Me, Got My Mojo Working //  
Rollin' Stone, Baby Please Don't Go, My Eyes (Kept Me In Trouble),  
Long Distance Call, 40 Days and 40 Nights,  
Standing Around Crying, Still A Fool



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### More of Muddy's many Chess US compilation albums





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### MUDDY WATERS - ONE REPRESENTATIVE RECORD PER YEAR 1947 – 1966



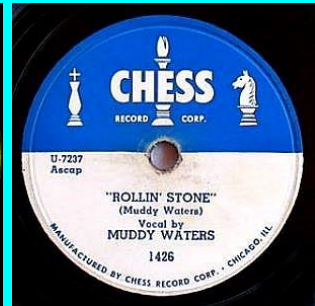
1947



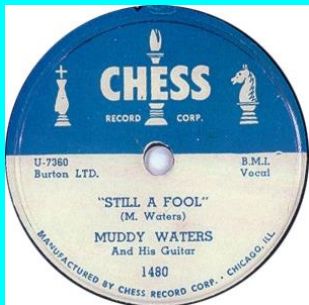
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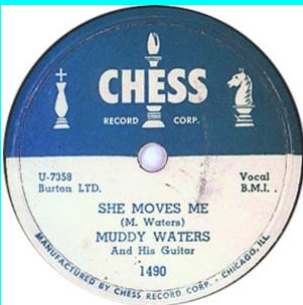
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1950



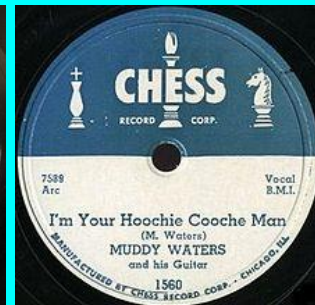
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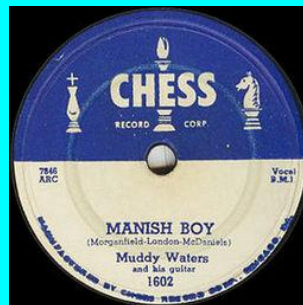
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1953



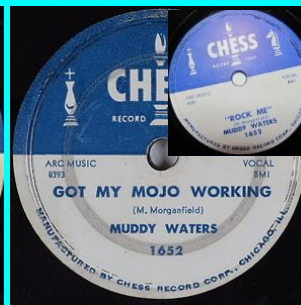
1954



1955



1956



1957



1958



1959



1960



1961 (act 1954)



1962



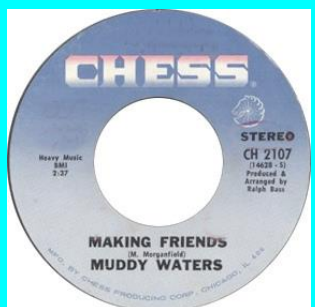
1963



1964



1965

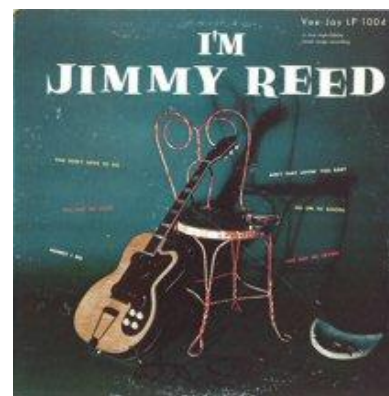
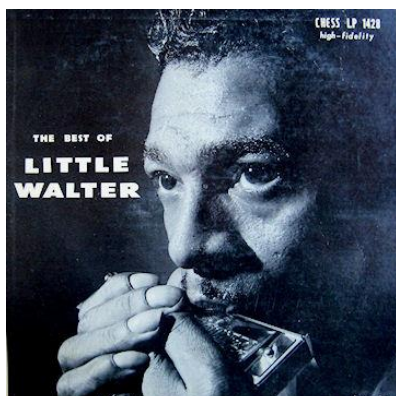
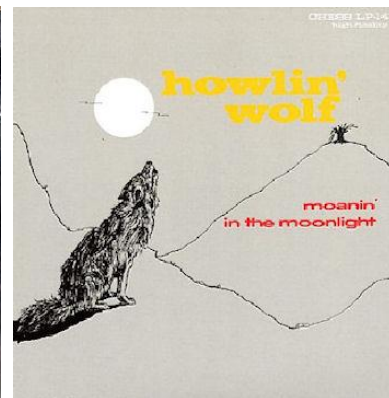
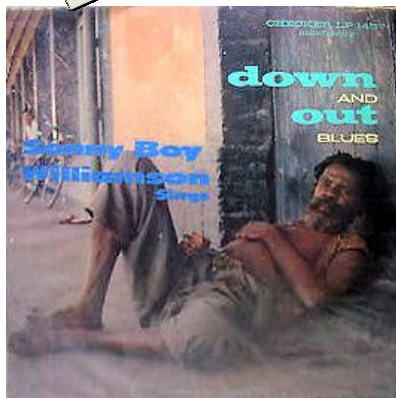
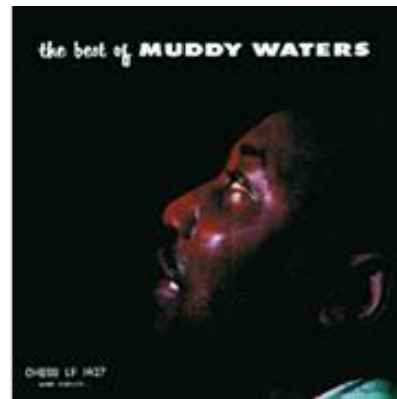
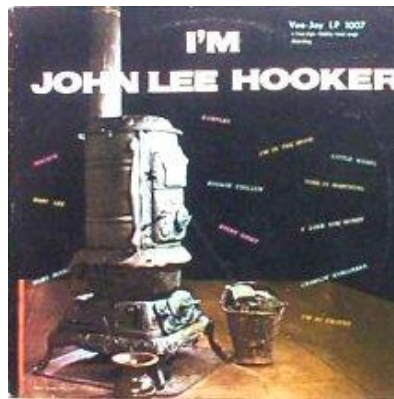
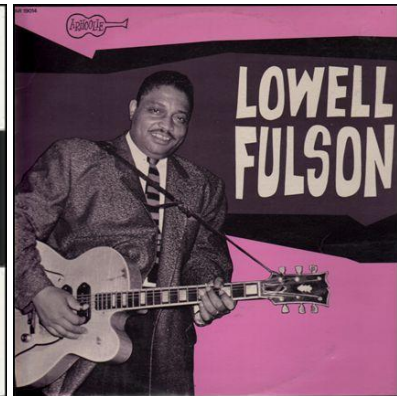
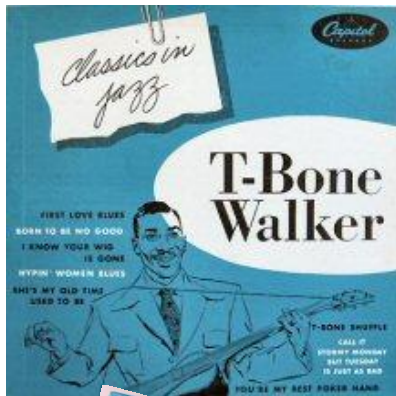


1966



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

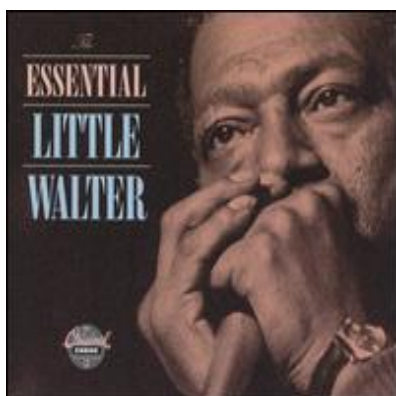
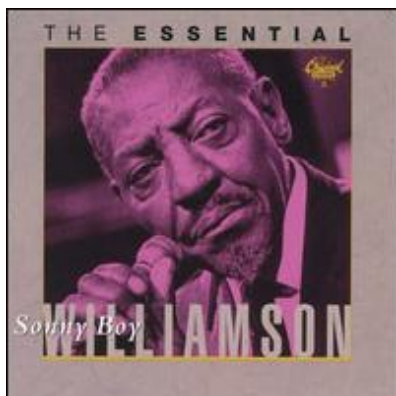
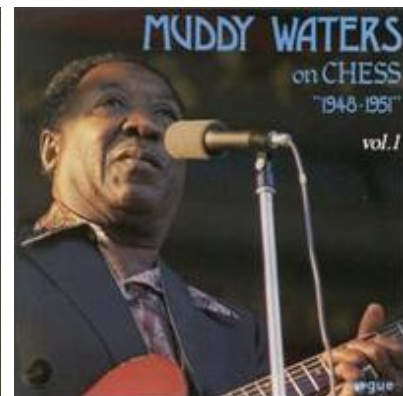
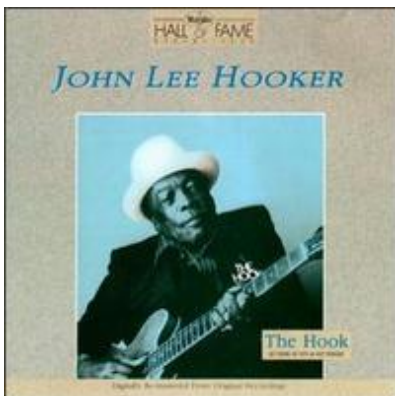
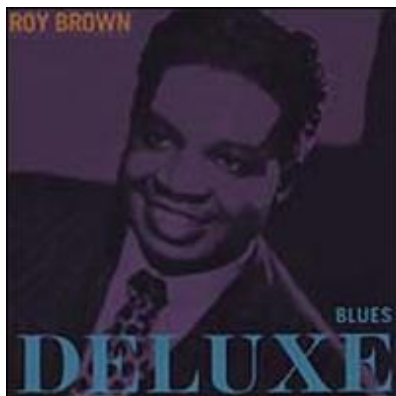
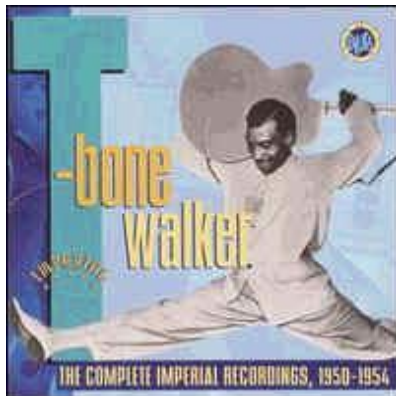
### THEIR VERY FIRST LPs





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SOME OF THE EARLY CD COMPILATIONS



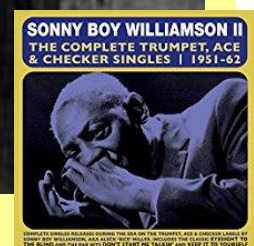
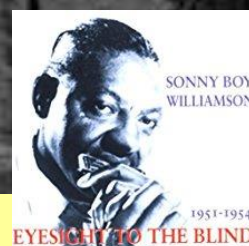
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### PHOTO GALLERY (in order of presentation)





## Little Boy Blue – THE HARMONICA WIZARD



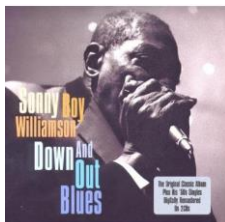
Inserted: Sonny Boiy and Muddy Waters plus the two great Acrobat public domain CDs of 2006 and 2018.

# SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON



"Little Boy Blue" - SBW II - "The Harmonica Wizard" - "Sonny Boy" - Harmonica player and bar and "juke joint" blues singer with true roots in the Mississippi and the Arkansas Delta, where he worked with Robert Johnson, Robert Jnr. Lockwood, the young Elmore James, and the Howlin' Wolf. Influenced and "tutored" James Cotton, Junior Wells, Junior Parker, and Little Walter. Worked with his own radio show at KFFA, Helena, Arkansas from early 1942. Lived in West Memphis during 1949-1951. He was making radio shows out of Belzoni in Mississippi - and at KWEM in West Memphis. Spread rumours he made his recording debut very early on - no records found. Recorded for Lilian McMurry in Jackson, Miss. from the 1951 (some Trumpet records issued as "Sonny Boy" Williamson & His Houserockers). He also backed other Trumpet artists (a.o. "Elmo James" and Big Boy Crudup). Recorded as side-man with Tampa Red in Chicago in September, 1953,- back to Jackson - and to Detroit, recording with Baby Boy Warren in 1954). Later moved to Cleveland and East St. Louis and settled in Milwaukee, Wisc in 1960. Joined Chess/Checker in 1955, soon backed by such greats as Otis Spann and Lafayette Leake, pno; Robert Jnr. Lockwood and Luther Tucker, gtr; and Fred Below and Odie Payne, dms. A major harp stylist, who adopted the legendary John Lee Williamson's name before that artist was murdered in Chicago in 1948. Became a legend during his life-time, spending several periods in Europe. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980. Sonny Boy's singles on Checker 1955-1956 were issued as "Sonny Boy" Williamson.

**Born:** Aleck (Alex) "Rice" Miller in (as he said himself) Glendora, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi. Later also known as Willie Williams and Willie Williamson in official papers - his mother was Millie Ford who later married Sonny's father (most files say stepfather) Jim Miller. Birthdate according to his passport was April 7, 1909 (he gave his birth as December 5, 1897 - his headstone near Tutwiler, Miss says March 11, 1908, other files say 1905 and December 5, 1899. The years 1910 and 1912 are also listed. From Lonesome Cabin website/Bill Donoghue: "His brother Willie was the one who was born in 1897 and whose identity he stole along with Sonny Boy Williamson I's stage name." **Actually born** in Money, LeFlore County, near Greenwood and not far from Glendora, Tallahatchie County December 5, 1912 (according to Bob Eagle and Eric LeBlanc). **Died** in Helena, Arkansas May 25, 1965. His headstone erroneously gives his date of death as June 23, 1965. **First recordings:** Jackson, Miss Jan 4, 1951 and re-cut on March 12 Eyesight To The Blind / Crazy About You Baby - Trumpet 129. **Records for:** Trumpet 51-54, Checker 55-64, Storyville-Denmark 1963.



## Essential CDs:

His Best - MCA/Chess CHD 9377 (20 great chronological tracks, 1997) or Essential Sonny Boy Williamson (2CD) - MCA/Chess CHD2-9343 (1993) and Blues Masters - Storyville STCD 8012 - 17 great November, 1963 European recordings (2001)

## Editor's choice:

The Chess Years (4CD) - Charly RED Box 1 (1991) plus King Biscuit Time - Arhoolie CD 310 (1989) and Goin' In Your Direction - Trumpet AA-801 (1991) or Eyesight To The Blind 1951-1954 - Acrobat ACRCD 210 (25 tracks, 2001)

## For Collectors:

Down And Out Blues - Not Now (2CD) NOT2CD356 (2010)

- with 22 Trumpet and 16 early Checker

Eyesight To The Blind - Blue City BCCD 811 (30 Trumpet tracks, (2009) or Cool Cool Blues (4CD) - The Classic Sides 1951-1954 - JSP 7766 incl Elmore, and more Trumpet artists (2006)



## Reading:

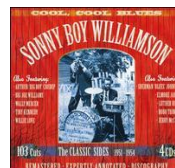
Fessor Mojo's "Don't Start Me To Talkin'" by William E. Donoghue (US, 1997) and

Spinning Blues Into Gold - The Chess Brothers and the Legendary Chess Records by Nadine Cohodas (US 2000)



## First LP:

Down And Out Blues - Chess/Checker LP 1437 (1959)



## SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON, vocals/harmonica "HI-FIVE"

- 1. Sonny Boy Williamson** (featuring Willie Love, pno)  
- Jackson, MS January 4 (and March 12), 1951:  
DRC 15 **Eyesight To The Blind** - Trumpet 129
- 2. "Sonny Boy" Williamson** (featuring Dave Campell, pno)  
- Jackson, MS, November 2, 1954:  
DRC 213 **No Nights By Myself** - US Ace 511
- 3.** (featuring Muddy Waters and Jody Williams, gtrs; Otis Spann, pno) - Chicago, August 12, 1955:  
U 7890 **Don't Start Me Talkin'** - Checker 824 (#3, 11w total)
- 4. Sonny Boy Williamson**  
(featuring Lafayette Leake, pno; Robert Lockwood Jr, gtr)  
- Chicago, March 27, 1958:  
U 8753 **Your Funeral And My Trial** - Checker 894
- 5.** (featuring Leake or Billy Emerson, org;  
Matt Murphy, gtr) - Chicago, January 11, 1963:  
12115 **Help Me** - Checker 1036



## R&B Top 10 Hit: (1 of 3 Top 40)

1955 **Don't Start Me Talkin'** #3

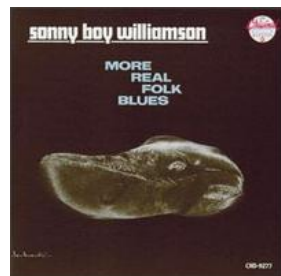
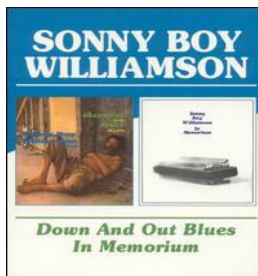
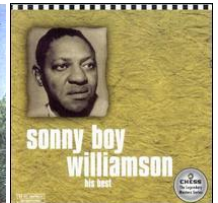
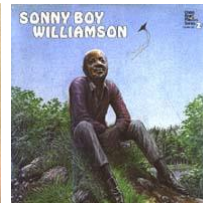
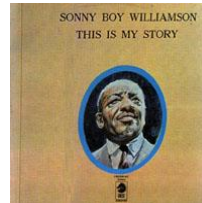


## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



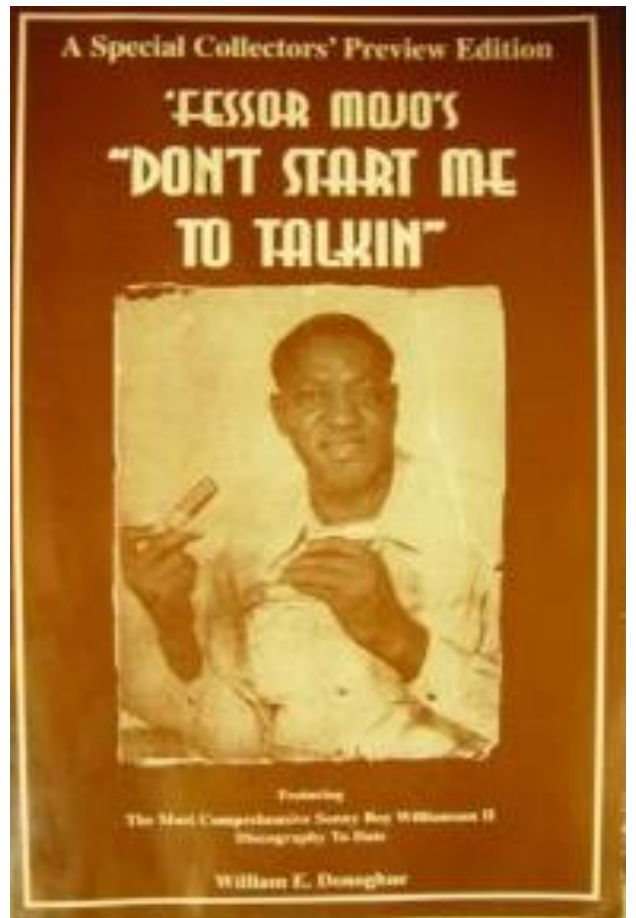
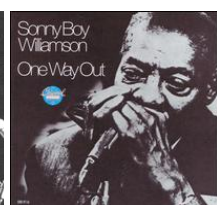
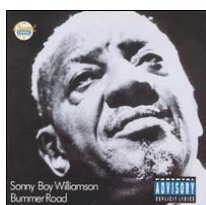
### For Your Pleasure:

- 1951 Eyesight To The Blind
- 1952 West Memphis Blues
- 1953 Mighty Long Time
- 1953 Gettin' Out Of Town
- 1954 No Nights By Myself
- 1956 Keep It To Yourself
- 1956 The Key To Your Door
- 1957 Fattening Frogs For Snakes
- 1957 I Don't Know
- 1957 **Born Blind** (Eyesight To The Blind)
- 1957 Ninety Nine
- 1958 Your Funeral And My Trial
- 1959 It's Sad To Be Alone
- 1959 Cool Disposition
- 1959 The Goat
- 1959 I Never Do Wrong
- 1960 Checkin' Up On My Baby
- 1960 Open Road
- 1960 Too Close Together
- 1961 Down Child
- 1962 Nine Below Zero
- 1963 **Got To Move** (Please Let Me Come Back Home)
- 1963 Help Me
- 1963 One Way Out
- 1964 I Want You Close To Me
- 1965 I Can't Be Alone
- 1965 Bring It On Home
- 1965 Don't Send Me No Flowers



### Sonny Boy's original Chess LPs

- Down And Out Blues - LP 1437 (1959) issued as Checker LP 1437
- The Real Folk Blues (UK: In Memorium) - LP 1503 (1965)
- More Real Folk Blues - LP 1509 (1966)
- Bummer Road - LP 1536 (1969)
- This Is My Story - 2LP 2CH50027 (1972)
- One Way Out - CHV 417 (1975)
- Sonny Boy Williamson - 2LP 2ACBM-206 (1976)
- SBW Chess Masters Vol 1 - 2LP Charly CXMD 4001 (1981 UK)
- SBW Chess Masters Vol 2 - 2LP Charly CXMD 4012 (1983 UK)

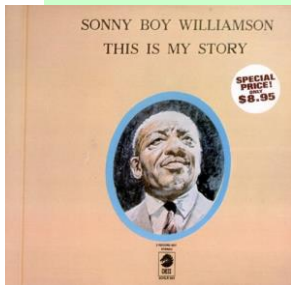


# “SONNY BOY” Checker Recordings in Chicago

A complete Checker/Chess discography of SBW II



**General note:** Discography based on Les Fancourt's entry in "Blues Discography – the classic years" (EyeBall 2012) and his "Chess Labels Discography" (1989). All recordings done in Chicago with Leonard Chess, Willie Dixon, and later Ralph Bass, producers. Only original Checker singles and original LP or CD albums listed (Chess – except for LP 1437 which had the Checker banner, but a Chess catalogue number). Some recordings were originally issued on "bootleg" LPs (noted). Most of the tracks on Japan PLP 6023 (and all of the bootlegs) later on Charly's Chess RED Box 1 (6LP and 4CD withdrawn after MCA claim). Of the 95 tracks listed here 89 are included in that box – covering all songs – tracks not on Chess RED Box 1 marked &). LP 206 is a double-LP "Sonny Boy Williamson" and 2LP 50027 "This Is My Story" has no tracks previously unissued (poss. the alternate of "Wake Up Baby"). CD 9343 titled "The Essential" (tracks marked #). CDs 9330 and 9340 are V.A. "His Best" is a CD with cat no. 9377 (tracks marked \*).



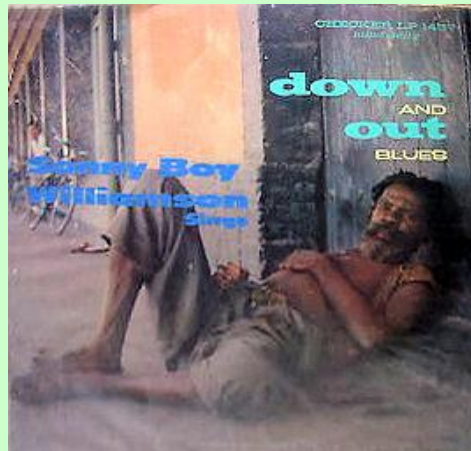
2-set LP 50027



**“SONNY BOY” WILLIAMSON**, vcl/hca with  
Otis Spann,pno; Muddy Waters & Jody Williams,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms  
**August 12, 1955**  
7889 Work with me LP 417  
7890 Don't start me talkin' \* 824 (R&B #3), LP 1437, #  
7891 All my love in vain \* 824, LP 1437, #  
7892 Good evening everybody \* LP 417, #  
7893 You killing me (on my feet) LP 417, #  
*Note: 7890 titled "Don't start me to talkin'" on LP.*

with  
Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Dixon,  
Below  
7980 Let me explain 834, LP 1437, #  
7981 I know what love is all about LP 417  
7982 I wonder why LP 417  
7983 Your imagination 834, LP 206, #  
7984 Don't lose your eye LP 417, #

omit pno  
8205 Keep it to yourself \* 847 (R&B #14), LP 417, #  
8206 Please forgive LP 1437  
8207 The key (to your door) 847, LP 1437  
alt. take o.a. CD 9343( #)  
8208 Have you ever been in love LP 417, #  
*Note: 8206 wrongly titled "Keep it to yourself" on the LP.*



LP 1437

**SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON**, vcl/hca with  
same musicians as above  
February 8, 1957  
8408-2 Hurts me so much Blues Ball LP 2004  
8408-3 alt. take o.a. "  
8408-4 alt. take o.a. "  
8409 Fattening frogs for snakes \* 864, LP 1437, #  
alt. take o.a. Blues Ball LP 2004,  
(poss CD 9343 #)  
8410 I don't know \* 854, LP 1437, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 9330 &  
8411 Like Wolf LP 417, #  
8412 This is my apartment LP 417

add Spann, pno  
September 1, 1957  
8593 Cross my heart \* 910, LP 1437, #  
8593-1/2 alt. take o.a. Japan PLP 6023  
8593-3 alt. take o.a. "  
8594 Born blind \* 883, LP 417, #  
8595 Ninety nine (Ninety-nine) \* 883, LP 1437, #  
8595-1 99 Japan PLP 6023  
8595-2/3 alt. take o.a. ("99") LP 206  
8596 Dissatisfied 910, LP 1437  
8596-1/3 alt. take o.a. Japan PLP 6023  
*Note: 8594 is a remake of Sonny's Trumpet recording Eyesight to the blind. 8595 titled 99 on LP 1437 and Ninety Nine on ChessBox1.*

same session  
18030 Little village (tks 1 to 11) LP 1536  
18030-2 Little village (included above) Italian LP 2-92519, # &  
18031 Unseen eye LP 1536, #



LP 1503

with  
Lafayette Leake,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Eugene Pearson,gtrs;  
Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms  
March 27, 1958  
8753 Your funeral and my trial \* 894, LP 1437, #  
8753-2/4 alt. take o.a. Japan PLP 6023  
8753-5 alt. take o.a. "



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

- |        |                                    |                  |
|--------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8754   | She got next to me                 | LP 1536          |
|        | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>              | LP 206           |
| 8755   | Wake up baby                       | 894, LP 1437     |
| 8755-2 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>              | Japan PLP 6023 & |
| 8756   | Keep your hands out of my pocket * | LP 1536, #       |



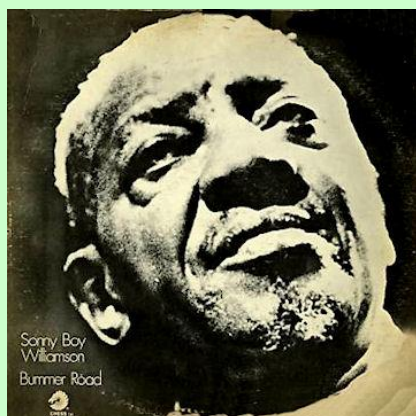
LP 1509

- with  
Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie  
Dixon,bs; Odie Payne,dms
- |      |                                   |                    |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9479 | Let your conscience be your guide | 927, LP 417, #     |
| 9480 | Unseeing eye                      | 927, Chess Box1, # |

- same with Fred Below,dms
- |        |                                |                 |
|--------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9829   | The goat                       | 943, LP 1509, # |
| 9829-1 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>          | Japan PLP 6023  |
|        | The goat ( <i>band track</i> ) | " , CD 9340 &   |
| 9830   | Cool disposition               | LP 417, #       |
| 9830-1 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>          | Japan PLP 6023  |
| 9830-3 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>          | "               |
| 9831   | I never do wrong               | LP 206          |
| 9832   | It's sad to be alone *         | 943, LP 1503    |
- Note: 9832 titled "Sad to be alone" on LP.*

- with  
Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; unkn bs;  
Fred Below,dms
- |       |                          |            |
|-------|--------------------------|------------|
| 10105 | Open road                | LP 1536    |
| 10106 | Santa Claus              | LP 1536, # |
| 10107 | I can't do without you   | LP 1536    |
| 10108 | Checkin' up on my baby * | LP 1503, # |
|       | <i>alt. take o.a.</i>    | ChessBox 1 |

- with  
Otis Spann,pno; Eddie King Milton & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie  
Dixon,bs, Fred Below,dms
- |       |                  |                 |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| 10266 | Temperature 110  | 956, LP 1536, # |
| 10267 | Peach tree       | LP 1503         |
| 10268 | Lonesome cabin   | 956, LP 1536, # |
| 10269 | Somebody help me | LP 1509, #      |



LP 1536

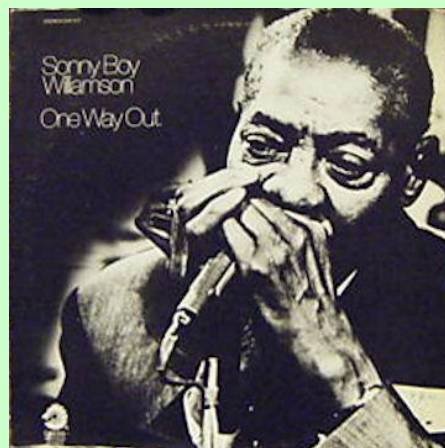
- with  
Lafayette Leake,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs;  
Willie Dixon,bs/&vcl on-1; Fred Below,dms
- |       |                       |                  |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 10415 | Down child *          | 1134, LP 1503, # |
| 10416 | Trust my baby         | 963, LP 1503, #  |
| 10417 | This old life         | LP 1536          |
| 10418 | Too close together -1 | 963, LP 417, #   |

- with  
Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie  
Dixon,bs/&vcl on-1; Odie Payne,dms
- |       |                  |                 |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| 10569 | Too young to die | LP 1503, #      |
| 10570 | She's my baby    | LP 1509, #      |
| 10571 | Stop right now   | 975, LP 1509, # |
| 10572 | The hunt -1      | 975, LP 1509    |

**December 14, 1960**

- same with Fred Below,dms
- |           |                       |                  |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 11224     | Too old to think      | LP 1503, #       |
| 11225     | That's all I want     | LP 1503          |
| 11226     | One way out           | 1003, LP 417, #  |
| 11226-1/4 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i> | Japan PLP 6023 & |
| 11227     | Nine below zero *     | 1003, LP 1509, # |
|           | <i>alt. take o.a.</i> | LP 206           |
| 11227-1/3 | <i>alt. take o.a.</i> | Japan PLP 6023   |

**September 8, 1961**



LP 417

- with  
Lafayette Leake or Billy Emerson,org; Matt Murphy,gtr; Milton  
Rector,bs; Al Duncan,dms
- |       |                    |                           |
|-------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 12113 | Got to move        | LP 1503                   |
| 12114 | Bye bye bird *     | 1036, LP 1509, #          |
| 12115 | Help me *          | 1036 (R&B 24), LP 1509; # |
| 12116 | Bring it on home * | 1134, LP 1503, #          |
- Note: Crowd noise added on 12116 on a VA-LP. A more correct title for 12113 would have been "Baby let me please come home".*

**January 11, 1963**

- with  
Jarrett Gibson,tsax, Donald Hankin,bsax; Lafayette Leake,pno;  
Buddy Guy,gtr; Jack Meyers,bs; Clifton James,dms

**September 3, 1963**

- |       |                               |                  |
|-------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 12663 | One way out                   | ChessBox 1       |
| 12664 | My younger days *             | 1080, LP 1509    |
| 12665 | Trying to get back on my feet | 1065, LP 1509, # |
| 12666 | Decoration day                | 1065, LP 1509, # |

- with  
Lafayette Leake,pno; Buddy Guy,gtr; Jack Meyers,bs; Fred  
Below,dms
- |       |                        |                  |
|-------|------------------------|------------------|
| 13210 | Stop crying            | LP 206           |
| 13211 | I want you close to me | 1080, LP 1509, # |
| 13212 | One way out *          | LP 1503          |

*Note: 13211 titled "Close to me" on LP.*

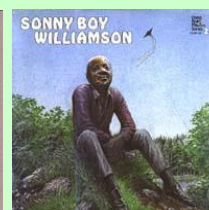
**April 30, 1964**

- with  
Jarrett Gibson,tsax (not on -1); Donald Hankins,bsax (not on-1);  
Lafayette Leake, org-2/pno-3; Buddy Guy,gtr (not on -1): possibly  
Jack Meyers;bs; possibly Clifton James,dms

**August 1964**

- |                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 15171?          | I can't be alone -3                                 | LP 206, #                                  |
| <i>unkn no.</i> | My name is Sonny Boy -2                             | Blue Knight LP 1668                        |
| 15172-1/3       | Don't make a mistake<br>(Mattie is my wife) -3      | Blues Ball LP 2004,<br>Blue Knight LP 1668 |
| 15172-2/4       | <i>alt. take o.a.</i> -3                            | as above, &                                |
| 15173           | Understand my life -2                               | LP 206                                     |
| 15174           | Find another woman<br>(Gonna find somebody else) -1 | Blues Ball LP 2004,<br>Blue Knight LP 1668 |

CDs 9377 and 9343, plus Chess 2-set LP 206



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SONNY'S original Chess CDs (except for the LPs reissued on CD)

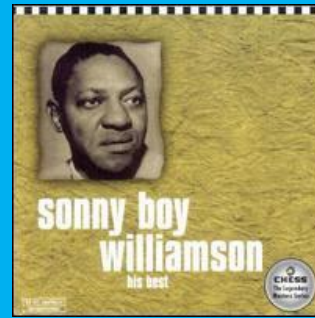
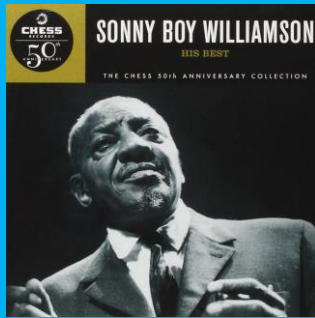


Here are the best if you can't get the Charly Box:

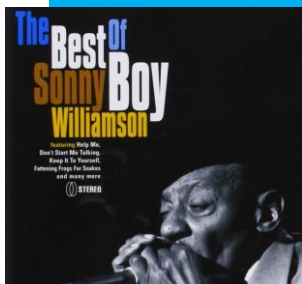
The Essential – Universal/Chess (2-set 1993)

A 45-tracks collection of singles and LP-tracks released on the Checker and Chess labels 1955 through 1964. "The Key" is the alternate and "Little Village" has a false start. Check pages 60-61 for tracks! Includes a booklet with a biographical profile.

Your Funeral, My Trial video of 1963



His Best – MCA/Chess (1997)



The Best Of... – Spectrum/Chess (2000) and .. Blues Greats – Geffen/Universal (2011)

#### SONNY BOY'S CHECKER SINGLES

1955

824 Don't Start Me Talkin' – All My Love In Vain

1956

834 Let Me Explain – Your Imagination

847 Keep It To Yourself - The Key (To Your Door)

1957

864 Fattening Frogs For Snakes – I Don't Know

883 Ninety Nine – Born Blind

1958

894 Your Funeral And My Trial – Wake Up Baby

910 Dissatisfied – Cross My Heart

1959

927 Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide – Unseeing Eye

1960

943 The Goat – It's Sad To Be Alone

956 Temperature 110 – Lonesome Cabin

1961

963 Too Close Together – Trust My Baby

975 Stop Right Now – The Hunt

1962

1002 One Way Out – Nine Below Zero

1963

1036 Help Me - Bye Bye Bird

1964

1065 Trying To Get Back On My Feet – Decoration Day

1080 I Want You Close To Me – My Younger Days

1965

1134 Bring It On Home – Down Child

Note: Sonny Boy made 17 sessions for Checker – two of them produced no single (the most famous: the "Checkin' Up On My Baby" session of April 1960; and the last of August 1964). Trumpet had issued 12 singles (including one on US Ace) between 1951 and 1955.



Sonny Boy in Memphis ca 1949

[Sonny Boy at wikipedia](#)



**CHESS RECORDS' "BIG FOUR"**

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**Muddy Waters** 1913-1983 (for Chess 1947 – 1975)

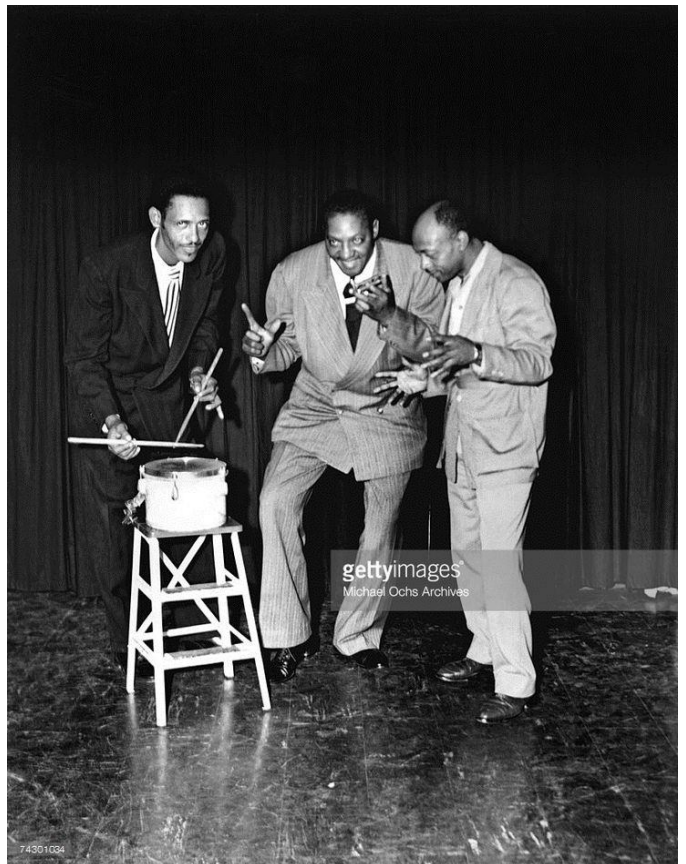
**Howlin' Wolf** 1910-1976 (for Chess 1951 – 1975)

**Sonny Boy Williamson** 1912-1965 (for Checker 1955 – 1965)

**Little Walter** 1930-1968 (for Checker 1952 – 1967)



## SONNY BOY GALLERY



Sonny Boy from the Trumpet days (with Willie Nix and Robert Jr Lockwood)

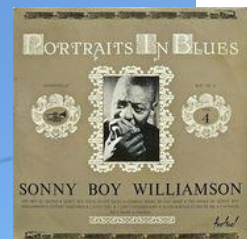




## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



Early photos of Robert Jr. and Sonny Boy in Arkansas.



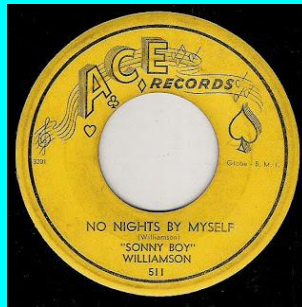


# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## SONNY BOY & THE WOLF – TEN REPRESENTATIVE SINGLES EACH



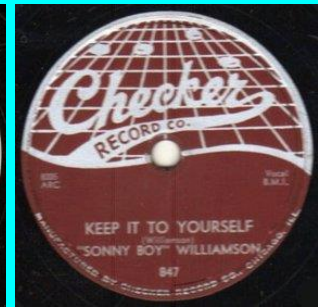
1951



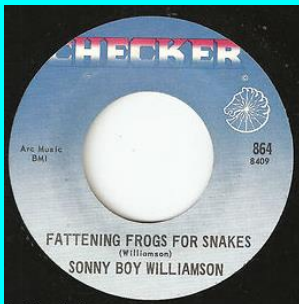
1954



1955



1956



1957



1958



1959



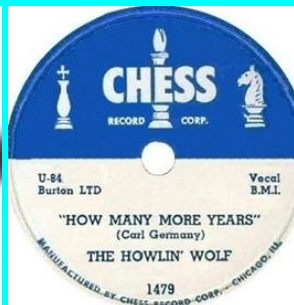
1960



1963



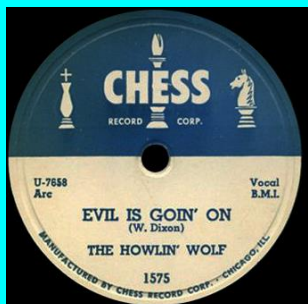
1964



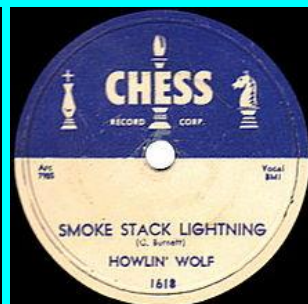
1951



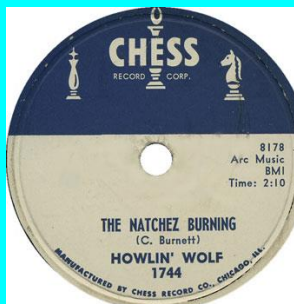
1951



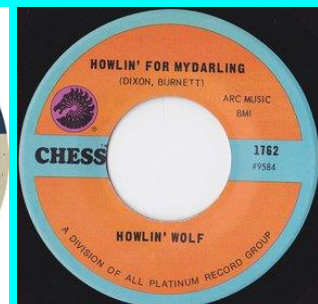
1954



1956



1957



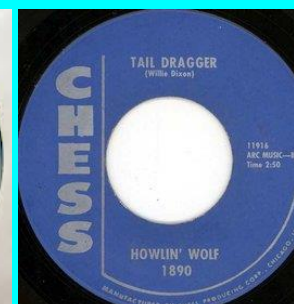
1959



1960



1961



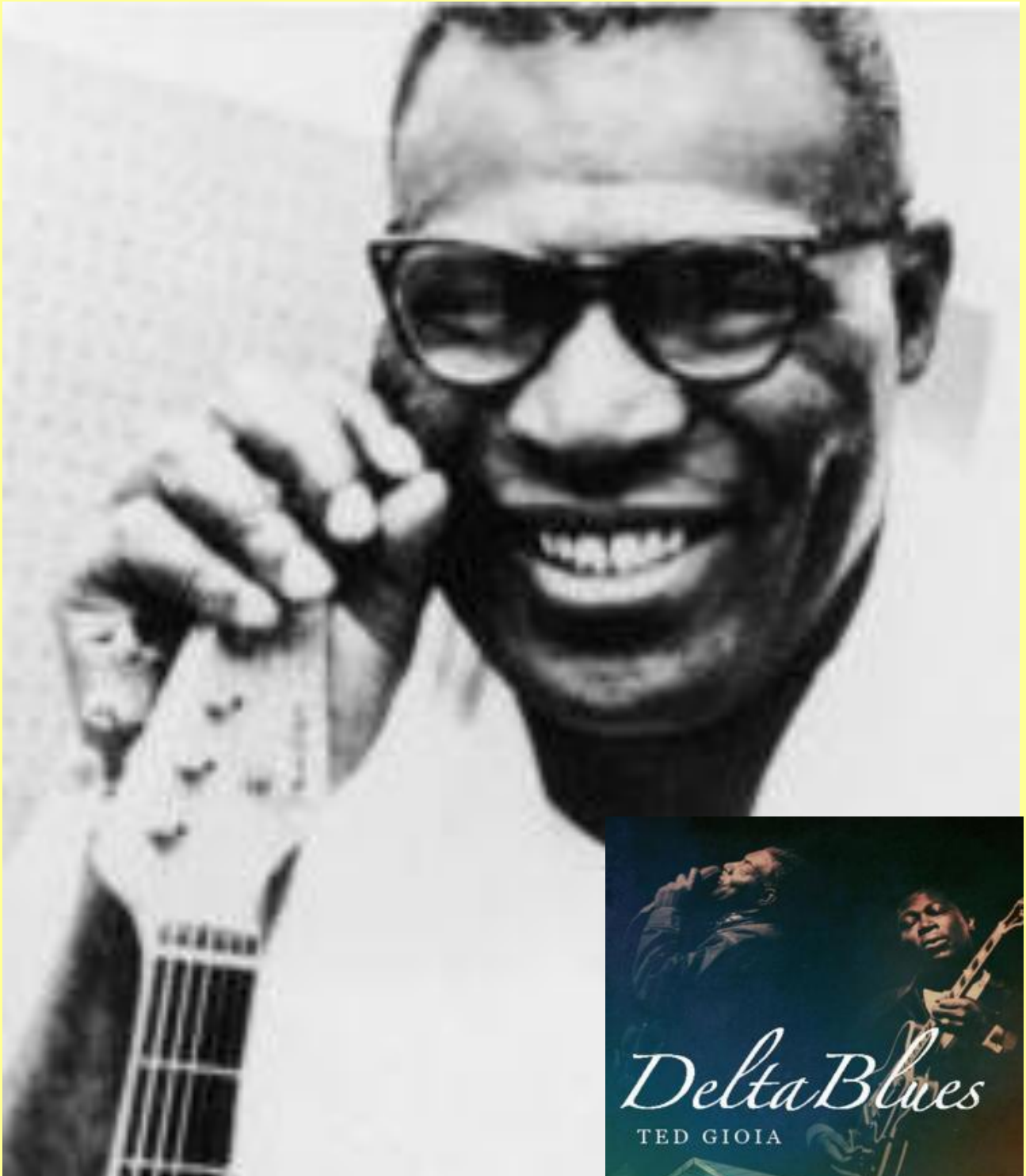
1962



1964

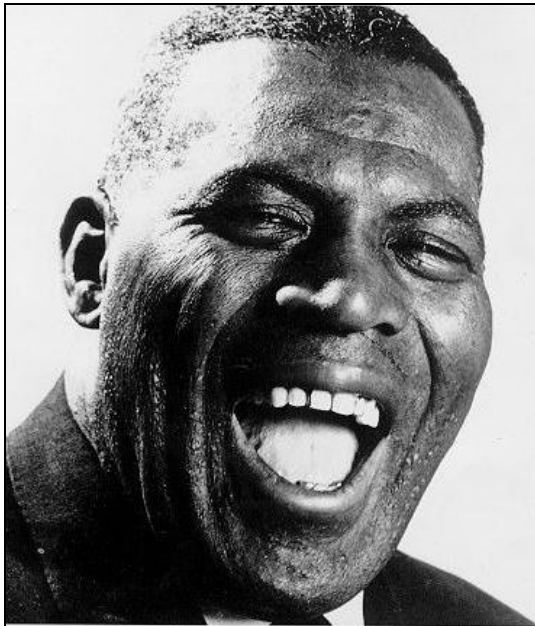


## THE MIGHTY WOLF

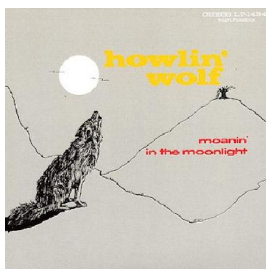


Inserted: One of the most interesting books on some of the great Mississippi Legends (from the 1920s up 'til today). Featuring detailed stories on Charley Patton, Son House, Tommy Johnson, Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf, B.B.King – and more (published 2008). Some main stories of the greats are missing (Sonny Boy and Jimmy Reed...).

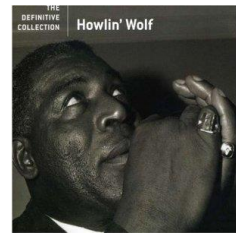
# HOWLIN' WOLF



"The Mighty Wolf", "Big Foot", "John D" - Electrifying guitarist/harmonica player and Delta/Chicago blues singer, who modernized the pre-war country blues traditions of the Delta. Learned the guitar from Charley Patton and the harmonica from Sonny Boy II in Mississippi and Arkansas. Started his own band in West Memphis in 1948 - the Houserockers. Worked as a DJ and was introduced to record makers by Ike Turner in 1951. Recorded in Memphis for Sam Phillips (who leased the masters to Chess), and in West Memphis for the Bihari brothers (issued on RPM). Nowadays there is material enough for three full-packed CDs covering Wolf's early period - and a truly powerful one! Moved to Chicago and Chess in 1953. Some famous members of his Chicago band of the '50s and early '60s: Willie Johnson, gtr (who also worked with him in Memphis/West Memphis); Hubert Sumlin, gtr; Hosea Lee Kennard and later Henry Grey and Johnny Jones, pno; and Earl Phillips and later S.P. Leary, dms (some blues fans even think Wolf's band was better than Waters'). One of the Chess labels' important blues legends - "The Big Four" (Muddy, Wolf, Little Walter, and Sonny Boy). Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1991.



**Born:** Chester Arthur Burnett, June 10, 1910, White Station (4 miles northeast of West Point - northeast of the Delta region), Clay County, Miss.  
**Died** of cancer January 10, 1976 Chicago, Illinois.  
**First recordings:** Memphis, Tenn May 14, 1951 Baby Ride With Me (aka Ridin' In The Moonlight) and How Many More Years - unissued acetates for Sam Phillips); as above or June, 1951 (new acetates from Sam Phillips Baby Ride With Me aka Riding In The Moonlight and How Many More Years (sent to RPM/Modern) and further originally unissued alternates; Memphis July, 1951 Moanin' At Midnight / How Many More Years - Chess 1479 - issued on August 15 (this session, produced by Phillips); West Memphis September, 1951 Riding In The Moonlight / Morning At Midnight - RPM 333 (plus Dog Me Around and Keep What You Got - all four produced by Joe Bihari). First in Chicago: March, 1954 No Place To Go - Chess 1566.  
**Records for:** RPM and Chess 51-52, Chess 53-75.



## Essential CDs:

Smokestack Lightning: The Complete Chess Masters 1951-1960  
 - Hip-O Select 4CD-set 1530902 *or*  
 The Definitive Collection - Geffen 8784 (2007) *or*  
 The Genuine Article - MCA/Chess 11073 (1997) *or*  
 His Best - MCA/Chess CHD 9375 (1997) *and*  
 His Best Vol. 2 - Chess 12026 (1999)  
*or* The Chess Box (3CD) - MCA/Chess CHD3-9332 (1991)  
*and* The Back Door Wolf - MCA/Chess CD CHD 9358 (1995)  
 - his great last Chess sides prod by Ralph Bass with a great bonus track.

## Editor's choice:

The Complete Recordings 1951-1969 (7CD) - Charly RED Box 7 (1993)  
 - including all 54 Chess/Phillips Memphis recordings and:  
 Howlin' Wolf Sings The Blues (all the RPM-Modern-Crown recordings 1951-1952) - Ace CDCHM 1013 (2004) **GET IT** or its pre-issue Howlin' Wolf Rides Again - Ace CDCHD 333 (1991)  
**For Collectors:** Memphis Days: The Definitive Edition Vol 1 *and* Vol 2 - Bear Family BCD 15460 AH (1990) and 15500 AH (1991)  
 - 40 of the Chess/Phillips tracks; also found on the first two volumes of "The Complete" above.  
 Wolf's Memphis recordings are simply terrific!

**Reading:** Moanin' At Midnight - The Life and Times of Howlin' Wolf by James Segrest & Mark Hoffman (Pantheon, 2004) *and* Chicago Breakdown by Mike Rowe (Edison Bluesbooks, 1973)

## First LPs:

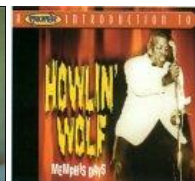
Moanin' In The Moonlight - Chess LP 1434 (1958)  
 Howlin' Wolf Sings The Blues - Crown LP 5240 (1961)

## HOWLIN' WOLF, vocals/harmonica/guitar "BIG-SIX"

1. **The Howlin' Wolf** (featuring Ike Turner or poss. Albert Williams, pno; Willie Johnson, gtr) - Memphis, Tenn, July 1951:  
 U 84 **How Many More Years** - Chess 1479 (#4, 11w total)
2. **Howlin' Wolf** (featuring Hosea Lee Kennard, pno; Willie Johnson and Hubert Sumlin, gtrs) - Chicago, January 1956:  
 U 7985 **Smoke Stack Lightnin'** - Chess 1618 (#8, 3w)
3. (featuring Hubert Sumlin, gtr) - Chicago, July 1959:  
 U 7890 **Howlin' For My Darling** - Chess 1762:
4. (featuring Johnny Jones, pno; Hubert Sumlin, gtr) - Chicago, June 1961:  
 10938 **The Red Rooster** - Chess 1805
5. (featuring Henry Grey, pno) - Chicago, December 1961:  
 11379 **I Ain't Superstitious** - Chess 1823
6. (w Leake, pno; Sumlin and Buddy Guy, gtrs) - Chicago, August 1964:  
 13418 **Killing Floor** - Chess 1923

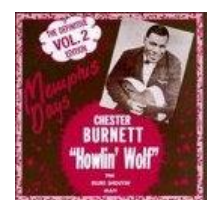
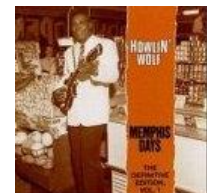
## R&B Top 10 Hits: (4 of 5 Top 40)

- |      |                       |                           |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1951 | Moanin' At Midnight   | #10 (as The Howlin' Wolf) |
| 1951 | How Many More Years   | #4 (as The Howlin' Wolf)  |
| 1956 | Smoke Stack Lightnin' | #8                        |
| 1956 | I Asked For Water     | #8                        |



## To Get You Excited:

- |      |                                |                              |
|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1951 | Ridin' In The Moonlight        | (on RPM as The Howlin' Wolf) |
| 1952 | House Rockin' Boogie           | (Crown, 1961)                |
| 1952 | Brownskin Woman                | (Crown)                      |
| 1952 | Bluebird                       |                              |
| 1952 | Come Back Home                 |                              |
| 1954 | Evil Is Going On               |                              |
| 1954 | Forty Four                     |                              |
| 1955 | I'll Be Around                 |                              |
| 1957 | The Natchez Burnin'            |                              |
| 1957 | Tell Me                        |                              |
| 1957 | Sittin' On Top Of The World    |                              |
| 1958 | I'm Leaving You                |                              |
| 1958 | Howlin' Blues (I'm Going Away) |                              |
| 1959 | Howlin' For My Darling         |                              |
| 1960 | Back Door Man                  |                              |
| 1960 | Spoonful                       |                              |
| 1961 | The Red Rooster                |                              |
| 1961 | Goin' Down Slow                |                              |
| 1961 | I Ain't Superstitious          |                              |
| 1962 | Tail Dragger                   |                              |
| 1963 | Built For Comfort              |                              |
| 1964 | Killing Floor                  |                              |
| 1965 | I Walked From Dallas           |                              |
| 1973 | Coon On The Moon               |                              |



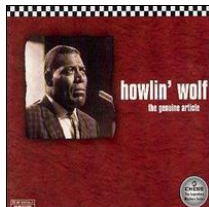


## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



### Wolf's original Chess LPs

Moanin' In The Moonlight - LP 1434 (1958)  
 Howlin' Wolf ("Rocking Chair") - LP 1469 (1962)  
 The Real Folk Blues - LP 1502 (1965)  
 More Real Folk Blues - LP 1512 (1967)  
 Evil - LP 1540 (reissue of 1434) (1969)  
 The Howlin' Wolf Album - Cadet 319 (1969)  
 Message To The Young - LP 50002 (1971)  
 The London Sessions - LP 60008 (1971)  
 Live And Cookin' - LP 50015 (1972)  
 The Back Door Wolf - LP 50045 (1973)  
 A.K.A. Chester Burnett - 2LP 60016 (1972) (reissued as LP 201)  
 Muddy Waters & Howlin' Wolf: London Revisited - LP 60026 (1974)  
 Change My Way - LP 418 (1975)  
 Chess Masters - 2LP CXMD 4004 (Charly UK 1981)  
 Chess Masters vol 2 - 2LP 4007 (Charly UK 1982)  
 Chess Masters vol. 3 - 2LP 4014 (Charly UK 1983)

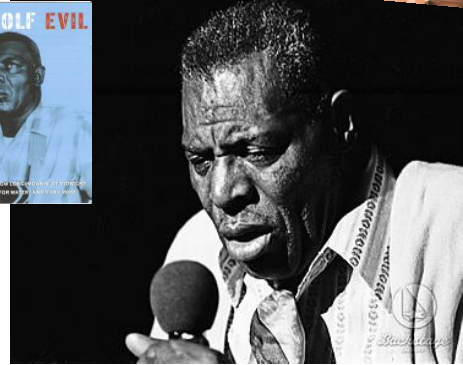
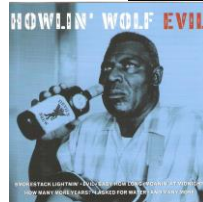


### THE HOWLING WOLF's RPM / Crown recordings

Ike Turner, pno; Willie Johnson, gtr; Willie Steele, dms, Calvin Newborn, extra gtr-1; unknown bs-2. Producer: Joe Bihari  
**Memphis, Tennessee May 14 or ca June 1951: (prod Sam Phillips)**  
 Baby Ride With Me (Riding In The Moonlight) - Ace LP CH 52  
 Baby Ride With Me - Ace CDCHD 333  
**West Memphis, Arkansas, September 1951:**  
 Riding In The Moonlight - RPM 333 (as Howling Wolf)  
 Morning (Moanin') At Midnight (no pno) - RPM 333 (as Howling Wolf)  
 Keep What You Got - 1 - Crown LP 5240  
 Dog Me Around (How Many More Years) - Crown LP 5240  
**West Memphis (-2), October 2, 1951:**  
 Passing By Blues - RPM 340 (as Howlin' Wolf)  
 Crying At Daybreak (Daylight) (Smokestack Lightnin') - RPM 340  
 My Baby Stole Off - RPM 347 (as The Howling Wolf)  
 I Want Your Picture - RPM 347  
**West Memphis (-2), February 12, 1952 (poss two sessions):**  
 Worried About My Baby - Crown LP 5240  
 House Rockin' Boogie - Crown LP 5240  
 Brownskin Woman - Crown LP 5240  
 Chocolate Drop (alt of above) - Ace LP CH 52  
 Driving This Highway - Polydor LP 2383 257  
 The Sun Is Shining - Kent LP 9002  
 Stealing My Clothes (My Friends) - Kent LP 9002  
 I'm The Wolf - Kent LP 9002



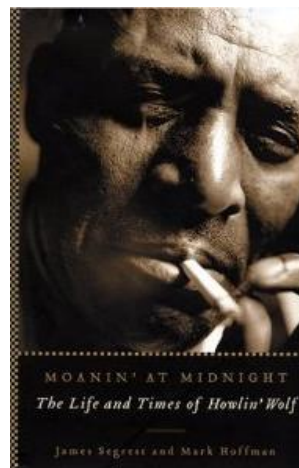
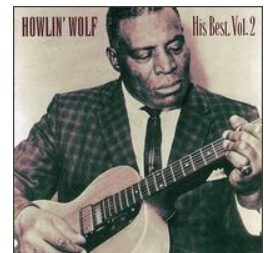
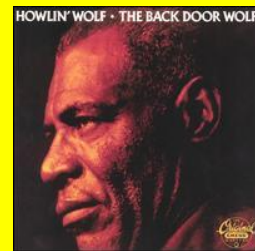
**Note.** During this period Wolf also recorded several singles for Chess plus originally unissued tracks for Sam Phillips in Memphis, first with Ike Turner and later mostly with Albert Williams (and L.C. Hubert or Bill Johnson), pno; and poss Roger Jones, bs; and Steele (May 14 and c. June, plus July and December 18, 1951; an later January 23, April 17, and October 7, 1952).



A terrific album (Wolf's last recordings, still in his prime) recorded on August 14 and 17, 1973 with one (alternate) bonus track on MCA CD CHD-9358 (1995).

Wolf, vcl/hca; Eddie Shaw, tnsax/bandleader; Emory "Detroit Jr" Williams, p/harpichord; Hubert Sumlin and Willie Harris, gtrs; James Green or Andrew McMahon, bsses; S.P. Leary, dms; Ralph Bass, prod.

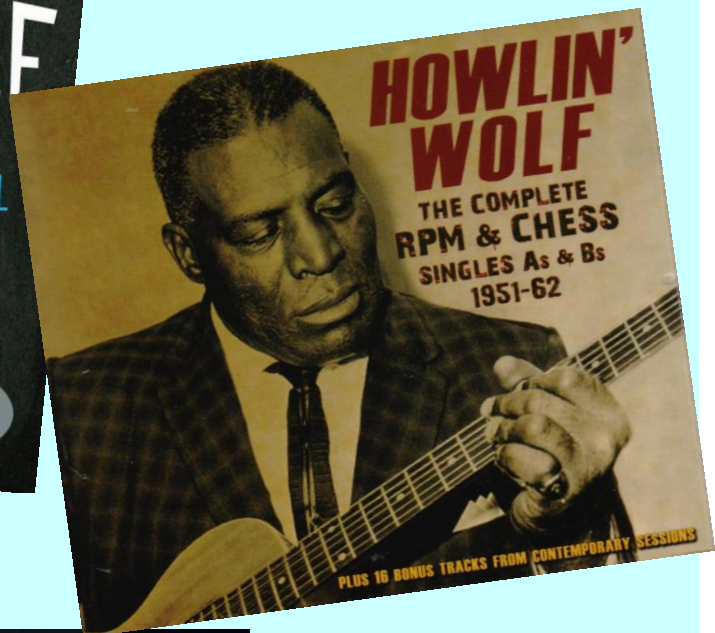
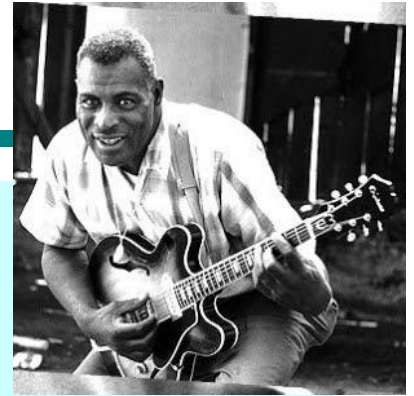
**Chess LP 50045 - The Back Door Wolf**



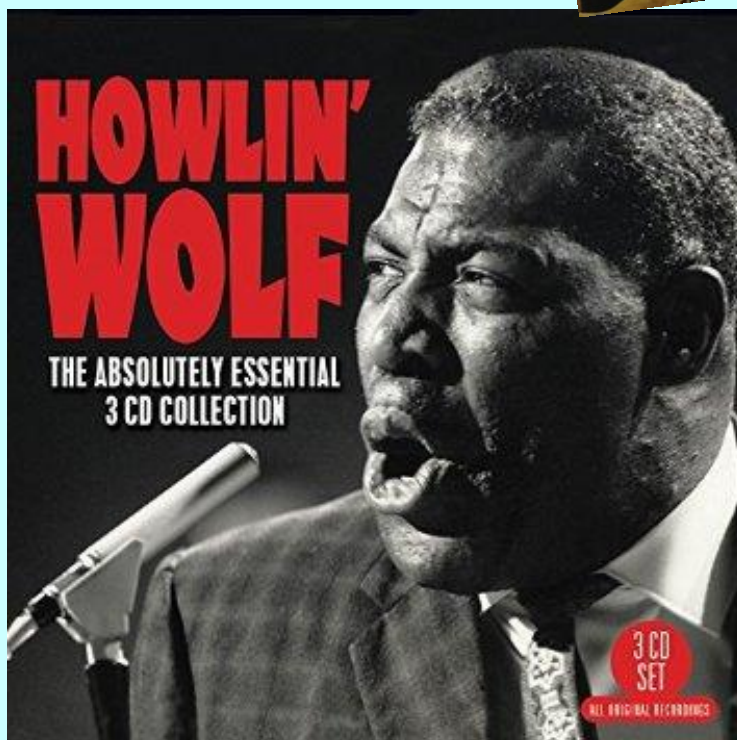


## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### SOME OF THE WOLF'S LATER CDs



Not Now Music 3CD (2015), Acrobat 3CD (2014)

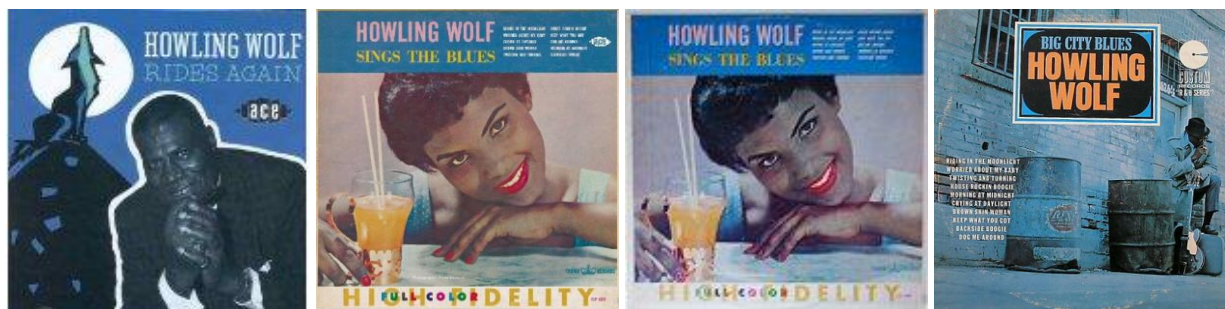


Big 3 3CD (2015), Hip-O-Select 4CD (2011), and Four Classic Albums on Avi 2CD (2015)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

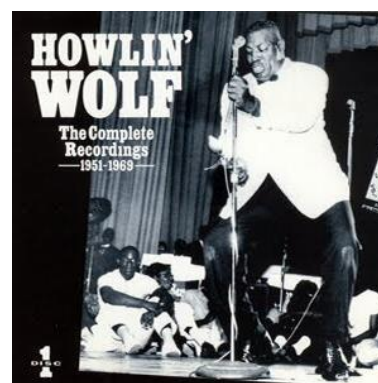
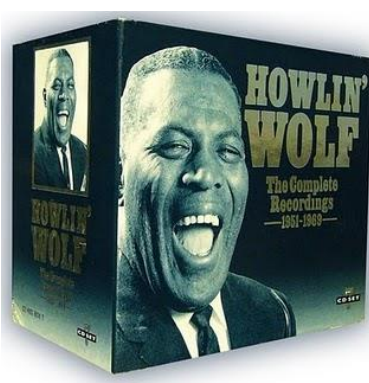
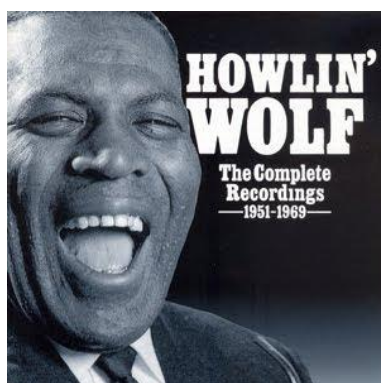
### The Howlin' Wolf Gallery



Ace CDCHD 333 (1991 – 18 great RPM tracks), Ace CHCHM 1013 (2004 – all his 20 RMP/Modern recordings), plus his original LP on Crown CLP 5240 (1962), and the Custom reissue CM 2055 (ca 1966)



United/Superior 7717 (same cover on British Ember), United 717 (ca 1970), Kent KST 516 (1968), and United 7747 (ca 1977)



The Charly CD RED Box 7 (1993 out of catalogue – featuring 151 sides made for Sam Phillips in Memphis and for Chess Records in Chicago)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### The HOWLIN' WOLF Memphis (Chess) and West Memphis (RPM) Singles

Note: Dates indicated issue dates and recording dates. Any of A-B-side may be the plug side.



Chess 1479 (A- and B-sides) issued August 15, 1951 (rec July 1951); RPM 333 (A- and B-sides) September 1951 (rec September 1951)



RPM 340 (A- and B-sides) December 1951 (rec October 2, 1951); Chess 1497 (A- and B-sides) January 14, 1952 (rec December 18, 1951)



RPM 347 (A- and B-sides) late January 1952 (rec October 2, 1951); Chess 1510 (A- and B-sides) April 15, 1952 (rec January 23, 1952)



Chess 151 (A- and B-sides) ca July 1952 (rec April 17, 1952); Chess 1528 (A- and B-sides) November 1952 (rec October 7, 1952)



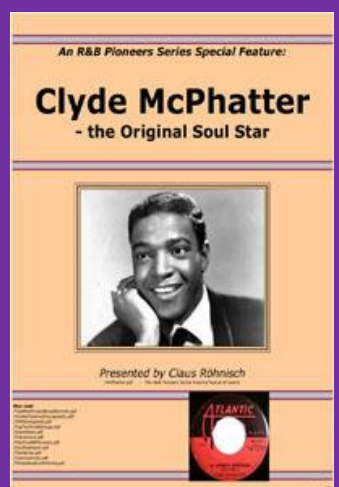
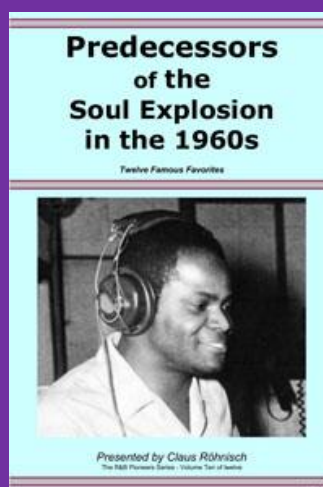
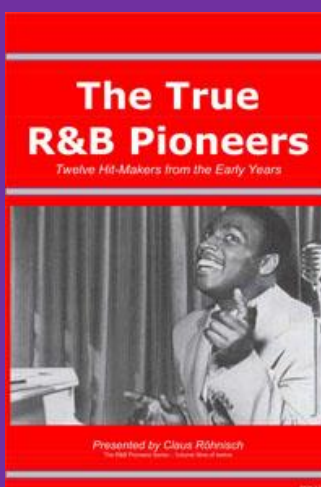
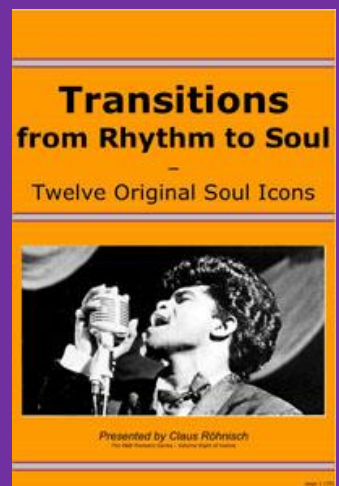
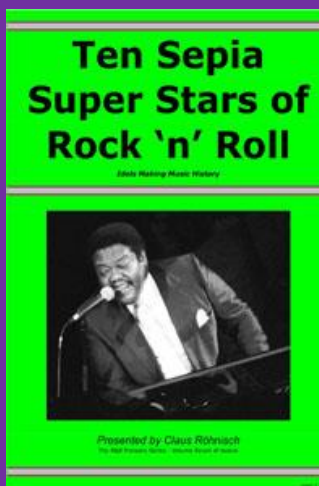
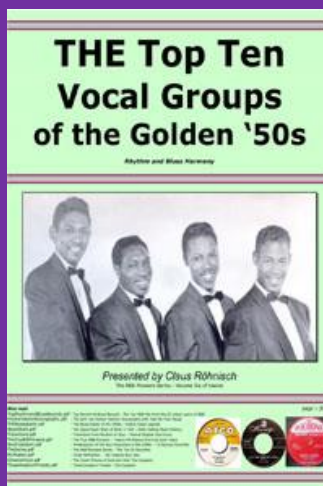
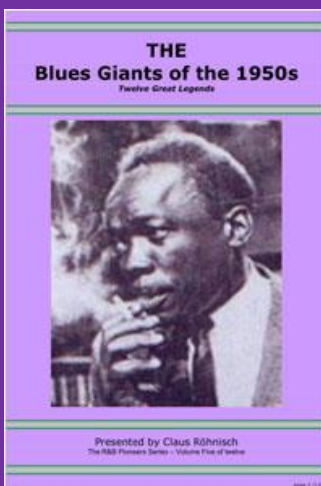
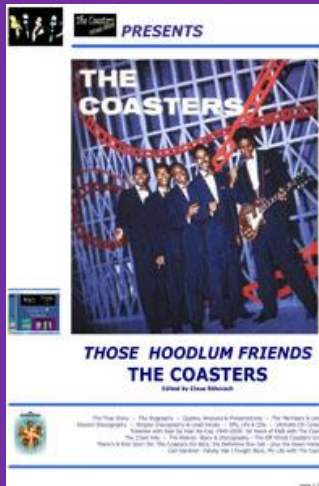
Chess 1557 (A- and B-sides) January 23, 1954 (rec late 1952/early 1953)





# The Great R&B-files

Created By Claus Röhnisch <http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info/>  
Read And Enjoy! - © Claus Röhnisch 2015 - Managed by Thomas Jarlvik





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

Original label credits on some famous blues singles

### THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

- Twelve Great Legends

Compiled by Claus Röhnisch

also see: "Top Rhythm & Blues Records",  
"Top Ten Vocal Groups", and "Hooker Session Discography".

### Sources (and acknowledgments)

All books listed in the presentations (and the inlay album notes of the LPs and CDs presented, plus fans' and official artist websites) were consulted in compiling "THE Blues Giants". Below you will find some other worthwhile blues books from my collection. Thank you – all authors listed.



- \* **BLUES – A Regional Experience:** Bob Eagle and Eric S. LeBlanc (US, UK 2013)
- \* **Boogie Chillin' – A Guide to John Lee Hooker on Disc:** Les Fancourt (UK 1992)
- \* **Blues Records 1943 – 1970 Vol One:** Mike Leadbitter, Neil Slaven; Vol Two: Mike Leadbitter, Leslie Fancourt and Paul Pelletier (Record Information Services, London 1994)
- \* **The Blues Discography 1943 – 1970 (The Classic Years)** by Les Fancourt and Bob McGrath (second and third editions publ by Eyeball Productions 2006 and 2019)
- \* **The Soul Discography 1960-1980** by Bob McGrath (Eyeball 2010-2012), three volumes
- \* **The Blues Discography 1971-2000 (The Later Years)** by Robert Ford and Bob McGrath (Eyeball 2011)
- \* **All Music Guide to the Blues – The Definitive Guide to the Blues** (3rd edition): Vladimir Bogdanov et al (Backbeat Books, US 2003)
- \* **The Penguin Guide to Blues Recordings:** Tony Russell and Chris Smith (UK 2006)
- \* **The History of the Blues – The Roots, The Music, The People:** Francis Davis (US 1995, 2003) (Davis' book is in my opinion the best read u can get in understanding the blues and its roots)
- \* **The Blues – A Very Short Introduction:** Elijah Wald (Oxford 2010) (Wald's little book is highly recommended – read it and you will really be in touch with the true blues and a perfect companion to Davis')
- \* **The Big Book of Blues:** Robert Santelli (UK 1994)
- \* **Delta Blues – The Life and Times of the Mississippi Masters who Revolutionized American Music:** Ted Gioia (W. W. Norton, US 2008)
- \* **Chicago Breakdown:** Mike Rowe (UK 1973) *retitled Chicago Blues – The City and the Music:* (US 1975)
- \* **Deep Blues:** Robert Palmer (Penguin, New York, 1981)
- \* **Trumpet Records – An Illustrated History with Discography:** Marc Ryan (Big Nickel, US 1995)
- \* **Spinning Blues Into Gold – The Chess Brothers and the Legendary Chess Records:** Nadine Cohodas (US 2000)
- \* **Chess Records – Machers and Rockers:** Rich Cohen (US 2005)
- \* **The Story of Chess Records:** John Collis (1998)
- \* **I Am The Blues – The Willie Dixon Story:** Willie Dixon with Don Snowden (US 1989)
- \* **South To Louisiana – John Broven** (UK)
- \* **Encyclopedia of the Blues (Volumes 1 & 2):** Edward Komara, editor (Routledge Taylor & Francis Group - (1100 A4 pages in two volumes, publ 2006)
- \* **Urban Blues:** Charles Keil (US and UK, 1966)
- \* **Conversation with the blues:** Paul Oliver (US 1965, reprint 1997)
- \* **Feel Like Going Home – Portraits in Blues and Rock 'n' Roll:** Peter Guralnick (US 1971, 1989, 2003)
- \* **Rhino's Cruise Through The Blues:** Barry Hansen (UK, US 2000)
- \* **Rollin' And Tumblin' – The Postwar Blues Guitarists:** Jas Obrecht, editor (US 2002)
- \* **Damn Right I've Got The Blues:** Buddy Guy and Donald Wilcock (US 1993)
- \* **Blues For Dummies:** Lonnie Brooks, Cub Koda, Wayne Baker Brooks (IDG Books 1988)
- \* **A Blues Bibliography – The International Literature of an Afro-American Music Genre:** Robert Ford (Paul Pelletier, publisher) (UK 1999)
- \* **Blues Who's Who – A Biographical Dictionary of Blues Singers:** Sheldon Harris (US 1981)
- \* **Martin Scorsese Presents the Blues:** Guralnick, Santelli, George-Warren Farley, eds (US 2003)
- \* **Harmonica, Harps and Heavy Beaters:** Kim Field (US 1993)
- \* **The Virgin Encyclopedia of The Blues:** Colin Larkin (Virgin UK 1998)
- \* **The Rough Guide to Blues:** Nigel Williamson (US 2007)
- \* **The Devil's Music – A History of the Blues:** Giles Oakley (UK 1976, 1983, 1997) - mostly pre-war
- \* **The Country Blues:** Sam Charters (US 1959)
- \* **The Golden Age of the Blues:** Richard Havers & Richard Evans (UK 2009) w 20-tracks CD
- \* **First Pressings – The History of Rhythm & Blues – Ten Volumes of 1950 – 1959:** Galen Gart (Big Nickel, US, 1991 - 2002)
- \* **The R&B Book – A Disc-History of Rhythm & Blues:** Big Al Pavlow ( Music House Publ. US 1983) - reprinted 2009 - get it at Music House Publishing
- \* **The Real Rhythm And Blues:** Hugh Gregory (UK 1998)
- \* **Blue Rhythms – Six Lives in Rhythm and Blues:** Chip Deffaa (US 1996)
- \* **Midnight at the Barrelhouse – The Johnny Otis Story:** George Lipsitz (US 2010)
- \* **King of the Queen City – The Story of King Records:** Jon Hartley Fox (US 2009)
- \* **Takin' Back My Name – The Confessions of Ike Turner:** Ike Turner with Nigel Cawthorne (UK 1999)
- \* **Let The Good Times Roll – The Story of Louis Jordan & His Music:** John Chilton (US 1994)
- \* **Rock Mr. Blues – The Life and Music of Wynonie Harris:** Tony Carlini (Big Nickel, US 1995)
- \* **Upside Your Head! – Rhythm & Blues on Central Avenue:** Johnny Otis (US 1993)
- \* **The Gangster of Love – Johnny "Guitar" Watson – Performer, Preacher, Pimp:** Vincent Bakker (Createspace, US 2009)
- \* **Feel Like Going Home – Portraits in Blues and Rock 'n' Roll:** Peter Guralnick (US 1971, reprint 1989, 2003)
- \* **Dinah Washington – Queen of the Blues:** James Haskin (US 1987)
- \* **Brown Sugar – Eighty Years of America's Black Female Super Stars:** Donald Bogle (US 1980)
- \* **Record Makers and Breakers – Voices of the Independent Rock 'n' Roll Pioneers:** John Broven (US 2009)

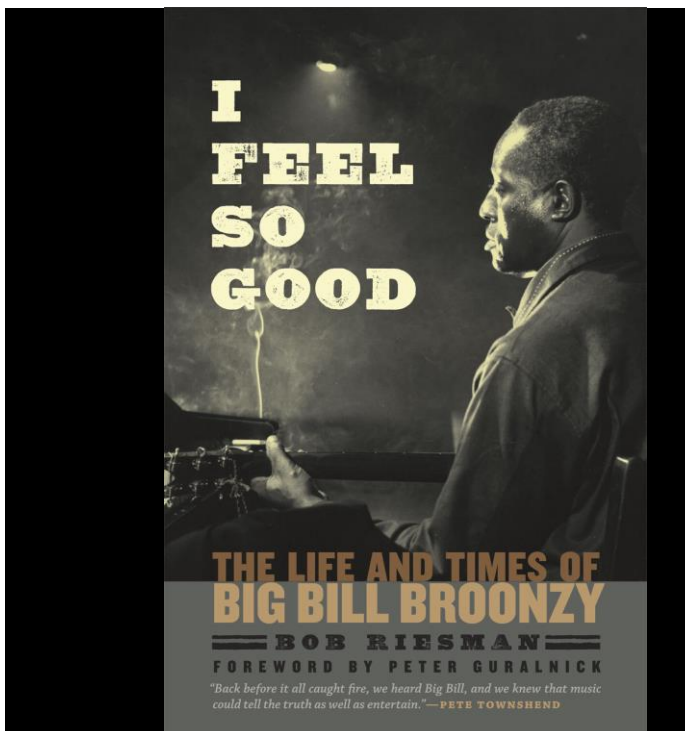
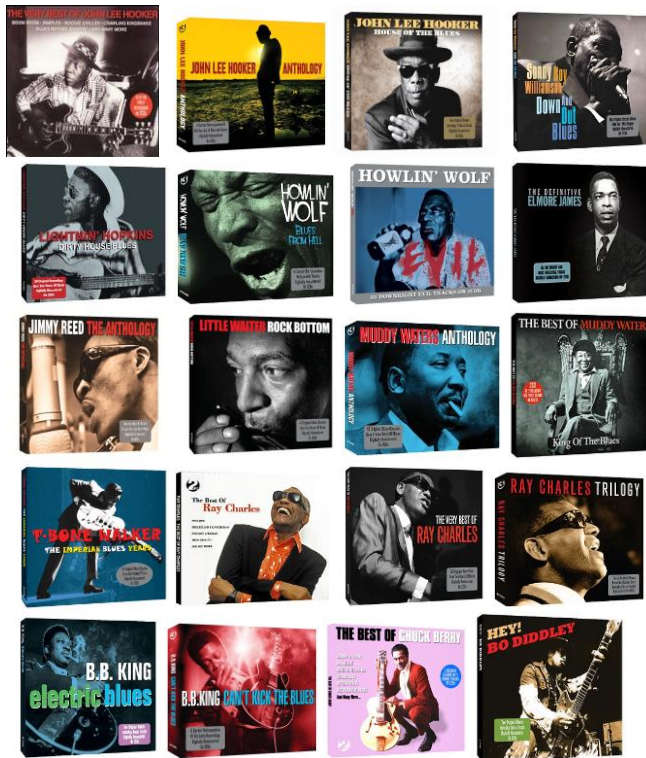


## Not Now Music "public domain" blues series

Not Now Music has a fine series of double- and triple- CDs featuring classic post-war electric blues



Below you'll find some of their extensive catalogue. Check for more at <http://www.notnowmusic.co.uk/blues.htm>



## The Blues Foundation BLUES HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS Literature, Albums, and Singles 2013-2018

### 2013

#### Classics of Blues Literature

Soulsville, U.S.A.: The Story of Stax Records, by Rob Bowman (Schirmer, 2003)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Album

Louis Jordan's Greatest Hits (Decca 1969)

More Real Folk Blues — Howlin' Wolf (Chess 1967)

Complete Recorded Works/Texas Worried Blues — Henry Ragtime Texas Thomas (Herwin 1975/Yazoo 1989)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Single or Album Track

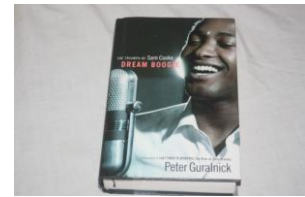
How Many More Years — Howlin' Wolf (Chess, 1951)

Canned Heat Blues — Tommy Johnson (Victor, 1928)

Let the Good Times Roll — Louis Jordan (Decca, 1946)

Mystery Train — Little Junior's Blue Flames (Junior Parker) (Sun, 1953)

Me and My Chauffeur Blues — Memphis Minnie (Okeh, 1941)



### 2014

#### Classics of Blues Literature

Dream Boogie: The Triumph of Sam Cooke – Peter Guralnick (Little, Brown and Company, 2005)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Album

Moanin' in the Moonlight – Howlin' Wolf (Chess 1959)

Hawk Squat – J.B. Hutto (Delmark, 1969)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Single or Album Track

High Water Everywhere, Parts I & II – Charley Patton (Paramount 1930)

It's Tight Like That by Tampa Red & Georgia Tom (Vocalion 1928)

Milk Cow Blues – Kokomo Arnold (Decca 1934)

After Hours – Erskine Hawkins and His Orchestra (Bluebird 1940)

Catfish Blues – Robert Petway (Bluebird 1941)



### 2015 Only Performers inducted

Tommy Brown, Eric Clapton, Little Richard

### 2016

#### Classics of Blues Literature

Early Downhome Blues: A Musical and Cultural Analysis, by Jeff Todd Titon

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Album

Blues in the Mississippi Night (Nixa, 1957; United Artists, 1959)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Single or Album Track

Mamie Smith: Crazy Blues (Okeh, 1920)

Jimmy Rogers: That's All Right (Chess, 1950)

Billy Boy Arnold: I Wish You Would (Vee-Jay, 1955)

Johnny Moore's Three Blazers (Charles Brown, vocal and piano): Merry Christmas Baby (Exclusive, 1947)

Leroy Carr and Scrapper Blackwell: Blues Before Sunrise (Vocalion, 1934)

### 2017

#### Classics of Blues Literature

Father of the Blues – W.C. Handy (De Capo, 1941)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Album

Real Folk Blues – John Lee Hooker (Chess, 1966)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Single or Album Track

Bo Diddley – Bo Diddley (Checker, 1955)

Hi-Heel Sneakers – Tommy Tucker (Chess, 1963)

I Ain't Superstitious – Howlin' Wolf (Chess, 1961)

I'll Play the Blues For You – Albert King (Stax, 1971)

Preachin' the Blues – Son House (Paramount, 1930)

### 2018

#### Classics of Blues Literature

I Feel So Good: The Life and Times of Big Bill Broonzy, by Bob Riesman

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Album

B.B. King: Blues Is King (ABC BluesWay, 1967)

#### Classics of Blues Recordings – Single or Album Track

See See Rider Blues – Ma Rainey (Paramount, 1924)

I'm a Man – Bo Diddley (Checker, 1955)

Roll 'Em Pete – Joe Turner (Vocalion, 1938)

Green Onions – Booker T. & the MG's (Stax/Volt, 1962)

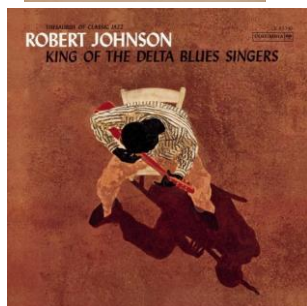
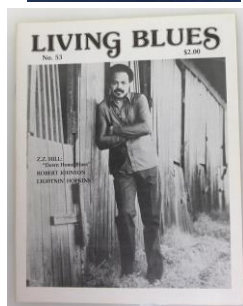
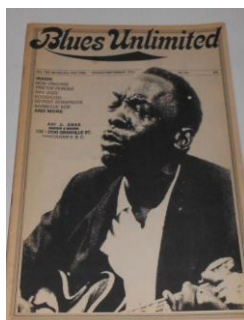
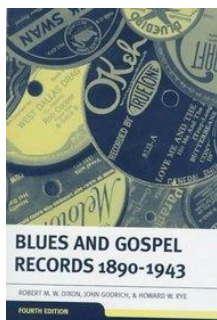
Cross Cut Saw – Albert King (Stax, 1966)



# The Blues Foundation: BLUES HALL OF FAME

Below you'll find inductions of Literature, Albums, and Singles to the Blues Hall of Fame 1982-2012 (it started in 1982).

See page 77 for 2013-2018. Performers, see [Wikipedia \(Inductions\)](#) or The Blues Foundation website <http://www.blues.org/>



**1982**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Blues and Gospel Records 1902-1942, by Robert M.W. Dixon and John Godrich (*imaged above is the revised edition 1890-1943*)  
Blues Unlimited magazine, founded by Simon Napier and Mike Leadbitter  
Living Blues Magazine, founded by Bruce Iglauer, Jim O'Neal, Amy van Singel, Paul Garon, et al.

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

King of the Delta Blues Singers--Robert Johnson (Columbia, 1961)

**1983**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Blues Who's Who: A Biographical Dictionary of Blues Singers, by Sheldon Harris

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Founder of the Delta Blues--Charley Patton (Yazoo)  
King of the Delta Blues Singers Vol. II -- Robert Johnson (Columbia, 1970)  
Live at the Regal--B.B. King (ABC-Paramount, 1965)  
McKinley Morganfield A.K.A. Muddy Waters--Muddy Waters (Chess, 1971)  
The Best of Muddy Waters--Muddy Waters (Chess, 1958)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Call it Stormy Monday (But Tuesday is Just as Bad) --T-Bone Walker (Black & White, 1947)  
Dust My Broom -- Elmore James (Trumpet , 1951)  
Hell Hound On My Trail -- Robert Johnson (ARC/Vocalion, 1937)  
Sweet Home Chicago -- Robert Johnson (Vocalion, 1936)  
Worried Life Blues -- Big Maceo (Bluebird, 1941)

**1984**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Deep Blues, by Robert Palmer

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Boss Blues Harmonica--Little Walter (Chess, 1972)  
Hoodoo Man Blues--Junior Wells (Delmark, 1966)  
West Side Soul--Magic Sam Blues Band (Delmark, 1968)  
**Classics of Blues Recordings - Single**  
Got My Mojo Working--Muddy Waters (Chess album track ,1960)  
I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man--Muddy Waters (Chess 1954)  
The Things That I Used to Do--Guitar Slim (Specialty, 1953)

**1985**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Blues Records 1943-1966, by Mike Leadbitter & Neil Slaven

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Born Under a Bad Sign--Albert King (Stax)  
Chester Burnett A.K.A Howlin' Wolf--Howlin' Wolf (Chess, 1972)  
Howlin' Wolf ("rocking chair" album)--Howlin' Wolf (Chess, 1962)  
**Classics of Blues Recordings - Single**  
Boogie Chillen--John Lee Hooker (Modern, 1948)  
Smokestack Lightnin'--Howlin' Wolf (Chess 1956)  
The Thrill is Gone--B.B. King (ABC Bluesway 1969)

**1986**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Chicago Breakdown (Chicago Blues), by Mike Rowe

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

I Am The Blues--Willie Dixon (Columbia)  
Ice Pickin'--Albert Collins (Alligator, 1978)  
Live Wire--Blues Power--Albert King (Stax)

**1986 (cont'd)**

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Cross Road Blues--Robert Johnson (ARC/Vocalion, 1936)  
Juke--Little Walter (Checker, 1952)  
Mannish Boy--Muddy Waters (Chess 1955)

**1987**

## Classics of Blues Literature

The Story of the Blues, by Paul Oliver

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Blues Before Sunrise--Leroy Carr (Columbia)  
Hide Away--Freddie (Freddy) King (King, 1969)  
Two Steps From the Blues--Bobby "Blue" Bland (Duke)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Big Road Blues--Tommy Johnson (Victor, 1928)  
Help Me--Sonny Boy Williamson #2 (Checker 1963)  
Please Send Me Someone to Love--Percy Mayfield (Specialty 1950)

**1988**

## Classics of Blues Literature

The Blues Fell This Morning (The Meaning of the Blues), by Paul Oliver

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Down on Stovall's Plantation--Muddy Waters (Testament, 1966)  
The Chess Box--Muddy Waters (P-Vine Special, 1985)  
The Original Flair & Meteor Sides--Elmore James (Ace)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Born Under a Bad Sign--Albert King (Stax, 1967)  
How Long, How Long Blues--Leroy Carr (Vocalion, 1928)  
Pony Blues--Charley Patton (Paramount 1929)

**1989**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Feel Like Going Home, by Peter Guralnick

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Live on Maxwell Street--Robert Nighthawk (Rounder)  
Showdown--Albert Collins, Robert Cray & Johnny Copeland (Alligator)  
The World's Greatest Blues Singer--Bessie Smith (Columbia, 1970)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Come On In My Kitchen -- Robert Johnson (ARC/Vocalion, 1936)  
Drifting Blues -- Charles Brown with Johnny Moore's Three Blazers (Philo/Aladdin, 1945)  
Long Distance Call -- Muddy Waters (Chess, 1951)

**1990**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Big Bill Blues, by Big Bill Broonzy & Yannick Bruynoghe

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Black Magic--Magic Sam Blues Band (Delmark, 1969)  
The Chess Box--Willie Dixon (Chess)  
The Complete 1931 Session--Skip James (Yazoo)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Big Boss Man--Jimmy Reed (Vee-Jay, 1960)  
Good Morning, School Girl--Sonny Boy Williamson #1 (Bluebird 1937)  
Terraplane Blues--Robert Johnson (ARC/Vocalion, 1936)

**1991**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Big Road Blues, by David Evans

Conversation with the Blues by Paul Oliver

The Country Blues by Samuel Charters

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Can't Get No Grindin'--Muddy Waters (Chess, 1973)  
Chicago/The Blues/Today! Vol. 1-3--Various Artists (Vanguard, 1966))  
The Best of Little Walter--Little Walter (Checker, 1958)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Killing Floor--Howlin' Wolf (Chess 1964)  
Nine Below Zero--Sonny Boy Williamson #2 (Trumpet 1951)  
Rocket 88 - Jackie Brenston and His Delta Cats (Chess, 1951)  
The Sky is Crying--Elmore James (Fire 1959)

**1992**

## Classics of Blues Literature

I Am the Blues: The Willie Dixon Story, by Willie Dixon with Don Snowden

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Blues From the Gutter--Champion Jack Dupree (Atlantic, 1958)  
Father of the Folk Blues--Son House (Columbia)  
Parchman Farm--Bukka White (Columbia, 1970)  
The Complete Recordings--Robert Johnson (Columbia/Legacy, 1990)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Baby Please Don't Go--Big Joe Williams (Bluebird, 1935)  
Statesboro Blues--Blind Willie McTell (Victor 1928)

**1993**

## Classics of Blues Literature

Urban Blues by Charles Keil

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Chicago Bound--Jimmy Rogers (Chess)

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Reconsider Baby--Lowell Fulson (Checker, 1954)

**1994**

## Classics of Blues Literature

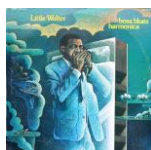
Nothing But the Blues, Lawrence Cohn, editor

## Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

T-Bone Walker--The Complete Recordings of T-Bone Walker 1940-1954 (Mosaic, 1990)

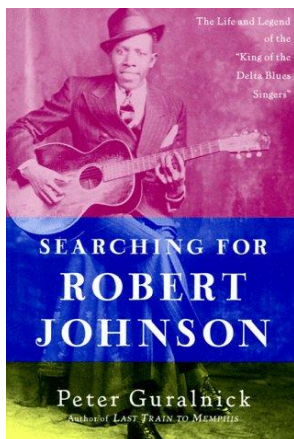
## Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

I Can't Quit You Baby--Otis Rush (Cobra 1956)  
Texas Flood--Larry Davis (Duke, 1958)





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



1995

### Classics of Blues Literature

Searching for Robert Johnson, by Peter Guralnick  
The Land Where the Blues Began, by Alan Lomax

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Boss of the Blues--Big Joe Turner (Atlantic)  
Otis Spann is the Blues--Otis Spann (Candid)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Wang Dang Doodle--Koko Taylor (Checker 1965)

1996

### Classics of Blues Literature

Sweet Soul Music: Rhythm and Blues and the Southern Dream of Freedom, by Peter Guralnick

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Hound Dog Taylor & the Houserockers--Hound Dog Taylor & the Houserockers (Alligator)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Don't Start Me Talkin'--Sonny Boy Williamson #2 (Checker 1955)

1997

### Classics of Blues Literature

Honkers and Shouters: The Golden Years of Rhythm & Blues, by Arnold Shaw

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Paul Butterfield Blues Band - Paul Butterfield Blues Band (Elektra)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Baby Scratch My Back--Slim Harpo (Excella 1965)

1998

### Classics of Blues Literature

Blues from the Delta - Dr. William Ferris

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

I'll Play the Blues for You--Albert King (Stax)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Messin' With the Kid - Junior Wells (Chief 1960)

1999

### Classics of Blues Literature

The World Don't Owe Me Nothing, by David "Honeyboy" Edwards

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Blues Hit Big Town--Junior Wells (Delmark)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Dark Was The Night--Blind Willie Johnson (Columbia, 1927)

2000

### Classics of Blues Literature

The Country Blues, by Samuel Charters

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Mississippi Delta Blues--Mississippi Fred McDowell (Arhoolie)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Down Home Blues - Z.Z. Hill (Malaco, 1982)

2001

### Classics of Blues Literature

Stormy Monday: The T-Bone Walker Story, by Helen Dance

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

The Complete Plantation Recordings--Muddy Waters (MCA Chess, 1993)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Shake, Rattle and Roll--Big Joe Turner (Atlantic, 1954)

2002

### Classics of Blues Literature

Spinning Blues Into Gold: The Chess Brothers and the Legendary Chess Records, by Nadine Cohodas

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Live in Cook County Jail--B.B. King (ABC, 1971)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Going Down Slow--St. Louis Jimmy Oden (Bluebird 1941)

2003

### Classics of Blues Literature

Can't Be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters, by Robert Gordon

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

It's My Life Baby!--Junior Wells (Vanguard, 1966)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Part Time Love--Little Johnny Taylor (Galaxy 1963)

2004

### Classics of Blues Literature

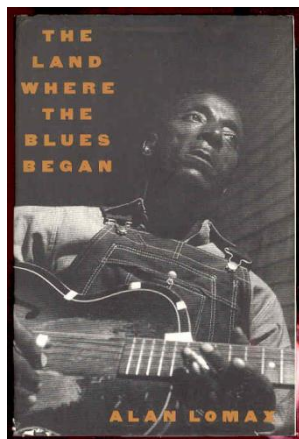
Juke Blues magazine

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Raining In My Heart - Slim Harpo

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Baby What You Want Me To Do--Jimmy Reed (Vee-Jay)



2005

### Classics of Blues Literature

Blues People, by LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Down Home - Z.Z. Hill (Malaco Records, 1982)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Black Night - Charles Brown (Aladdin Records, 1951)

2006

### Classics of Blues Literature

Blues & Rhythm magazine

Chasin' That Devil's Music, by Gayle Dean Wardlow; edited by Edward Komara

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

I Do Not Play No Rock 'n' Roll - Mississippi Fred McDowell (Capitol)

Screamin' and Hollerin' the Blues: The Worlds of Charley Patton (Revenant)

Tell Mama - Etta James (Cadet)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Devil Got My Woman - Skip James (Paramount)

Honky Tonk, Parts 1 & 2 - Bill Doggett (King)

Hound Dog - Big Mama Thornton (Peacock)

2007

### Classics of Blues Literature

Blues With a Feeling: The Little Walter Story, by Tony Glover, Scott Dirks & Ward Gaines

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Angola Prisoners' Blues - Robert Pete Williams & others (Louisiana Folklore Society, 1959/Arhoo)

Down and Out Blues - Sonny Boy Williamson #2 (Checker, 1960)

Driving Wheel - Little Jr. Parker (Duke, 1962)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Black Angel Blues -- Robert Nighthawk (The Nighthawks) (Aristocrat, 1949)

Death Letter -- Son House (Columbia album track, 1965)

Hide Away (Hideaway) -- Freddie (Freddy) King (Federal, 1961)

2008

### Classics of Blues Literature

7 Guitars, by August Wilson

Moanin' at Midnight: The Life and Times of Howlin' Wolf -- James Segrest & Mark Hoffman

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Freddy King Sings (King LP, 1961) Freddy King

I'm Jimmy Reed (Vee-Jay LP, 1958) Jimmy Reed

Members Only (Malaco LP, 1985) Bobby Bland

Piney Woods Blues (Delmark LP, 1958) Big Joe Williams

Rocks the House (Argo LP, 1964; Chess CD with bonus tracks, 1994) Etta James

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Back-Water Blues -- Bessie Smith (Columbia, 1927)

Double Trouble -- Otis Rush (Cobra, 1958)

My Babe -- Little Walter (Checker, 1955)

2009

### Classics of Blues Literature

I Hear You Knockin, by Jeff Hannusch

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Amtrak Blues (Columbia, 1978) - Alberta Hunter

Blues With a Feeling: Newport Folk Festival Classics

(Vanguard 2-CD set, 1993) - Various Artists

T-Bone Blues (Atlantic, 1959) -- T-Bone Walker

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Boom Boom -- John Lee Hooker (Vee-Jay, 1962)

Caldonia -- Louis Jordan (Decca, 1945)

Sitting on Top of the World -- Mississippi Sheiks (Okeh, 1930)

2010

### Classics of Blues Literature

The Bluesme, by Samuel Charters

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Hung Down Head by Lowell Fulson (Chess LP, 1970; CD, 1996)

I Hear Some Blues Downstairs by Fenton Robinson (Alligator LP, 1977; CD, 1991)

Strong Persuader by Robert Cray (Mercury LP/CD, 1986)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

All Your Love (I Miss Loving) -- Otis Rush (Cobra, 1958)

Fever -- Little Willie John (King, 1956)

Key to the Highway -- Big Bill Broonzy (Okeh, 1941)

Match Box Blues -- Blind Lemon Jefferson (Okeh and Paramount, 1927)

Spoonful -- Howlin' Wolf (Chess, 1960)

2011

### Classics of Blues Literature

Walking to New Orleans: The Story of New Orleans Rhythm & Blues, by John Broven

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

False Accusations - Robert Cray (HighTone 1985)

Night Beat - Sam Cooke (RCA Victor 1963)

The Real Folk Blues - Howlin' Wolf (Chess 1965)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

Ain't Nobody's Business -- Jimmy Witherspoon (Supreme, 1947)

Five Long Years -- Eddie Boyd (J.O.B., 1952)

Hard Time Killin' Floor Blues -- Skip James (Paramount, 1931)

Love in Vain -- Robert Johnson (Vocalion, 1937)

2012

### Classics of Blues Literature

Bessie, by Chris Albertson

The Voice of the Blues, edited by Jim O'Neal & Amy van Singel

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Album

Damn Right, I've Got The Blues -- Buddy Guy (Silvertone, 1991)

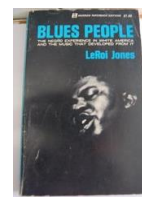
Bad Influence -- The Robert Cray Band (HighTone, 1983)

### Classics of Blues Recordings - Single

All Your Love -- Magic Sam (Cobra, 1957)

It Hurts Me Too -- Tampa Red (Bluebird, 1940)

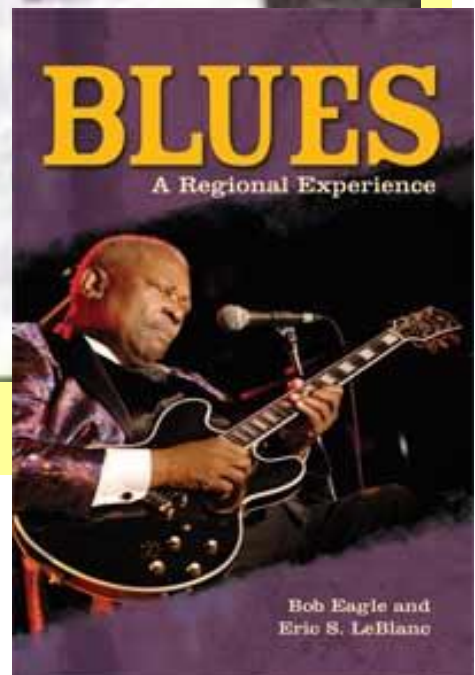
Pine Top's Boogie Woogie - Pine Top Smith (Vocalion, 1928)



## KING OF SLIDE GUITAR



**BLUES - A Regional Experience** – published 1 May 2013  
by Bob Eagle and Eric S. LeBlanc  
Publisher: Praeger (US and UK), Hardback 630 pages  
Featuring accurate birth and death data on more than 1,500 blues and R&B performers.  
(although missing the vocal group singers)

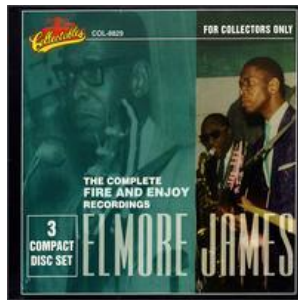




# ELMORE JAMES



"King of Slide Guitar" - Guitarist/Delta blues singer and the most important slide guitar stylist and "disciple" of the legendary Robert Johnson. Toured with Sonny Boy II and Robert Jnr Lockwood in the Delta during the '30s. Worked in Mississippi, Arkansas and came to Chicago in 1952. Debuted recording in Jackson, Miss 1951 and later was recorded by Ike Turner for the Biharis, (led by Joe Bihari, who also recorded him in the South, Chicago, L.A. and N.O.). Bad health kept Elmore from recording more than he did. His famous band were the Broom Dusters, featuring members of the legendary Tampa Red's band: Little Johnny Jones, pno; J.T. Brown, sax; Odie Payne, dms. Joined Bobby Robinson's labels in 1959 (recording in Chicago, New York and Jackson, MS). Several of Elmore's records were issued as Elmo James and as Elmo(re) James and His Broomdusters. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992.



**Born:** Elmore Brooks (stepfather James), January 27, 1918, Richland, Miss. (near Canton).  
**Died** May 24, 1963, Chicago, Ill (heart attack).  
**First recordings:** Jackson, Miss August 1951 Dust My Broom - Trumpet 146; and Chicago, October 1952 I Believe / I Held My Baby Last Night - Meteor 5000.  
**Records for:** Meteor 1952, Checker 1953, Flair 53-56, Chief 1957, Chess 1960, Fire/Fury/Enjoy 59-63

## Essential CD:

The Sky Is Crying - The History of... - Rhino R2 71190 (1993) or The Very Best of Elmore James - Rhino R2 79803 (2000)

## Editor's choice:

The Classic Early Recordings (3CD - the Modern years) - Ace ABOX 4 (1993) and King of the Slide Guitar - Charly (4CD Chess-Chief-Fire 1952-1963) CD RED Box 4 (1992)

or: (same title) Charly (3CD Chief-Fire) SNAJ722CD (2004)

## For Collectors:

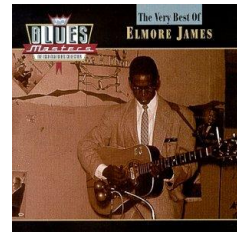
Blues After Hours - Ace CDCHM 1043 (2005) - reissue of Crown LP plus bonus tracks

## First LPs:

Blues After Hours - Crown CLP 5168 (1960)  
 The Sky Is Crying - Sphere Sound LP SR-7002 (1965)

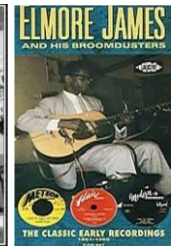
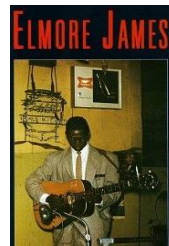
## Reading:

The Amazing Secret History of Elmore James by Steve Franz (BlueSource Publ, 2003) and Elmore James - The Ultimate Guide to the Master of Slide: Steve Franz (US 1994)



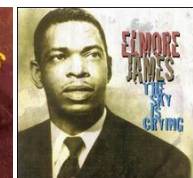
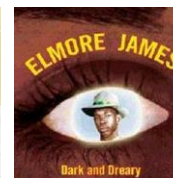
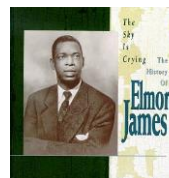
## ELMORE JAMES, vocals/guitar "BIG-SIX"

- 1. Elmo James** (featuring Sonny Boy Williamson, hca)  
 - Jackson, MS August 5, 1951:  
 DRC 53 **Dust My Broom** - Trumpet 146 (#9,1w total)
- 2. Elmore James and the Broomdusters**  
 (featuring J. T. Brown, sax; Johnny Jones, pno)  
 - Chicago, August 1953:  
 FL 162 **Make My Dreams Come True** - Flair 1031
- 3. Elmore James and His Broomdusters** (featuring Maxwell Davis, sax) - Los Angeles, ca August 1954:  
 FL 217 **Standing At The Crossroads** - Flair 1057
- 4. Elmo James and His Broomdusters**  
 - Chicago, November 3-4, 1959:  
 FM 133 **The Sky Is Crying** - Fire 1016
- 5. Elmore James** (featuring Johnny "Big Moose" Walker, pno)  
 - New Orleans, ca August 1961:  
 FM 194 **Shake Your Moneymaker** - Fire 504
- (featuring Johnny Acey, pno; prob. Jimmy Spruill, gtr)  
 - New York City, May 23-24, 1960:  
 8316 **Something Inside Me** - Fire 5001 (issued 1965)



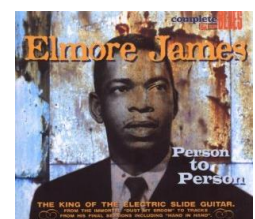
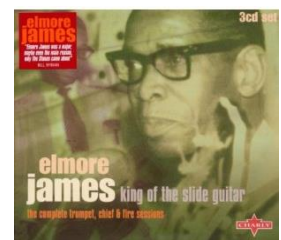
## R&B Top 10 Hits: (2 of 4 Top 40)

- 1951 Dust My Broom # 9 (as Elmo James)  
 1953 I Believe #9



## Important Gems:

- 1952 Please Find My Baby  
 1953 I Held My Baby Last Night  
 1953 Whose Muddy Shoes  
 1953 Hawaiian Boogie (instr)  
 1954 Make My Dreams Come True  
 1954 Sho' Nuff I Do  
 1954 Sunnyland  
 1954 Standing At The Crossroads  
 1955 Late Hours At Midnight  
 1955 Blues Before Sunrise  
 1956 Long Tall Woman  
 1957 The Twelve Year Old Boy  
 1959 The Sky Is Crying (as Elmo James)  
 1960 Madison Blues  
 1960 Stormy Monday Blues  
 1960 Fine Little Mama  
 1961 Anna Lee  
 1961 Look On Yonder Wall  
 1961 Shake Your Moneymaker  
 1962 I Need You (Baby)  
 1963 Mean Mistreatin' Mama  
 1963 It Hurts Me Too  
 1963 Something Inside (Of) Me





# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## ELMORE JAMES – REPRESENTATIVE CLASSICS 1951-1966



1951



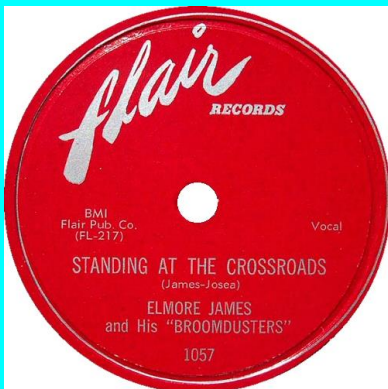
1952



1953



1954



1955



1956



1957



1959



1960



1961



1965 (rec 1961) / 1965



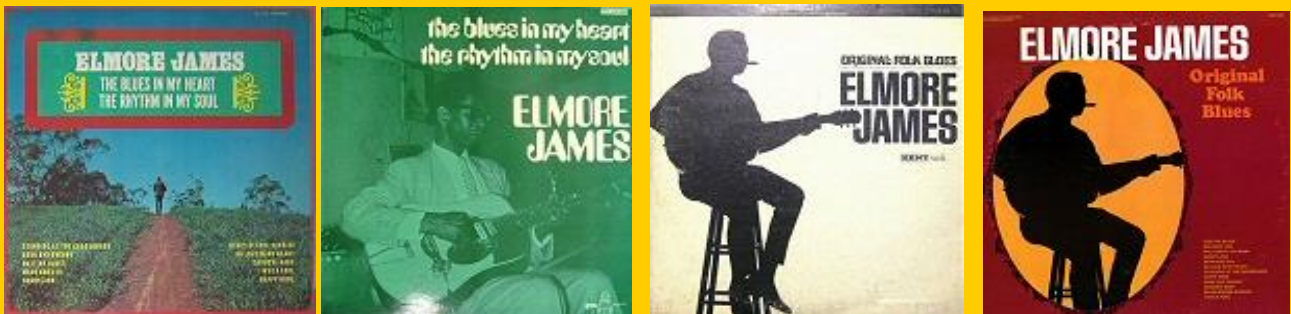
1966 (rec 1960)



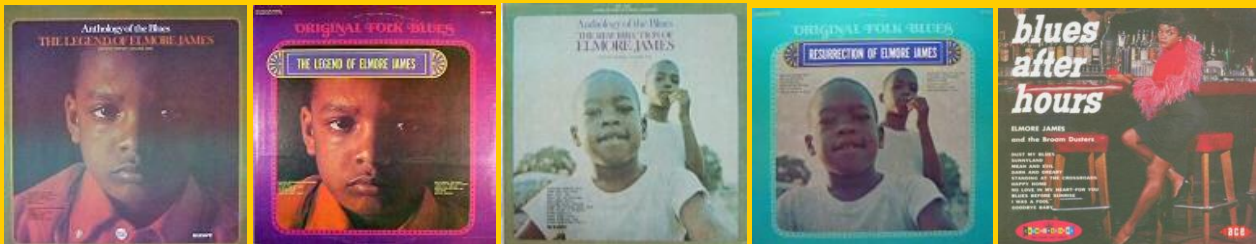
# Elmo's Original "International" LPs 1960-1970 (slightly selected; and a great CD)



Crown CLP 5168 (two versions, 1960), and the reissues: Custom CM-2054, United 7716 (two versions, the second shown below)

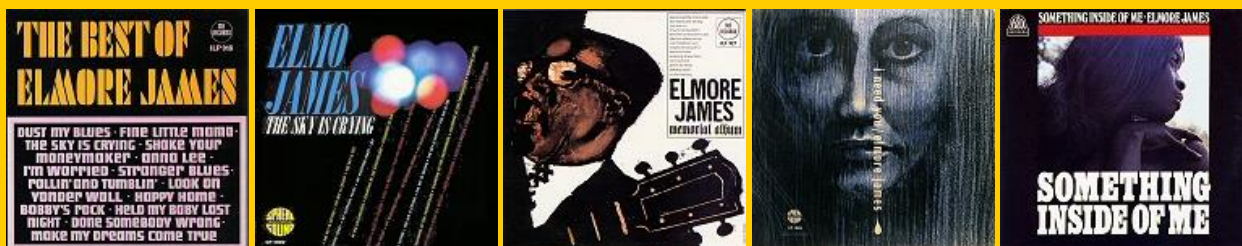


After United 7716: the French version on BYG 529 004 (1969), Kent KLP-5022 (mono, KST 522 stereo, 1967), United/Superior US 7743 (reissue),



Kent KST-9001 (1969), United Superior US-7778 (reissue 1976), Kent KST-9010 (1970), United/Superior 7787 (reissue) **Ace CDCHM 1043 (2005 - great CD with bonus tracks)**

- the issues above are from the Bihari labels - below you'll find recordings from the Chess and Bobby Robinson labels -



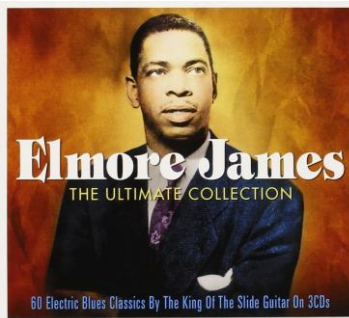
Sue ILP-918 (UK 1964), Sphere Sound SSR-7002 (1965), Sue ILP-927 (UK 1965). Sphere Sound "I Need You" LP SSR-7008 (1966), Bell MBLL-104 (UK 1968)



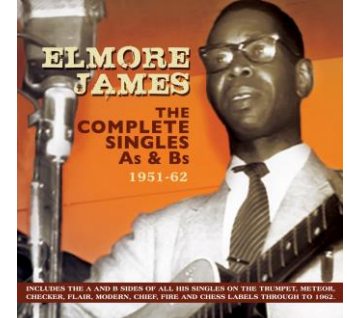
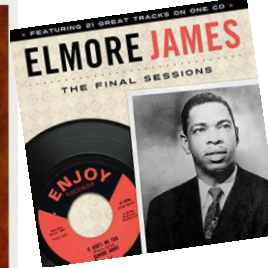
Ember EMB 3397 (UK 1968), Blue Horizon "To Know A Man" S7-66230 (UK, 1969), Bell "Elmore James" LP 6037 (UK 1970), Chess 1537 (1969 - Elmore James and John Brim), UpFront 122 (1970)



## Some interesting new CDs



3CD-set on Not Now (2015)

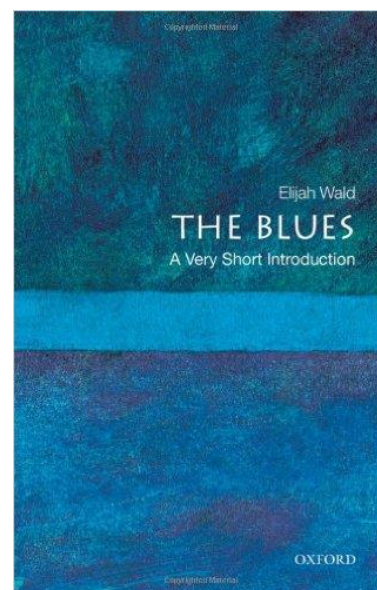
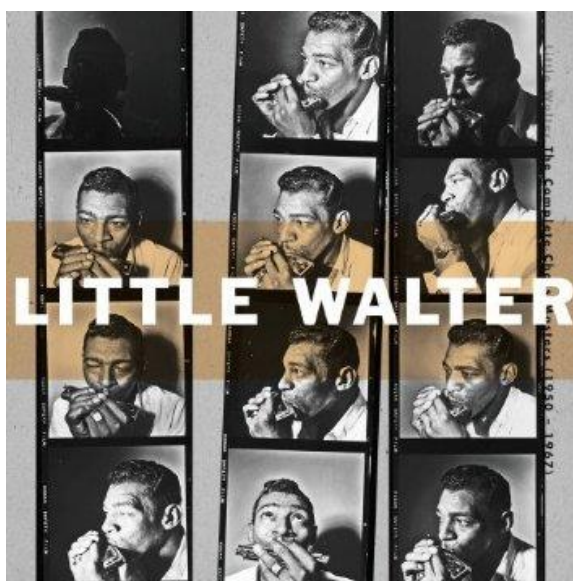


Universal Music Group (2014), Acrobat (2CD) 2015 (54 tracks)

### Three great later CDs



Jasmine 2CD (of 2011), flip of MCA CD "His Best" (9384 of 1997), and Hip-O-Select's great 5CD "box" The Complete Chess Masters 1950-1967 (issued 2009).



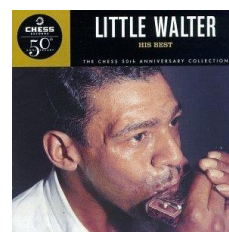
An finalluy: A great little book (140 pages) covering an overview on The Blues by Elijah Wald.



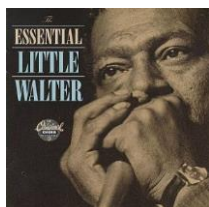
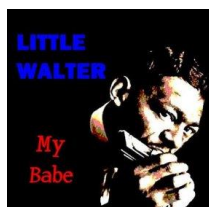
## KING OF HARMONICA



# LITTLE WALTER



"King of Harmonica" – One of the Chess labels' "Big Four" (Muddy, Wolf, Sonny Boy and Little Walter). The most influential harmonica player and a successful Chicago Bar Blues singer and sometimes guitarist. Worked with Jimmy Rogers and Baby Face Leroy and joined Muddy Waters during the late '40s. Arrived in Chicago in 1946 after stints in New Orleans; Helena, Arkansas, and St. Louis. Started his own band in 1952 - the Night Cats - later famous as the Jukes, featuring brothers Louis and David Meyers, gtrs; and Fred Below, dms (who actually were Junior Wells' "Little Muddy Waters" band). Was later accompanied by a.o. Robert Jnr. Lockwood and Luther Tucker, gtrs. Continued to back Muddy Waters on several occasions during the '50s (especially on most of Muddy's hit records). Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2008.



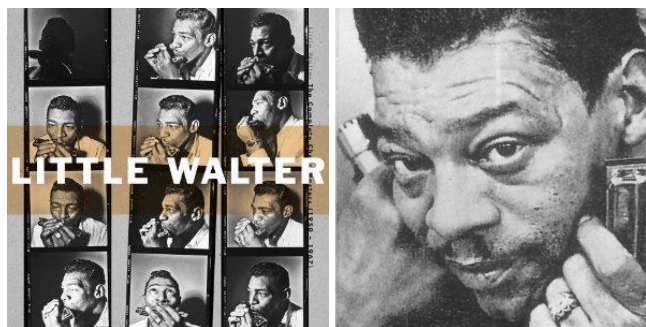
**Born:** Marion Walter Jacobs, May 1, 1930 (not May 2, 1931, and prob not 1923), Marksville, Louisiana. Raised in Alexandria, Louisiana.  
**Died** February 15, 1968, Chicago at home (from street fight, shot).  
**First recordings:** Chicago 1947 I Just Keep Loving Her - Ora Nelle 711; Checker: May 12, 1952 Juke - Checker 758.  
**Records for:** Checker 52-66.

## LITTLE WALTER, vocals/harmonica "HI-FIVE"

- 1. Little Walter & His Night Cats** (featuring Muddy Waters, Jimmy Rogers, gtrs) – Chicago, May 12, 1952:  
 U 7437 **Juke** – Checker 758 (#1 for 8w, 20w total)
- 2. Little Walter and His Jukes**  
 (featuring Jimmy Rogers, Louis Meyers, gtrs; Fred Below, dms)  
 - Chicago, July 23, 1953:  
 U 4398 **Blues With A Feeling** – Checker 780 (#2, 11w)
- (featuring Robert Jnr Lockwood, Luther Tucker, gtrs)  
 - Chicago, October 5, 1954:  
 U 4416 **Last Night** – Checker 805 (#6, 4w)
- (featuring Lockwood, Willie Dixon, bs; Below)  
 - Chicago, January 25, 1955:  
 7777 **My Babe** – Checker 811 (#1 for 5w, 19w)
- 5. Little Walter** (featuring Lockwood, Tucker)  
 - Chicago, December 1959:  
 9891 **You're Sweet** – unissued, released on Chess CD 9357 in 1995

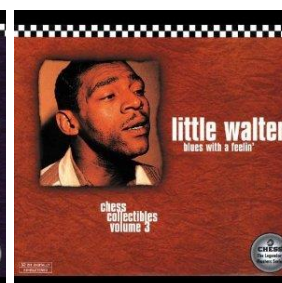
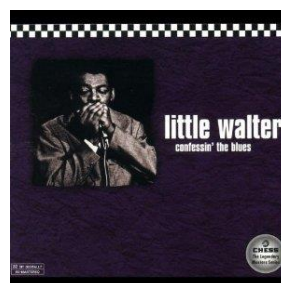
## Walter's pre-"Juke"-recordings

**Little Walter J** - Chicago 1947  
 vcl with Othum Brown and Jimmy Rogers, gtrs  
 711B I Just Keep Loving Her - Ora Nelle 711/Chance 1116  
 (flip by Othum Brown)  
 711B I Just Keep Loving Her (alt) - unissued  
**Sunny Land Slim And Muddy Water - Little Walter vocal**  
 - Chicago, May 14, 1949  
 vcl/hca with Sunnyland Slim, pno/vcl-1; Muddy Water(s), gtr; Leroy Foster, gtr; Elga Edmonds, dms  
 1002A Blue Baby - TempoTone 1002  
 1002B I Want My Baby -1 - Tempo Tone 1002  
**Little Walter Trio** - Chicago January, 1950  
 (for Herald, also incl recordings by Foster)  
 vcl/hca-1/gtr with Muddy Waters and Jimmy Rogers, gtrs; Leroy Foster, gtr/dms  
 H 511 Just Keep Loving Her -1 - Parkway 502/Herald 403  
 H 517 Moonshine Blues (Moonshine Baby)  
 - Parkway 502/Savoy 1122  
 R1356 **Muskadine Blues** (Take A Little Walk With Me)  
 - Regal 3296/Herald 403  
 R1357 Bad Acting Woman - Regal 3296  
**Muddy Waters** - Chicago October 23, 1950  
 hca with Muddy Waters, gtr; Big Crawford, bs  
 U 7276 Evan's Shuffle - Chess 1441 (flip by Muddy Waters)  
 Note: Walter also did several sessions as sideman for Jimmy Rogers, Muddy Waters, Johnny Shines, Eddie Ware, and Floyd Jones prior to his "Juke" recording.



## Essential CDs:

His Best - MCA/Chess CHD 9384 (1997) or  
 Essential Little Walter (2CD) - MCA/Chess CHD2-9342 (1993)  
**Editor's choice:**  
 The Chess Years, 1952-1963 (4CD) - Charly CD RED Box 5  
 (1992) or more recently:  
 The Complete Chess Masters (1950-1967) (5CD) - Hip-O Select 126360-2 (2009)  
**For collectors:**  
 Blues with a Feeling (2CD with rare Chess) - MCA CHD2-9357 (1995)  
 The Blues World of Little Walter – Delmark DD-648 (1993) with 1950 recordings



## Reading:

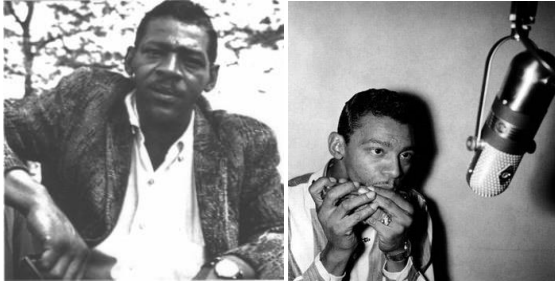
Blues with a feeling - The Little Walter Story by Tony Glover, Scott Dirks & Ward Gaines (Routledge, 2002)

## First LP:

The Best of Little Walter - Chess LP 1428 (1957)

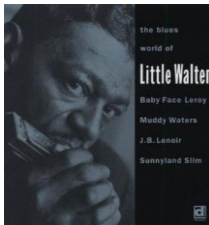
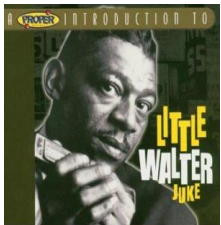
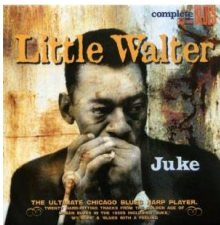


## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



### R&B Top 10 Hits: (14 of 15 Top 40)

- 1952 **Juke** (instr) #1 for 8w (and His Night Cats)
- 1952 **Sad Hours** (instr) #2 (and His Night Caps)
- 1953 **Mean Old World** #6 (and His Night Caps)
- 1953 **Tell Me Mama** #10 (and His Jukes)
- 1953 **Off The Wall** (instr) #8
- 1953 **Blues With A Feeling** #2
- 1953 **You're So Fine** #2
- 1954 **Oh, Baby** #8
- 1954 **You Better Watch Yourself** #8
- 1954 **Last Night** #6
- 1955 **My Babe** #1 for 5w
- 1955 **Roller Coaster** (instr) #6
- 1956 **Who** #7
- 1958 **Key To The Highway** #6



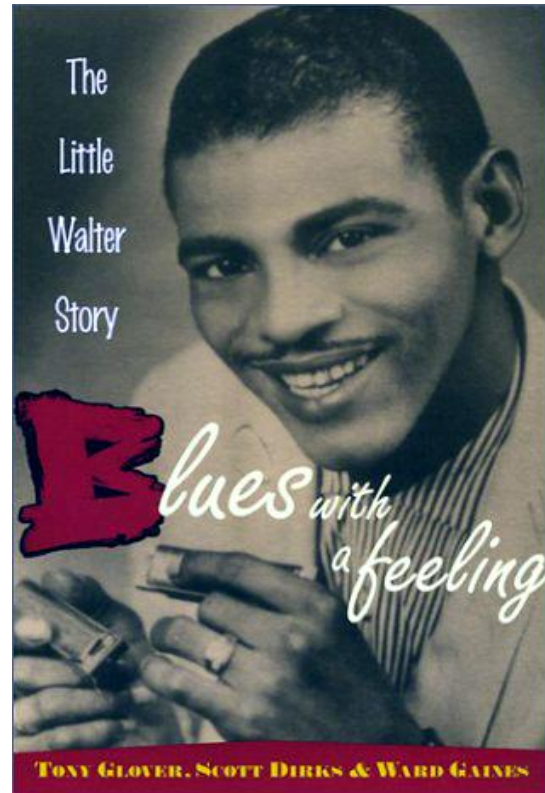
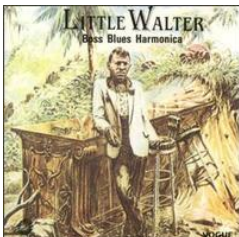
### The Ultimate Entertainment:

- 1948 **Blue Baby** (Sunnyland Slim & Muddy Waters)
- 1950 **Muskadine Blues**
- 1951 **Evan's Shuffle** (by Muddy Waters)
- 1952 **Boogie** (instr)
- 1952 **Driftin'**
- 1952 **Tonight With A Fool**
- 1953 **Quarter To Twelve** (instr)
- 1953 **That's It** (instr)
- 1954 **I Gotta Find My Baby**
- 1954 **Mellow Down Easy**
- 1954 **Big Leg Mama**
- 1956 **Hate To See You Go**
- 1956 **Just A Feeling**
- 1957 **Everybody Needs Somebody**
- 1958 **Everything's Gonna Be Alright**
- 1959 **You're Sweet**
- 1960 **Just Your Fool**
- 1960 **Blue Midnight** (instr rec 1952 -orig)
- 1961 **You Don't Know**
- 1963 **Dead Presidents**



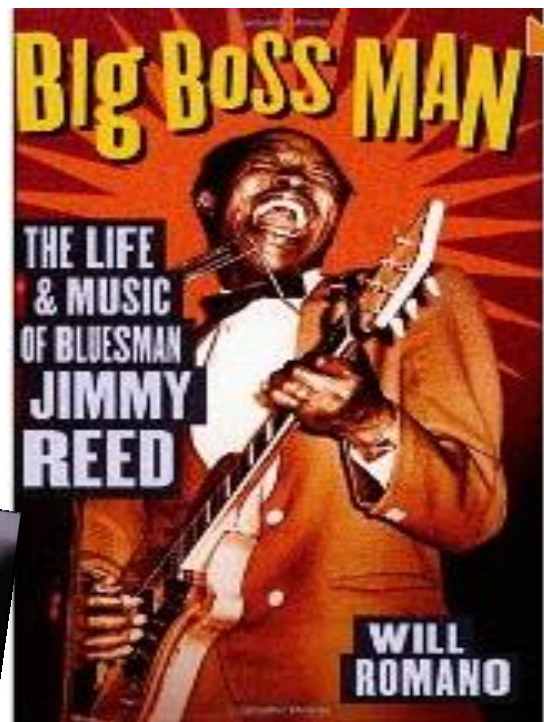
### Little Walter's Original Chess LPs

- The Best of - Chess LP 1428 (1957) / also on Checker 3004 (1964)
- Hate To See You Go - LP 1535 (1969)
- Boss Blues Harmonica - 2LP 60014 (1972) (reissued as 2LP 202, 1976)
- Confessin' The Blues - LP 416 (1974)
- Chess Masters - 2LP 4002 (1981 UK Charly)
- Little Walter Vol 2 - 2LP 4011 (1982 UK Charly)
- The Best of, vol. 2 - MCA/Chess LP 9292 (1986)



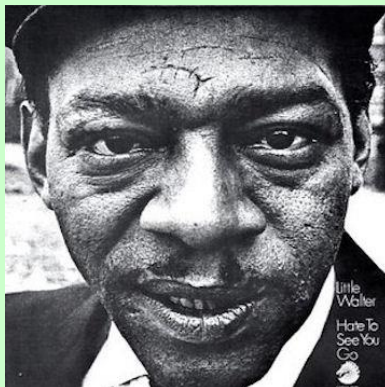
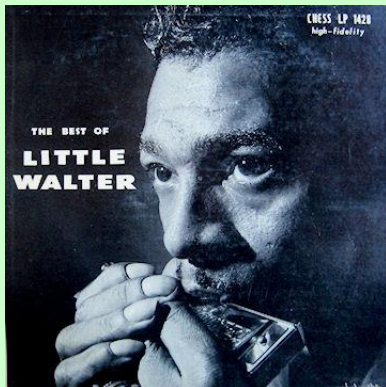
### Charly R&B "Red Box" CD Box Set Series Chess/Vee-Jay:

- RED BOX 1 - The Chess Years - Sonny Boy Williamson 1955-1964 [1992] 4CD
- reissue of the 6-LP box set CHESS BOX-1, from 1986.
- RED BOX 2 - The Chess Years - Chuck Berry 1955-1974 [1992] 9CD
- RED BOX 3 - The Complete Muddy Waters 1947-1967 - Muddy Waters [1992] 9CD
- RED BOX 4 - King of the Slide Guitar - Elmore James 1957-1963, plus [1992] 4CD
- RED BOX 5 - The Chess Years 1952-1963 - Little Walter [1993] 4CD
- RED BOX 6 - The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964 - John Lee Hooker [1993] 6CD
- RED BOX 7 - The Complete Recordings 1951-1969 - Howlin' Wolf [1993] 7CD
- RED BOX 8 - The Chess Years - Bo Diddley 1955-1970 [1994] 12CD
- RED BOX 9 - The Vee-Jay Years - Jimmy Reed 1953-1965 [1994] 9CD

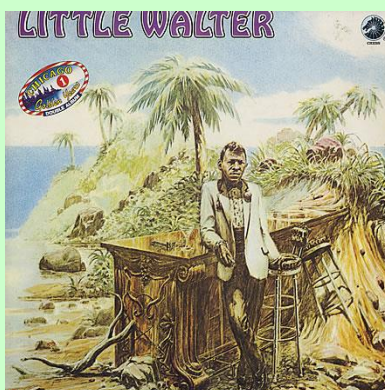
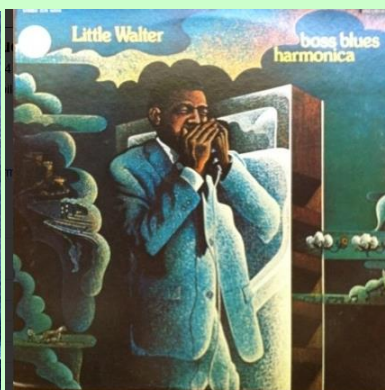




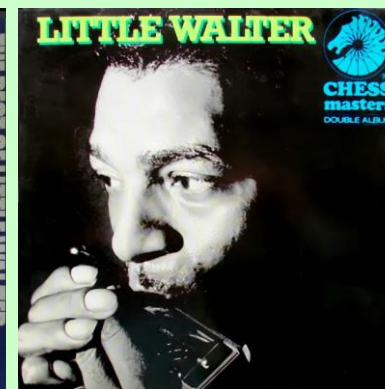
## LITTLE WALTER Chess/Checker LP Gallery



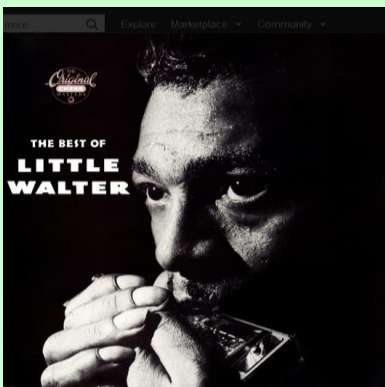
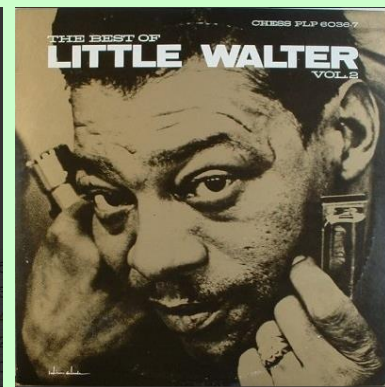
Chess LP 1428 (1957), Chess LP 1535 (1969), LP 1542 planned for Walter-but was unissued, Chess (GRT) CHV 416 (1975)



Checker LP 3004 (reissue of 1428 - 1967), Chess (GRT) 2CH-60014 (1972), CH 50056 (Walter unissued), All Platinum 2ACMB-202 (reissue of 60014 - 1976)



Europe: Chess International PAR 207 (1967), Charly CXMD 4002 (1980), Charly CXMD 4011 (1982)



CH2-92503 / CH2-9209 (reissue of 2CH-60014 - 1984), Japan Pioneer 2-set LP PLP 6036-7 (1985), MCA CH-9192 (reissue of 1428 - 1986)

Note: Chess was subsequently sold to GRT, All Platinum, Sugar Hill, and then finally to MCA/Universal (even Charly thought for a while they had license).



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

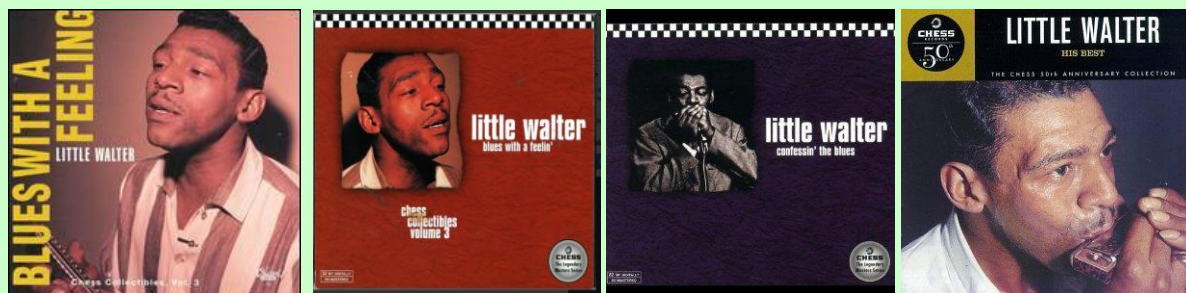
### LITTLE WALTER Chess/Checker Gallery -Bootleg LPs & Regular CDs-



**Bootlegs:** Red Lightnin' RL 002 (1969), Syndicate Chapter "Thunderbird" SC004 (1971), LeRoi De Blues 2007, 2012 and 2017 (all 1978)



**MCA/Chess CDs:** 9292 "The Best of... vol 2" (1989), 9321 – reissue of 1535 (1990), 9342 (2CD 1993)



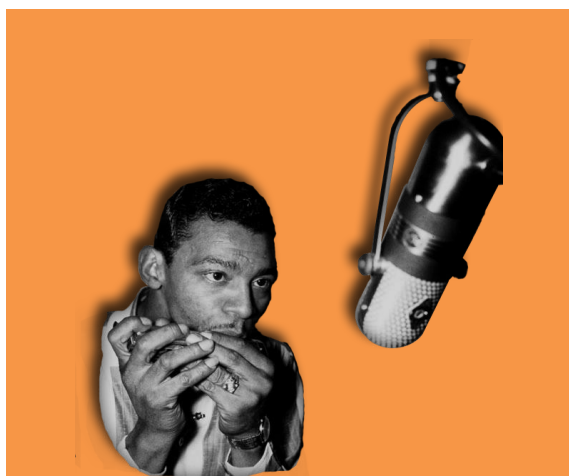
**MCA/Chess US and Europe versions of 9357 (2-set CD 1995), 9366 (1997 reissue of 416), "His Best" 9384 (1997)**



**Charly RED Box 5 (4CD 1992), Universal/Geffen: The Complete Chess Masters (1950-1967) (5CD) on Hip-O Select 126360-2 (2009, top left)**

# LITTLE WALTER Checker Recordings – all in Chicago

## A complete Checker/Chess discography



**General note:** Discography based on "Blues Discography – the classic years" (Fancourt-McGrath - Eyeball 2012), Les Fancourt's "Chess Labels Discography" (1989); Glover-Dirks-Glaines book "Blues With A Feeling – the Little Walter Story" (2002), and their presentation on Hip-O-Select's terrific 5CD-set 126360-2 "The Complete Chess Masters 1950-1967" (2009). All listed recordings are on that set (unless marked unissued). All recordings done in Chicago for Checker (LPs on Chess). Only original Checker singles and original US LP or CD albums are listed. Cat nos. not given on previous two pages feature v.a. Tracks on Essential Little Walter (2CD) - MCA/Chess CHD2-9342 (1993) marked #, and CHD-9384 "His Best" (1997) marked §. All recordings Little Walter, vcl/hca (-1= instrumental).

**MUDDY WATERS**, gtr with  
Little Walter,hca; Big Crawford,b  
U 7276 Evan's Shuffle (*aka* Ebony Boogie) -1 **October 23, 1950**  
Chess 1441, LP 8202

**LITTLE WALTER & His Night Cats** with  
Muddy Waters and Jimmy Rogers,gs; Elga Edmonds,d  
**May 12, 1952**  
U 7437 Juke (*aka* Your Cat Will Play) (#1) -1 Checker 758, LP 1428, §  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 9357, #  
U 7438 Can't Hold On Much Longer 758, LP 1428, §  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 9357, #

**LITTLE WALTER & His Night Caps** with  
Louis Myers and David Myers,gs, Fred Below,d (some indications  
give same line up as above)  
**October, 1952**  
1050 Blue Midnight -1 955, LP 1535  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 9357, #  
1051 Boogie -1 CD 9342 (#)  
1052 Mean Old World (#6) 764, LP 1428, #, §  
1053 Sad Hours (#2) -1 as above, #, §

**LITTLE WALTER & His Jukes** with  
Louis Myers and David Myers,gs, Big Crawford,b; Fred Below,d  
**ca January 1953**  
4318 Fast Boogie -1 CD 9340  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 1226360  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 1226360  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 9357  
4319 Don't Need No Horse -1 CD 9340, #  
4320 Driftin' CD 9357  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 1226360

with  
Henry Gray,p-2; Louis Myers and David Myers,gs, Willie Dixon,b;  
Fred Below,d **March 1953**  
U 4343 Don't Have To Hunt No More -1 767, REDBox5 (UK)  
(*aka* Don't Need To Hurt No More) 986, LP 416  
U 4344 Crazy Legs (*aka* Latin Beat) -1  
U 4345 Tonight With A Fool -2 767, CD 9357  
(*aka* I Wished A Had Someone) 770, LP 1428, #, §  
U 4348 Off The Wall -1 (#8) Argo LP 4034  
*alt. take o.a.*  
U 4349 Tell Me Mama (#19) 770, LP 1428, #, §

with  
Louis Myers and David Myers,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d  
Jimmy Rogers replaces Louis on -2 **July 23, 1953**  
U 4394 Quarter To Twelve -2 780, LP 416, #  
U 4397 That's It -1 CD 9357  
U 4398 Blues With A Feeling (#2) 780, LP 1428, #, §  
*alt. take o.a.* CD 9357  
U 4399 Last Boogie -1 CD 9357  
U 4400 Too Late 825, CD 9357, #, §

*session cont'd*  
U 4401 Fast Boogie -1 CD 9342, #  
U 4402 Lights Out -1 786, LP 416, #  
U 4403 Fast Large One -1 CD 9342, #  
U 4404 You're So Fine (#2) 786, LP 1428, #, §  
-- My Kind Of Baby CD 9357

with  
David Myers and Robert Jr Lockwood,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred  
Below,d **Febr 22, 1954**  
U 7603 Come Back Baby CD 9357  
U 7604 Rocker -1 793, LP 416  
U 7605 I Love You So (*aka* Oh Baby) CD 9357  
U 7608 Oh Baby (*alt o.a*) (#8) 793, LP 1535, #  
U 7609 Blue Light (*first version*) -1 unissued  
add Otis Spann,p **May 22, 1954**  
U 7653 I Got To Find My Baby 1013, LP 1535, 416?, #  
*alt. take o.a.* LP 416?, CD 9340  
U 7654 Big Leg Mama -1 CD 9357  
omit Spann **July 1, 1954**  
U 7669 Mercy Babe (*aka* My Babe) CD 9357  
U 7670 Last Night (*first version*) Argo LP4042, CD9342 (#)

with  
David Myers,g; Robert Jr Lockwood or Luther Tucker,g; Willie  
Dixon,b; Fred Below,d **July 14, 1954**  
U 7673 You'd Better Watch Yourself (#8) 799, LP 1428, #  
U 7674 Blue Light (*aka* Blue Lights) -1 as above

with  
Robert Jr Lockwood and Luther Tucker,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred  
Below,d **October 5, 1954**  
U 4416 Last Night (#6) 805, LP 1428, §  
U 4417 Mellow Down Easy 805, LP 1535, #, §  
U 4415 Instrumental -1 CD 1226360

with  
Robert Jr Lockwood,g; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d (Leonard Gaston  
also listed as guitarist in early discos) **January 25, 1955**  
7776 Thunderbird -1 811, LP 2-60014  
7777 My Babe (#1) 811, 1428, #, §  
7777R My Babe (overdubbed chorus) 955, CD 1226360

with  
Luther Tucker,g; Bo Diddley,g-2; Robert Jr Lockwood,g-3; Willie  
Dixon,b; Fred Below,d **April 28, 1955**  
U 7827 Roller Coaster (#6) -1,-2 817, LP 1535, #, §  
U 7828 I Got To Go -3 817, LP 416  
U 7888 (I) Hate To See You Go -2 825, LP 1535, #, §  
Note: Last title *aka* "My Desire"; edited on August 12, 1955 and is  
extended on CD 9357.

with  
Luther Tucker and Robert Jr Lockwood,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred  
Below,d **July 14, 1955**  
U 7674 Little Girl CD 9342 (#)  
U 7675 Crazy For My Baby 986, CD 9357  
U 7676 Can't Stop Loving You CD 9357  
**December 1955**  
U 7966 One More Chance With You 838, LP 416  
U 7967 Who (#7) 833, CD 9357  
U 7368 Boom, Boom Out Goes The Lights 867, LP 2-60014, #, §  
U 7969 It Ain't Right 833, LP 416, #, §  
**March 9, 1956**  
8068 Flying Saucer -1 838, LP 2-60014  
Note: From single 845 **the Jukes** were no longer credited.

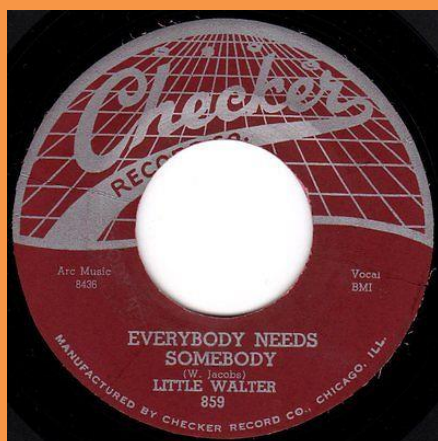


**LITTLE WALTER** with  
same acc. **July 27, 1956**  
8191 It's Too Late Brother 852, LP 2-60014, #  
8192 Teenage Beat -1 845, LP 2-60014  
8193 Take Me Back 852, LP 1535  
8194 Just A Feeling 845, LP 2-60014, #



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

Little Walter disco cont'd



**LITTLE WALTER** with  
Robert Jr Lockwood,g; Luther Tucker,g/b-2; Fred Below,d  
**March 5, 1957**  
8433 Nobody But You -2 859, LP 1535  
8435 Temperature (first version) REDBox5 (UK)  
8436 Shake Dancer -1,-2 1071, LP 2-60014  
8437 Everybody Needs Somebody 859, LP 1535

with  
Luther Tucker and Jimmie Lee Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred  
Below,d  
**June 20, 1957**  
8525 Temperature 867, LP 416  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
alt. take o.a. CD 1226360  
take 30 of above REDBox5 (UK)  
take 35-38 of above REDBox5 (UK)  
8526 Ah'w Baby 945, CD 9357, #  
alt. take o.a. LP 2-60014  
8527 I've Had My Fun 945, LP 1535, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 9242  
alt. take o.a. CD 1226360

with  
Lafayette Leake,p; Luther Tucker and Jimmie Lee Robinson,gs;  
Willie Dixon,b; Francis Clay,d  
**January 1958**  
8644 The Toddle (aka The Tottle) -1 890, LP 416  
8645 Confessin' The Blues as above, #, §

with  
Otis Spann,p; Muddy Waters and Luther Tucker,gs; Willie Dixon,b;  
George Hunter or poss. Francis Clay,d  
**August 1958**  
8981 Key To The Highway (#6) 904, LP 1535, #, §  
8982 Rock Bottom -1 904, LP 416  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
9141 Walkin' On (alt o.a.) CD 9342 (#)

with  
Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker,g; Andrew Stephens,b; George  
Hunter,d  
**January 1959**  
9196 You Gonna Be Sorry (Someday) CD 9342  
(aka Someday Baby You Gonna Be Sorry)  
alt. take o.a. (aka Someday Baby) CD 9357, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 1226360  
9197 One Of These Mornings -1 CD 1226360

with  
Luther Tucker and Fred Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b; George  
Hunter,d  
**Febr 25, 1959**  
9243 Baby CD 9357  
9244 My Baby Is Sweeter (alt o.a.) 919, LP 1535  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
9245 Crazy Mixed Up World 919, LP 416, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
9246 Worried Life (aka Someday Baby) CD 9342, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357

with  
Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker and Fred Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b;  
Bill Stepnney,d  
**July 21, 1959**  
9619 Everything Gonna Be Alright (#25) 930, LP 1535, #, §  
alt. take o.a. (take 1) CD 1226360  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
alt. take o.a. CD 1226360  
9620 Mean Old Frisco 1117, LP 416  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357  
9621 Back Track -1 930, LP2-60014, #

with  
Luther Tucker and Fred Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b; George  
Hunter,d  
**August 12, 1959**  
9654 One Of These Mornings CD 9357  
9655 Blue And Lonesome 1117, LP 1535, #  
alt. take o.a. CD 9357

with  
Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker and Fred Robinson,gs; George Hunter,d  
**November 1959**  
9810 Me And Piney Brown 938, CD 9357  
9811 Break It Up as above

with  
Luther Tucker and poss. Fred Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b; George  
Hunter,d  
**December 1959**  
9889 Going Down Slow CD 9357  
9890 My Desire unissued  
9891 You're Sweet CD 9357  
Note: These recordings may be from the April 28, 1955 session,  
edited and poss dubbed.



with  
Otis Spann,p; Luther Tucker and Fred Robinson,gs; Willie Dixon,b;  
George Hunter,d  
**December 1960**  
10593 I Don't Play 968, CD 9342 (#)  
10594 As Long As I Have You 968, LP 1535, #  
10595 You Don't Know CD 9357  
10596 Just Your Fool CD 9357, #, §

with  
Jarret Gibson and Donald Hankins,saxes; Billy Emerson,org (not on-  
2); Buddy Guy,g; Jack Meyers,b; Al Duncan,d  
**Febr 5, 1963**  
12168 Up The Line -2 1043, LP 416, #  
12169 I'm A Business Man 1081, CD 9357  
12170 Dead Presidents 1081, CD 9342 (#)  
12171 Southern Feeling -1 1043, CD 9342 (#)

with  
J.T. Brown,tensax; Lee Jackson,g; Junior Pettis,b; George Cook,d  
**February 1966**  
14573 Back In The Alley -1 CD 1226360  
14574 I Feel So Bad (take 1) as above  
14575 I Feel So Bad (take 2) as above  
14576 Chicken Shack -1 CD 9357



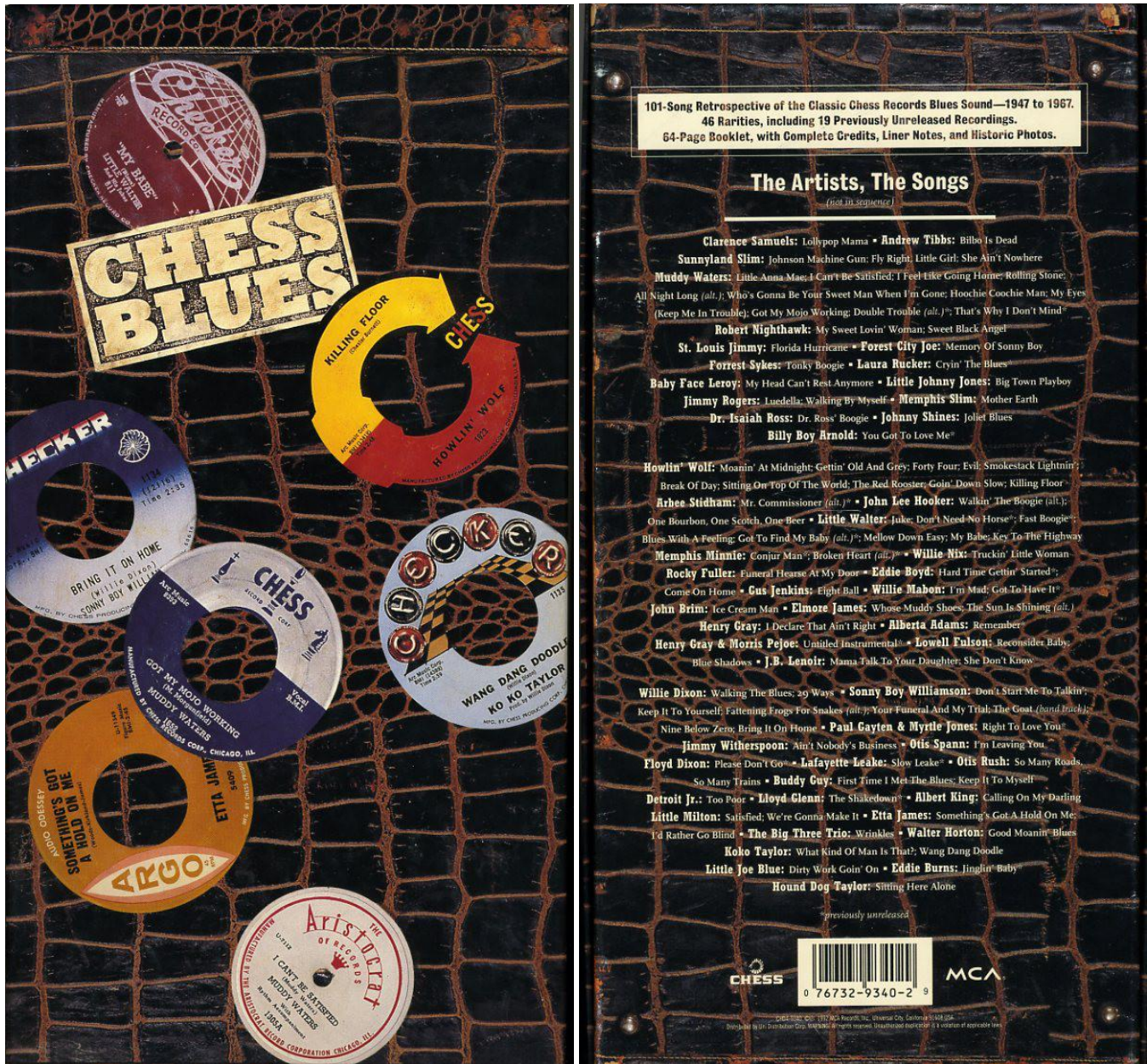
Hip-O>Select CD 1226360 "The Complete Chess Masters"

Note: Little Walter also recorded on the "Super Blues" Checker LP 3008 with Muddy Waters and Bo Diddley; featuring Otis Spann, Buddy Guy, Sonny Wimberley, and Frank Kirkland on January 4, 1967. That session also featured "Juke", "Feel So Bad", and "Make It Alright" (issued on CD 1226360).

Peak positions on any of Billboard's R&B Charts noted



## CHESS BLUES 1947-1967



A super-great 4CD-box, issued 1992 on MCA/Chess CHD4-9340, produced and compiled by Andy McKaie and Mary Katherine Aldin, featuring the great blues artists' classics, but also several very rare (and even unissued) recordings and lots of not so well known artists. Terrific presentations of all tracks in chrono order in a supersized booklet with lots of rare images. A must in any proper blues collection!





# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

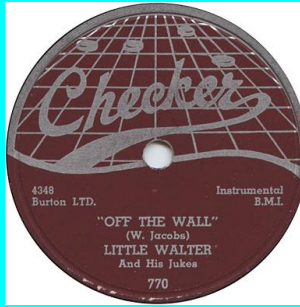
## LITTLE WALTER & JIMMY REED – TEN REPRESENTATIVE SINGLES EACH



1952



1952



1953



1953



1954



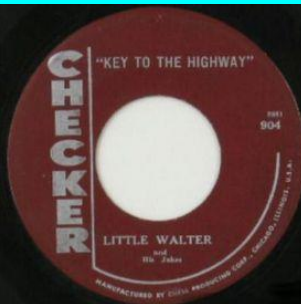
1955



1956



1957



1958



1960



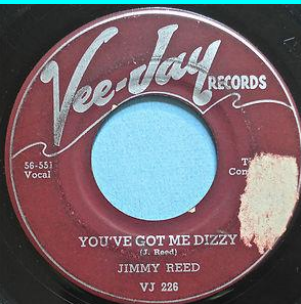
1953



1954



1955



1957



1957



1959



1959



1960

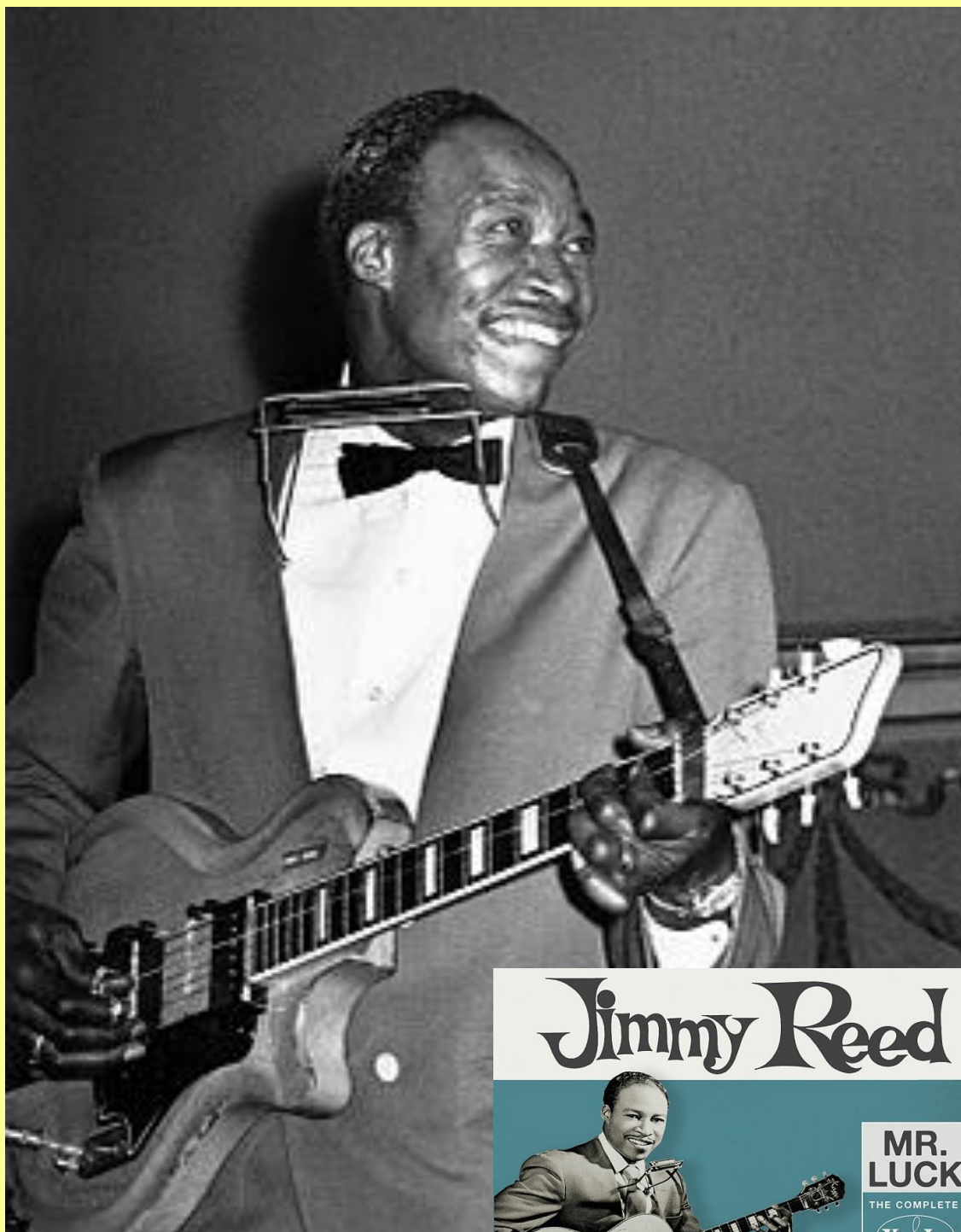


1962

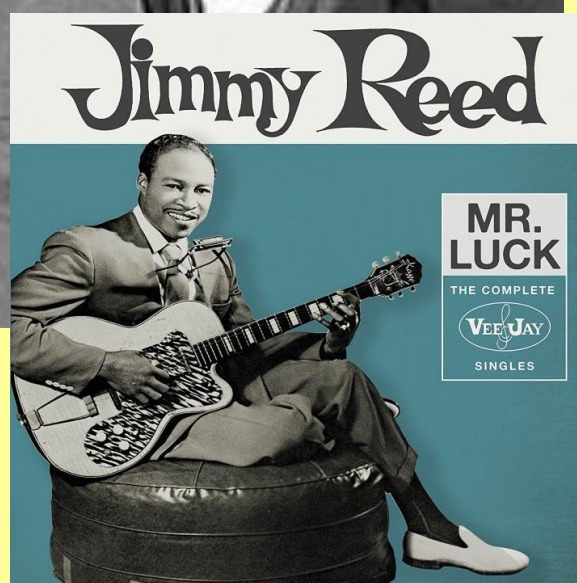


1963

## BOSS MAN OF THE BLUES

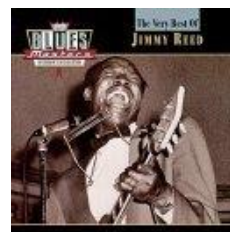


"Mr. Luck" 3CD-swt issued in August 2017 by Craft Recordings.





# JIMMY REED



"Boss Man of the Blues" - "Cousin Peaches". Popular and distinctive guitarist/harmonica player and Chicago blues singer in the Down South Louisiana/Mississippi "swamp" style. Came to Chicago from Mississippi in 1948 (after having lived in Chicago before the war and returned to Leland after military services), and settled in Gary, Indiana in 1949. Worked with San Francisco as base from 1970. Especially worked with Eddie Taylor, Lefty Bates and later Phil Upchurch and Wayne Bennett, gtrs; Earl Phillips and later Al Duncan, dms in Chicago. Was Vivian Bracken-Carter's (of Vee-Jay) most consistent act, produced by Jimmy Bracken and Calvin Carter and later by manager Al Smith. Jimmy actually sings "Baby Why You Wanna Let Go" on his hit "Baby What You Want Me To Do". Became the most successful of the blues singers during the late '50s and early '60s. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1991.

**Born:** Mathis James Reed, September 6, 1925, Dunleith, Miss. (near Leland).  
**Died** from epileptic seizure August 29, 1976, Oakland, Calif.  
**First recordings:** as hca-playing sideman (with Eddie Taylor) on John Brim's Gary Stomp (instrumental)/Tough Times - Parrot (1953); himself: Chicago June 6, 1953 High And Lonesome / Roll And Rhumba - Chance 1142/VeeJay 100.  
**Records for:** VeeJay 53-65, Bluesway 66-68, Blues on Blues 69-70.



**Essential CD:**  
 Blues Masters/The Very Best of... - Rhino R2 79802 (2000) or Best of the Vee-Jay Years - Shout!Factory 8266631063 (2007) or Boss Man (2CD) - Recall (UK) SMCD 232 (1999) - 36 great Vee-Jay tracks in chronorder

**Editor's choice:**  
 The Vee-Jay Years (6CD 1953-1965) - Charly CD RED Box 9 (1994) or The Essential Boss Man (3CD) - Charly SNAJ728CD (2004)

**For Collectors:**  
 Jimmy Reed at Carnegie Hall - Shout!Factory (Vee-Jay) VF 826663-10645 (2007)

**Reading:**  
 Big Boss Man - The Life and Music of Bluesman Jimmy Reed by Will Romano (Backbeat, US 2006)  
 Deep Blues by Robert Palmer (Penguin 1981)

## First LP:

I'm Jimmy Reed - Vee-Jay LP 1004 (1958)

**JIMMY REED, vocals/harmonica/guitar "BIG-SIX"**

1. **Jimmy Reed and His Trio** (featuring Eddie Taylor, John Littlejohn, gtrs; Albert King, dms) - Chicago, December 29-30, 1953: 53-120 **You Don't Have To Go** - Vee-Jay 119 (#5, 10w total)
2. **Jimmy Reed** (featuring Eddie Taylor, gtr; Earl Phillips, dms) - Chicago, October 3, 1956: 56-551 **You've Got Me Dizzy** - Vee-Jay 226 (#3, 9w)
3. (featuring Mary Reed, co-vcl; Lefty Bates, Eddie Taylor, gtrs) - Chicago, August 7, 1959: 59-1211 **Baby What You Want Me To Do** - Vee-Jay 333 (#10, 6w)
4. (featuring Mary Reed, co-vcl; Lee Baker, Lefty Bates, gtrs; Willie Dixon, bs) - Chicago, March 29, 1960: 60-1418 **Big Boss Man** - Vee-Jay 380 (#13, 8w)
5. (featuring Mary, Bates, Phillips) - Chicago, 1961: 61-2070 **Bright Lights Big City** - Vee-Jay 398 (#3, 13w)
6. (featuring Jimmy Reed Jr, Lefty Bates, gtrs; Al Duncan, dms) - Chicago, 1963: 63-3067 **Shame Shame Shame** - Vee-Jay 509

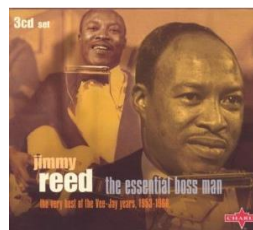
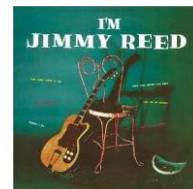
## R&B Top 10 Hits: (10 of 20 Top 40)

- |      |                             |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1954 | You Don't Have To Go        | #5  |
| 1955 | Ain't That Lovin' You Baby  | #3  |
| 1956 | Can't Stand To See You Go   | #10 |
| 1957 | You've Got Me Dizzy         | #3  |
| 1957 | Little Rain                 | #7  |
| 1957 | Honey, Where You Going      | #10 |
| 1957 | Honest I Do                 | #4  |
| 1958 | I'm Gonna Get My Baby       | #5  |
| 1959 | Baby What You Want Me To Do | #10 |
| 1961 | Bright Lights Big City      | #3  |



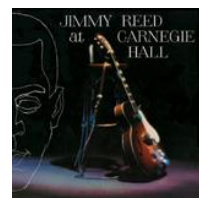
## Listen and Enjoy :

- |      |                            |
|------|----------------------------|
| 1953 | High And Lonesome          |
| 1955 | I Don't Go For That        |
| 1958 | Goin' To New York          |
| 1959 | Take Out Some Insurance    |
| 1959 | Hush Hush                  |
| 1960 | Big Boss Man               |
| 1961 | What's Wrong Baby          |
| 1962 | Too Much                   |
| 1962 | Down In Mississippi        |
| 1963 | I'll Change My Style       |
| 1963 | Shame Shame Shame          |
| 1964 | Wear Something Green       |
| 1964 | I'm Going Upside Your Head |
| 1965 | I'm The Man Down There     |
| 1966 | Crazy 'Bout Oklahoma       |
| 1968 | Down In Virginia           |



## Jimmy's original Vee-Jay albums:

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 1004  | - I'm Jimmy Reed (1958)                                 |
| 1008  | - Rockin' With Reed (1959)                              |
| 1022  | - Found Love (1960)                                     |
| 1025  | - Now Appearing (1961)                                  |
| 1035  | - At Carnegie Hall (1961)                               |
| 1039  | - The Best Of (1961)                                    |
| 1050  | - Just Jimmy Reed (1962)                                |
| 1067  | - I Ain't No Big Thing (1963)                           |
| 1072  | - Sings The Best of The Blues (1963)                    |
| 1073  | - Plays 12 String Guitar Blues (1963)                   |
| 1080  | - The Bossman of The Blues with more of the Best (1963) |
| 1095  | - At Soul City (1964)                                   |
| 8501  | - The Legend, The Man (1965)                            |
| 7303  | - Blues Is My Business (Dynasty 1976)                   |
| 74762 | - Bright Lights, Big City (Chameleon 1988)              |
| 705   | - Speak the Lyrics to Me, Mama Reed (Vee-Jay Ltd 1993)  |





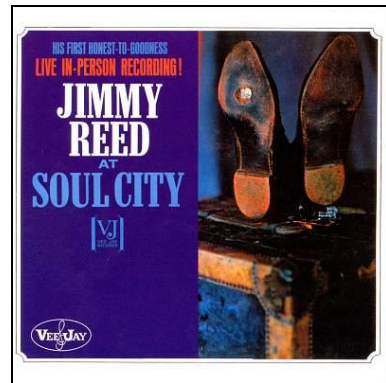
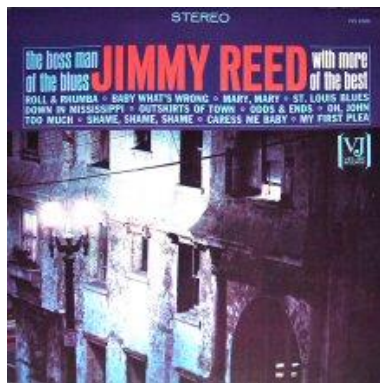
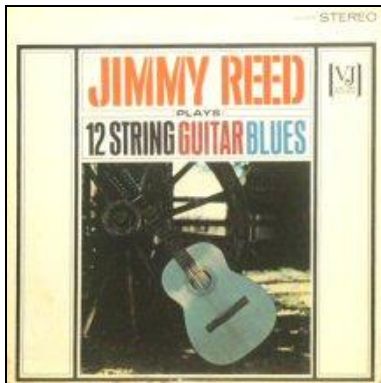
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### JIMMY REED'S original LPs from mid 1963 to 1969+

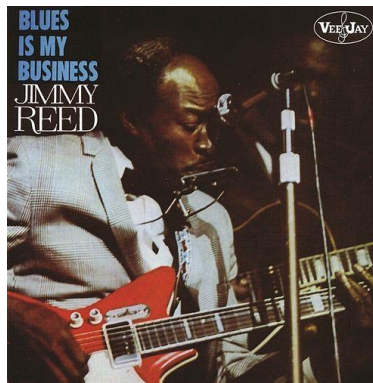
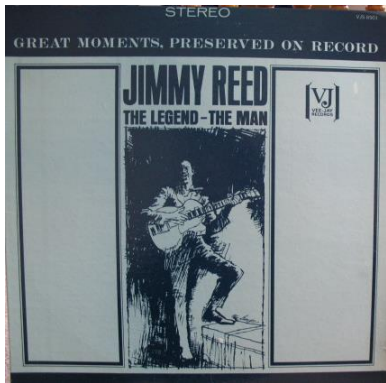
Note: Earlier Vee-Jay LPs – see pages 40-41. LP 1035 2-set reissued on Exodus EX2-307 (1966). LP 1039 reissued on Buddah 4004 in 1969.

Several Jimmy Reed LPs appeared on different Vee-Jay "sub-labels" during the 60s and 70s.

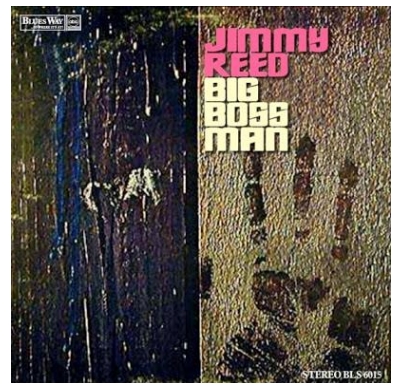
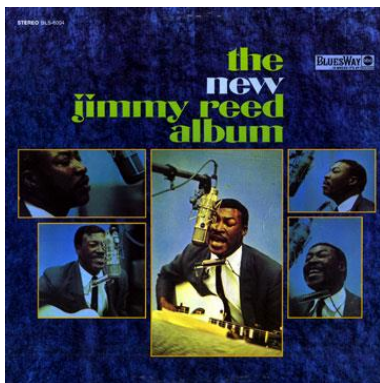
Charly Records in the UK have ever since the 1980s issued lots and lots of LPs and CDs (also featuring in US unissued recordings).



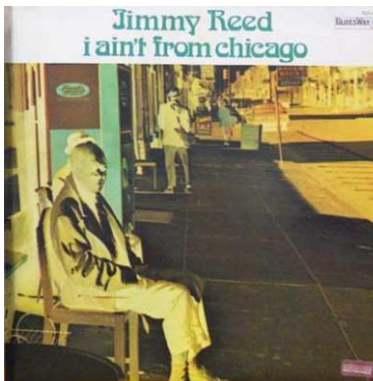
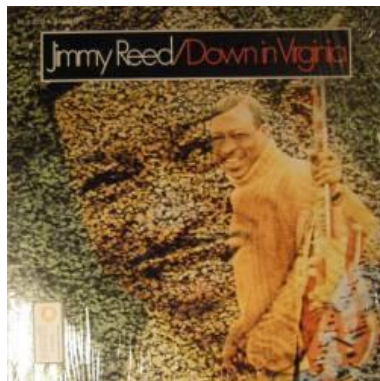
Vee-Jay LPs 1073, 1080 (both 1963) and 1095 (1964)



Vee-Jay LP 8501 (1965), Dynasty LP 7303 (1974), and Chameleon LP/CD 74762 (1988)



BluesWay LPs 6004 (1967), 6009 (1967, featuring several Exodus recordings), 6015 (1968)

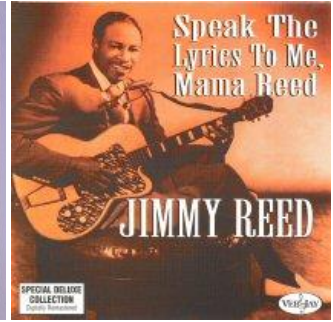


BluesWay LPs 6024 (1969), 6054 (1974), 6067 (ca 1970, featuring Vee-Jay recordings)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### JIMMY REED'S US Albums after 1969



BluesWay BLX 6073-2 (1973, reissue of Vee-Jay 1035), Blues On Blues LP 10001 (ca 1971? or later), Roker LP 4001 (1980), Vee-Jay Ltd CD 705 (1993)

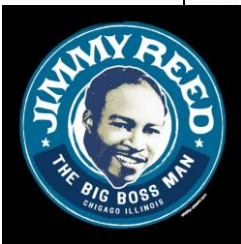
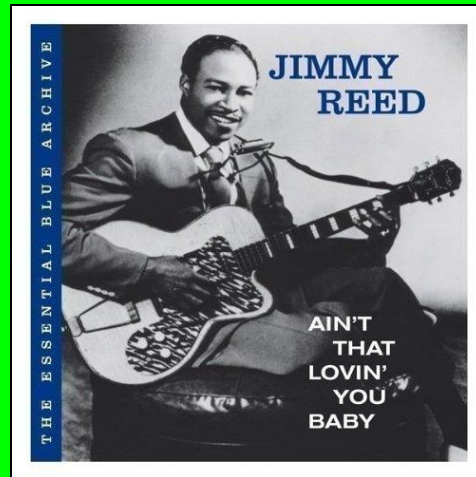
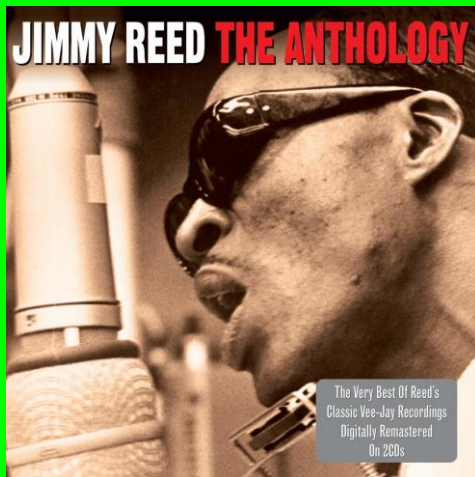
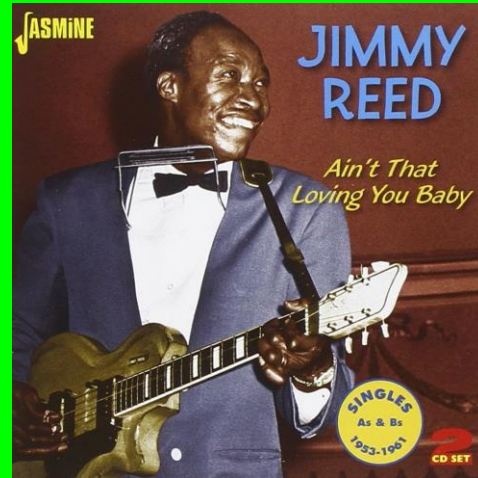
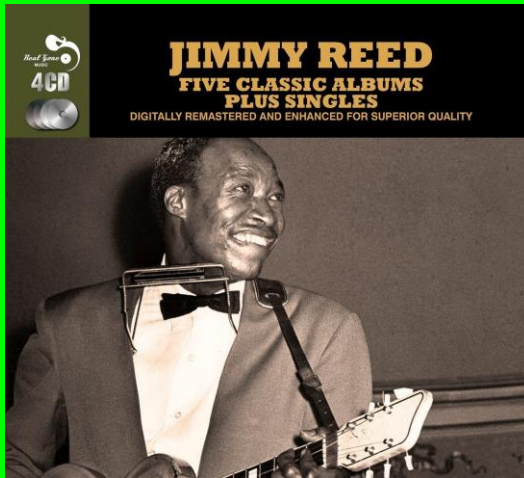


Photo above by Burton Wilson. Inserted image: Jimmy with Eddie Taylor in Copenhagen 1968.

## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Some of the later JR CDs



Real Gone 4CD-set (2014), Jasmine 2CD-set (2013), Not Now 2CD (2011), SPV Blue 1CD (2011); and Charly 3CD-set (2008)

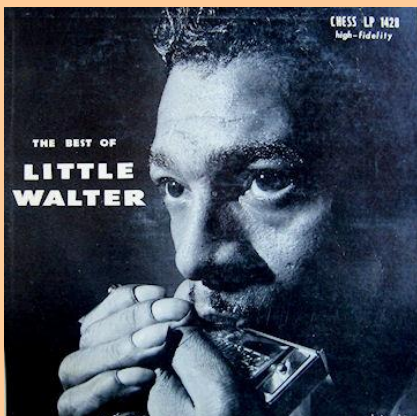




## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### TWO EARLY CLASSIC BLUES LPs

Little Walter and Howlin' Wolf presented, with their first LPs on Chess, some of the most famous and most important Blues albums. Both albums were compilations of their most famous early singles. Here they are with track order and sessions. Walter's singles' cat.no. are Checker, and Wolf's are Chess. All recordings made in Chicago (unless otherwise noted).



**Chess (Checker) LP 1428 (1957)**

#### Tracks:

My Babe / Sad Hours / You're So Fine / Last Night / Blues With A Feeling / Can't Hold Out Much Longer // Juke / Mean Old World / Off The Wall / You Better Watch Yourself / Blue Lights / Tell Me Mamma



#### Discography:

Little Walter;vcl-1/hca and **His Night Cats**; Muddy Waters and Jimmy Rogers,gtrs; Elga Edmonds,dms

U 7437	Juke (Your Cat Will Play)	May 12, 1952
U 7438	Can't Hold Out Much Longer -1	Checker 758

Little Walter;vcl-1/hca and **His Night Cats**; Louis Myers and David Myers,gtrs; Fred Below,dms (there is a slight possibility that the accomp is the same as above)

C1052-2	Mean Old World -1	October 1952
C1053-2	Sad Hours	764

Little Walter;vcl-1/hca and **His Jukes**; Louis Myers and David Myers,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms

U 4348	Off The Wall	ca March 1953
U 4349	Tell Me Mama -1	770

Little Walter;vcl/hca and **His Jukes**; Louis Myers and David Myers,gtrs; Fred Below,dms

U 4398	Blues With A Feeling	July 23, 1953
U 4404	You're So Fine	780

Little Walter;vcl-1/hca and **His Jukes**; Louis Myers and David Myers,gtrs; Fred Below,dms

U 7673	You'd Better Watch Yourself -1	July 14, 1954
U 7674	Blue Light	795

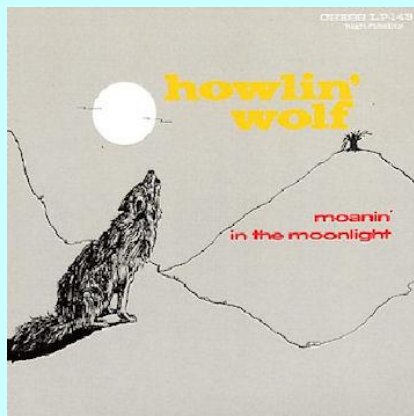
Note the differing spellings contra the LP on 4349, 7673 and 7674.

Little Walter;vcl/hca and **His Jukes**; Robert Jr Lockwood and Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms

U 4416	Last Night	October 5, 1954
	This song was also recorded at the previous session.	805

Little Walter;vcl/hca and **His Jukes**; Leonard Gaston,gtr; Robert Jr Lockwood,gtr/bsg; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms; ensemble vcl

7777	My Babe	January 25, 1955
		811



**Chess LP 1434 (1958)**

#### Tracks:

Moanin' At Midnight / How Many More Years / Smokestack Lightnin' / Baby How Long / No Place to Go / All Night Boogie // Evil / I'm Leavin' You / Moanin' For My Baby / I Asked For Water (She Gave Me Gasoline) / Forty- Four / Somebody In My Home



#### Discography:

**The Howlin' Wolf**;vcl/hca; Ike Turner,pno-1; Willie Johnson,gtr; Willie Steele,dms

U 83	Moanin' At Midnight	Memphis July 1951
U 84	How Many More Years -1	Chess 1479 (R&B #10)

**The Howlin' Wolf**;vcl/hca; poss Albert Williams,pno-; Willie Johnson,gtr; unknown bs and dms

U 7565	All Night Long	Memphis 1953
	Note the differing title contra the LP.	1557

**The Howlin' Wolf**;vcl/hca; Otis Spann,pno; Lee Cooper,gtr; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

U 7518	No Place To Go	Chicago March 1954
		1566

**The Howlin' Wolf**;vcl/hca; Otis Spann,pno; Jody Williams and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

U 7657	Baby How Long	May 25, 1954
U 7658	Evil Is Going On	1575
	7658 titled "Evil" on LP.	1575

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; with same as previous session

U 7741	Forty Four	October 1954
		1584

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Willie Johnson and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

U 7985	Smoke Stack Lightnin'	January 1956
	Note the differing spelling contra the LP.	1618 (R&B #8)

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Willie Johnson and Smokey Smothers,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

8175	I Asked For Water (She Gave Me Gasoline)	January 1956
		1632 (R&B #8)

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; Adolph "Billy" Duncan,tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Willie Johnson and Smokey Smothers,gtrs; Alfred Elkins,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

8530	Somebody In Me Home	June 24, 1957
		1668

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; Abe Locke,tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Jody Williams and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Alfred Elkins,bs; Earl Phillips,dms

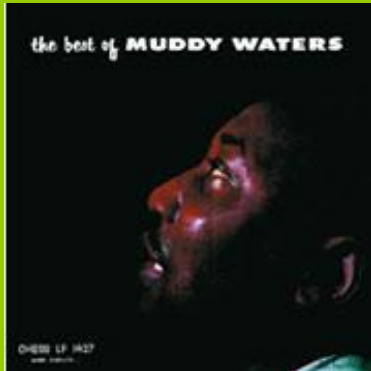
8775-1	Moanin' For My Baby	April 3, 1958
		1695

Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; L.D. McGhee and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; S.P. Leary,dms

9150	I'm Leaving You	ca September 1958
		1712

## the "KING" & the "BOSS" of Chicago Blues – their first LPs

Muddy and Jimmy hit the LP-market with a Big Bang – presenting two classic Blues LPs, which still are among their fans' most appreciated albums. Here they are with track order and sessions. Muddy on Chess and Jimmy on Vee-Jay. The four bonus tracks on Reed's re-issue on Charly (UK) SNAP 131 CD (2003) are marked \*. All recordings made in Chicago. Note differing spellings.



Chess LP 1427 (1957)

### Tracks:

Hoochie Coochie Man / I'm Ready / Rollin' Stone / I Just Want To Make Love To You / Honey Bee / She Moves Me // I Can't Be Satisfied / I Want You To Love Me / Long Distance Call / Standing Around Crying / Still A Fool / Louisiana Blues (Note the differing titles on some single issues)



### Discography:

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr with Rythm (sic) Accompaniement; Ernest Big Crawford,bs  
ca December 1947  
U 7112 I Can't Be Satisfied Aristocrat 1305

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr February 1950  
U 7237 Rollin' Stone Chess 1426

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr; Little Walter,hca, Ernest Big Crawford,bs  
October 23, 1950  
U 7275 Louisiana Blues 1441 (R&B #10)

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Little Walter,hca/or gtr-1, Ernest Big Crawford,bs  
January 23, 1951  
U 7304 Long Distance Call 1452 (R&B #8)  
U 7306 Honey Bee -1 1468 (R&B #10)

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Little Walter,hca/or gtr-1; Jimmy Rogers replaces Muddy,gtr-1; Ernest Big Crawford,bs; Elga Edmonds or Len Chess,dms  
July 11, 1951  
U 7358 She Moves Me 1490 (R&B #10)  
U 7360 Still A Fool -1 1490 (R&B #9)

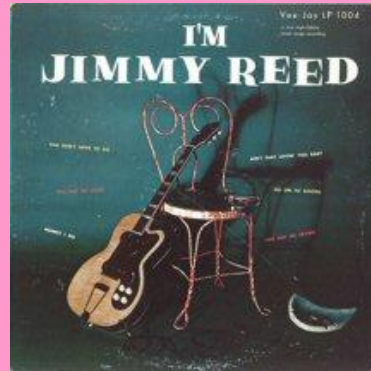
Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Junior Wells,hca; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; Elga Edmonds,dms  
September 17, 1952  
U 7477 Standing Around Crying 1526

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Otis Spann,pno; Little Walter,hca; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; Elga Edmonds,dms  
September 24, 1953  
U 7552 Mad Love 1550 (R&B #6)  
Titled "I Want You To Love Me" on LP.

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Otis Spann,pno; Little Walter,hca; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; Elga Edmonds,dms  
January 7, 1954  
U 7589 I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man 1560 (R&B #3)  
Some pressings titled "I'm Your Hoochie Kooche Man". On LP it is titled "Hoochie Coochie Man".

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Otis Spann,pno; Little Walter,hca; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; Elga Edmonds,dms  
January 7, 1954  
U 7630 Just Make Love To Me 1571 (R&B #4)  
Titled "I Just Want To Make Love To You" on LP.

Muddy Waters,vcl/gtr and his Guitar; Otis Spann,pno; Little Walter,hca; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms  
September 1, 1954  
U 7697 I'm Ready 1597 (R&B #4)



Vee-Jay LP 1004 (1958)

### Tracks:

Honest I Do / Go On To School / My First Plea / Boogie In The Dark / You Got Me Crying / Ain't That Lovin' You Baby // You Got Me Dizzy / Little Rain / Can't Stand To See You Go / Roll And Rhumba / You're Something Else / You Don't Have To Go



### Discography:

Jimmy Reed,vcl-1/hca/gtr and His Trio; John Brim,gtr; unkn bs; Albert King or Morris Wilkerson,dms  
Poss June 6, 1953  
53-104 \* High And Lonesome -1 Chance 1142/Vee-Jay 100  
53-107 Roll And Rhumba Chance 1142/Vee-Jay 100

Jimmy Reed,vcl-1/hca/gtr and His Trio; Eddie Taylor and John Littlejohn,gtrs; Albert King,dms  
Poss December 29/30, 1953  
53-120 You Don't Have To Go -1 Vee-Jay 119 (R&B #5)  
53-121 Boogie In The Dark 119

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Henry Gray,pno; W.C. Dalton,gtr; Milton Rector,bs; Earl Phillips,dms  
July 18, 1955  
55-294 \* She Don't Want Me No More 153  
55-295 \* Come On Baby issued on VJ LP 7303 (1976)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Vernell Fournier,dms  
December 5, 1955  
55-383 Ain't That Lovin' You Baby 168 (R&B #3)  
55-384 Can't Stand To See You Go 186 (R&B #10)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Vernell Fournier,dms  
June 11, 1956  
56-486 My First Plea 203

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Earl Phillips,dms  
October 3, 1956  
56-551 You've Got Me Dizzy 226 (R&B #3)  
56-552 \* Honey Don't Let Me Go 226  
January 9, 1957  
57-593 Little Rain 237 (R&B #7)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca-1/gtr; Remo Biondi and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Earl Phillips,dms  
January 9, 1957  
57-663 Honest I Do -1 253 (R&B #4)  
December 12, 1957  
57-810 You're Something Else 270  
March 12, 1958  
58-861 Go On To School -1 275  
58-862 You Got Me Crying -1 275



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Three MORE of the EARLY CLASSIC BLUES LPs

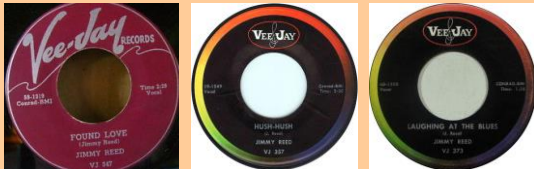
Jimmy Reed issued seven LPs up to and including 1962 (with a majority of earlier singles issues). Here are his third and fourth (1025 mainly an "LP-session"). Howlin' Wolf issued three up to and including 1965. Here is his second. Track order and sessions are listed. Reed's are on Vee-Jay, and Wolf's are Chess. Note differing spellings. All recordings made in Chicago.



Vee-Jay LP 1022 (mid/late 1960) and 1025 (early 1961)

#### Tracks:

**1022** Baby What You Want Me To Do / Found Love / Meet Me / I Was So Wrong / Going By The River Part 2 / Big Boss Man // Hush-Hush / Where Can You Be / I'm Nervous / Going By The River Part 1 / I Ain't Got You / Come Love. **1025** Close Together / Got Me Chasing You / Want To Be With You Baby / Jimmy's Rock / Tell The World I Do // You Know You're Looking Good / I've Got The Blues / Laughing At The Blues / Down The Road / Ain't Gonna Cry No More / You're My Baby



#### Discography:

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Henry Grey,pno; W.C. Dalton,g; Milton Recotr,b; Earl Phillips,d

55-293 I Ain't Got You Chicago July 18, 1955  
not on single

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; William Lefty Bates and Eddie Taylor,gs; Earl Phillips,d  
March 26, 1959  
59-1103 I'm Nervous not on single

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Mary Lee "Little Mama" Reed,vcl; Lefty Bates and Eddie Taylor,gs; Marcus Johnson,b; Earl Phillips,d

August 7, 1959  
59-1211 Baby What You Want Me To Do Vee-Jay 333 (R&B #10)  
59-1212 Going By The River part 1 not on single  
59-1213 Going By The River part 2 357  
1211 should have been titled "Baby Why You Wanna Let Go".

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor and Phil Upchurch,gs; Earl Phillips,d  
August 25, 1959  
59-1248 Where Can You Be 347  
59-1249 Hush-Hush 357 (R&B #18)  
59-1250 I Was So Wrong not on single

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Lefty Bates and Eddie Taylor,gs; Earl Phillips,d  
December 15, 1959  
59-1319 Found Love 347 (R&B #16)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Mama Reed,vcl-1; Lee Baker and Lefty Bates,gs; Willie Dixon or Louie Brooks,b; Earl Phillips,d

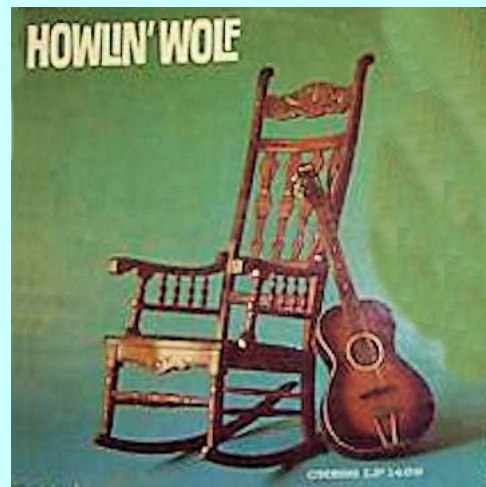
March 29, 1960  
60-1418 Come Love -1 not on single  
60-1418 Big Boss Man -1 380 (R&B#13)  
60-1419 Meet Me not on single

Jimmy Reed,vcl (no vcl on -1) /hca/gtr; Lefty Bates and Phil Upchurch,gs; Earl Phillips,d

June 29, 1960  
60-1544 I've Got The Blues only LP  
60-1546 Got Me Chasing You -  
60-1547 Down The Road -  
60-1548 Want To Be With You Baby -  
60-1549 Jimmy's Rock -1  
60-1550 Tell The World I Do -  
60-1551 You're My Baby -  
60-1553 Ain't Gonna Cry No More -

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Mama Reed,vcl-1; Lefty Bates and Eddie Taylor,gs; Earl Phillips,d; chorus -1

December 13, 1960  
60-1709 Close Together -1 Vee-Jay 373 (R&B #12)  
60-1710 You Know You're Looking Good only LP  
60-1711 Laughing At The Blues 373



Chess LP 1469 (1962)

#### Tracks:

Shake For Me / The Red Rooster/ You'll Be Mine / Who's Been Talkin' / Wang-Dang-Doodle / Little Baby // Spoonful / Going Down Slow / Down In The Bottom / Back Door Man / Howlin' For My Baby / Tell Me



#### Discography:

Howlin' Wolf,vcl/hca; Adolph "Billy" Duncan,tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Willie Johnson and Otis "Smokey" Smothers,gs; Alfred Elkins,b; Earl Phillips,d

Chicago June 24, 1957  
8528 Who's Been Talking Chess 1750  
8529 Tell Me 1750

Howlin' Wolf,vcl/hca; Abe Locke,tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Hubert Sumlin and Abraham Smothers,gs; S.P. Leary,d

July 1959  
9584 Howlin' For My Darling 1762  
Note the differing spellings single contra LP.

Howlin' Wolf,vcl; Otis Spann,pno; Freddy Robinson and/or Freddy King, and Hubert Sumlin,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d

June 1960  
10263 Wang-Dang-Doodle 1777  
10263 Back Door Man 1777  
10264 Spoonful 1762

Howlin' Wolf,vcl/gtr-1; Little Johnny Jones,pno; Hubert Sumlin and Jimmy Rogers,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Sam Lay,d

May 1961  
10913 Little Baby 1793  
10917 Down In The Bottom -1 1793

Howlin' Wolf,vcl/gtr-1; Little Johnny Jones,pno; Hubert Sumlin,g; unknown elbs; Willie Dixon,b; Sam Lay,d

June 1961  
10937 Shake For Me 1804  
10938 The Red Rooster -1 1804

Howlin' Wolf,vcl/gtr-1; Henry Grey,pno; Hubert Sumlin,g; unknown elbs; Willie Dixon,b/speech-2; Sam Lay,d

December 1961  
11377 You'll Be Mine -1 1813  
11380 Goin' Down Slow -2 1813

## The original "REAL FOLK BLUES" LPs

Cashing in on the successful European tours of "The American Folk Blues Festival" (the first tour was originally actually titled "The American Negro Blues Festival"), Chess issued their first two "Folk Blues" LPs by their most popular blues performers – Muddy and Wolf. Here they are, with track order and singles discography, plus the bonus tracks from later CD issue (only Wolf had bonus). The LPs covered the two giants' whole careers on Chess. The third LP in this series was LP 1503 Sonny Boy Williamson (in Europe as "In Memorium"). All recordings made in Chicago. Note differing spellings. Imaged are the CD re-issues.



Chess LP 1501 (1965) - CHD 9274, 1988

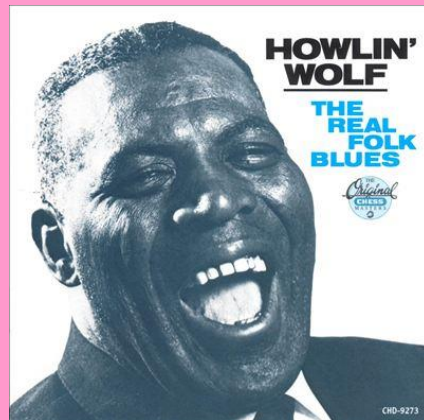
### Tracks:

Mannish Boy / Screamin' And Crying / Just To Be With You / Walking In The Park / Walking Blues / Canary Bird // Same Thing / Gypsy Women / Rollin' And Tumblin' / Forty Days And Forty Nights / Little Geneva / You Can't Lose What You Ain't Never Had



### Discography:

**Muddy Waters;vcl/gtr with Sunny Land Slim;pno;** Ernest Big Crawford,b  
Chicago ca September 1947  
U 7058 Gypsy Woman Aristocrat 1302  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/gtr; Big Crawford,b** July 12, 1949  
U 7199 Little Geneva Aristocrat 1311  
U 7200 Canary Bird Aristocrat 1311  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/gtr and His Guitar;** Little Johnny Jones;pno; Jimmy Rogers,g;  
Leroy Foster,d ca September 1949  
U 7215 Screamin' And Cryin' Aristocrat 406  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/gtr; Big Crawford,b** February 1950  
U 7235 Rollin' And Tumblin' Part 1 Aristocrat 412  
U 7238 Walkin' Blues Chess 1426  
7235 is pt 1 issued on the LP, the single had two parts (just as the Baby Face Leroy Trio record for Parkway – recorded in January with Foster, Muddy and Little Walter).  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/no gtr and His Guitar;** Junior Wells,hca, Jimmy Rogers,gtr;  
Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d; chorus Chicago May 24, 1955  
U 7846 Manish Boy Chess 1602 (R&B #5)  
Note the differing spelling on LP.  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/no gtr and his Guitar;** Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann;pno; Pat  
Hare and Hubert Sumlin,gs; Willie Dixon,b, Fred Below,d February 2, 1956  
8012 Forty Days & Forty Nights 1620 (R&B #7)  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/no gtr and his Guitar;** Otis Spann;pno; Pat Hare and Hubert  
Sumlin,gs; Willie Dixon,b, Odie Payne,d June 29, 1956  
8147 Just To Be With You 1644  
**Muddy Waters;vcl;** Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann;pno; Pat Hare and Luther  
Tucker,gs; Willie Dixon,b, Francis Clay or George Hunter,d August 1958  
9140 Walking Thru The Park 1718  
**Muddy Waters;vcl/gtr;** Otis Spann;pno; Buddy Guy or James "Pee Wee"  
Madison,gtr; Willie Dixon,b; S.P. Leary,d April 9, 1964  
13150 The Same Thing 1895  
13151 You Can't Lose What You Ain't Never Had 1895



Chess LP 1502 (1965) - CHD 9273, 1988

### Tracks:

Killing Floor / Louise / Poor Boy / Sittin' On Top Of The World / Nature / My Country Sugar Mama // Tail Dragger / Three Hundred Pounds Of Joy / Natchez Burnin' / Built For Comfort / Ooh Baby Hold Me / Tell Me What I've Done (bonus tracks marked \*)



### Discography:

**Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca;** Hosea Lee Kennard;pno; Willie Johnson and Hubert  
Sumlin,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Earl Phillips,d Chicago January 1956  
U 7985 \* Smoke Stack Lightnin' Chess 1618 (R&B #8)  
Titled "Smokestack Lightnin'" on the CD.  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca;** Hosea Lee Kennard;pno; Willie Johnson and Otis  
"Smokey" Smothers,gs; Willie Dixon,b; Earl Phillips,d Chicago July 19, 1956  
8178 The Natchez Burning Chess 1744  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca;** Adolph "Billy" Duncan,tensax; Hosea Lee Kennard;pno; Willie  
Johnson and Otis "Smokey" Smothers,gs; Alfred Elkins,b; Earl Phillips,d June 24, 1957  
8531 Nature 1668  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca;** Hosea Lee Kennard;pno; Hubert Sumlin,g; Alfred Elkins,b;  
Earl Phillips,d December 1957  
8616 Poor Boy 1679  
8618 Sittin' On Top Of The World 1679  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl;** J.T. Brown and unknown,tensax; Little Johnny Jones;pno; Hubert  
Sumlin,g; Jerome Arnold,b; Junior Blackman,d September 28, 1962  
11916 Tail Dragger 1890  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl;** J.T. Brown,tensax; Donald Hankins,barsax; Lafayette Leake,p;  
Hubert Sumlin and Buddy Guy,gs; prob Jerome Arnold,b; Sam Lay,d August 14, 1963  
12617 \* Hidden Charms 1890  
12618 Three Hundred Pounds Of Joy 1870  
12620 Built For Comfort 1970  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl/hca-1;** Arnold Rogers,tensax; Donald Hankins,barsax; Lafayette  
Leake,p; Hubert Sumlin and Buddy Guy,gs; Andrew Palmer,b; Sam Lay,d August 1964  
13418 Killing Floor 1923  
13419 My Country Sugar Mama -1 1911  
13420 Louise 1923  
**Howlin' Wolf;vcl;** Eddie Shaw,tensax; Lee Eggleston,p; Hubert Sumlin and Buddy  
Guy,gs; unknown,b; Sam Lay,d April 15, 1965  
13883 Tell Me What I've Done 1928  
13885 Ooh Baby, Hold Me 1928





LOUISIANA SWAMP BLUES (producer: Jay Miller)

**SLIM HARPO (1924-1970)**

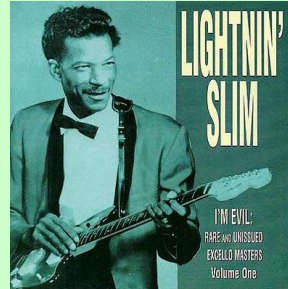


**James Isaac Moore** (born in Lobdell, Louisiana)  
Recording 1957-1969 (mostly in Crowley, Louisiana).  
Famous hits: I'm A King Bee (1957), Rainin' In My Heart (1961),  
Baby Scratch My Back (1966).



Buzzin' The Blues/The Complete Slim Harpo  
- Bear Family 5CD BCD 17339 (2015)

**LIGHTNIN' SLIM (1913-1974)**



**Otis V. Hicks** (born in St. Louis, Missouri)  
Recording 1954-ca 1974 (mostly in Crowley, Louisiana).  
Famous hits: Bad Luck (1954), Rooster Blues (1959).

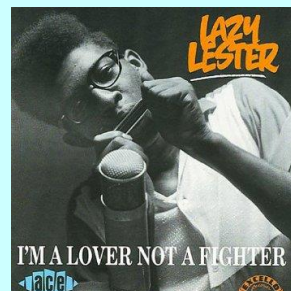


I'm A Rolling Stone (1954-1962)  
- Jasmine CD JASMC 3045 (2015)

**LAZY LESTER (1933-2018)**



**Leslie Johnson** (born in Torras, Louisiana)  
Recording 1956-2010+ (mostly in Crowley, Louisiana).  
Famous songs: I'm A Lover Not A Fighter,  
Sugar Coated Love (both 1958).



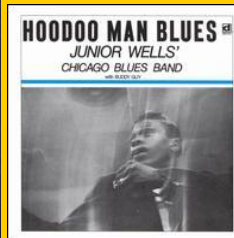
I'm A Lover Not A Fighter (1954-1962)  
- Ace CDCHD 518(1994)

## Some Excellent Exponents of CHICAGO, TEXAS & CALIFORNIA BLUES

### JUNIOR WELLS (1934-1998)



**Amos Wells Blakemore Jr** (born in Memphis, Tennessee or West Memphis, Arkansas). Recording from 1953 in Chicago (mostly for States, Chief, Vanguard, Delmark).  
Famous songs: Hodo Man (1953), Little By Little (1959).

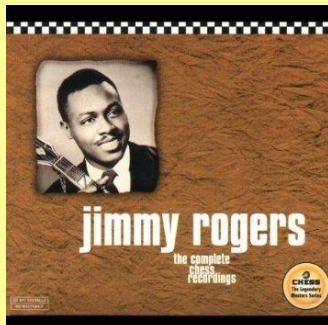


Blues Hit Big Town (1953 States) – Delmark CD 640 (2008)  
Hoodoo Man Blues (1965) – Delmark CD DD-612 (2008)

### JIMMY ROGERS (1924-1997)



**James A. Lane** (born in Ruleville, Mississippi)  
Raised in Atlanta, Georgia and in Memphis.  
Recording from 1948 in Chicago (mostly for Chess).  
Famous songs: That's All Right (1950), Chicago Bound (1954), Walking By Myself (1956), My Last Meal (1959).

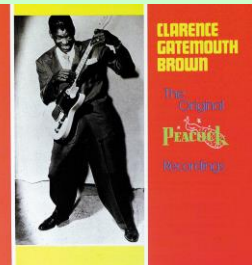
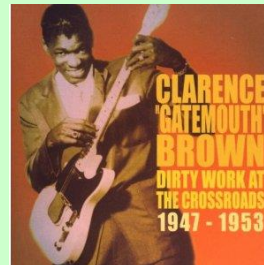


The Complete Chess Recordings (1950-1960)  
– MCA/Universal/Chess MCD 09372 (1997)

### CLARENCE BROWN (1924-2005)

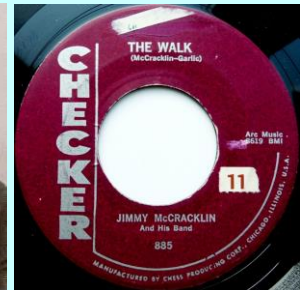


**Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown**  
(born in Vinton, Louisiana; raised in Orange, Texas).  
Recording from 1947 (first session for Aladdin in Los Angeles, and 1948-1960 for Peacock in Houston, Texas; later ao. for Cinderella and Chess). Famous songs: Mary Is Fine (1949), Boogie Rambler (1949), Dirty Work At The Crossroads (1952), Okie Dokie Stomp (1954).

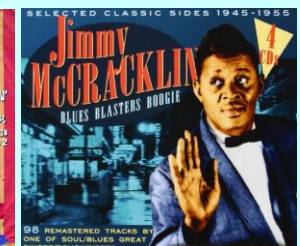
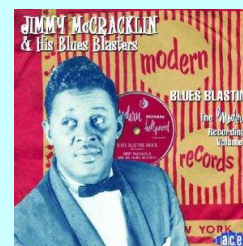


Dirty Work at the Crossroads 1947-1953 – Acrobat ACRC216 (2006)  
The Original Peacock Recordings (1948-1960) – Rounder CD 2039 (1990)

### JIMMY McCracklin (1921-2012)



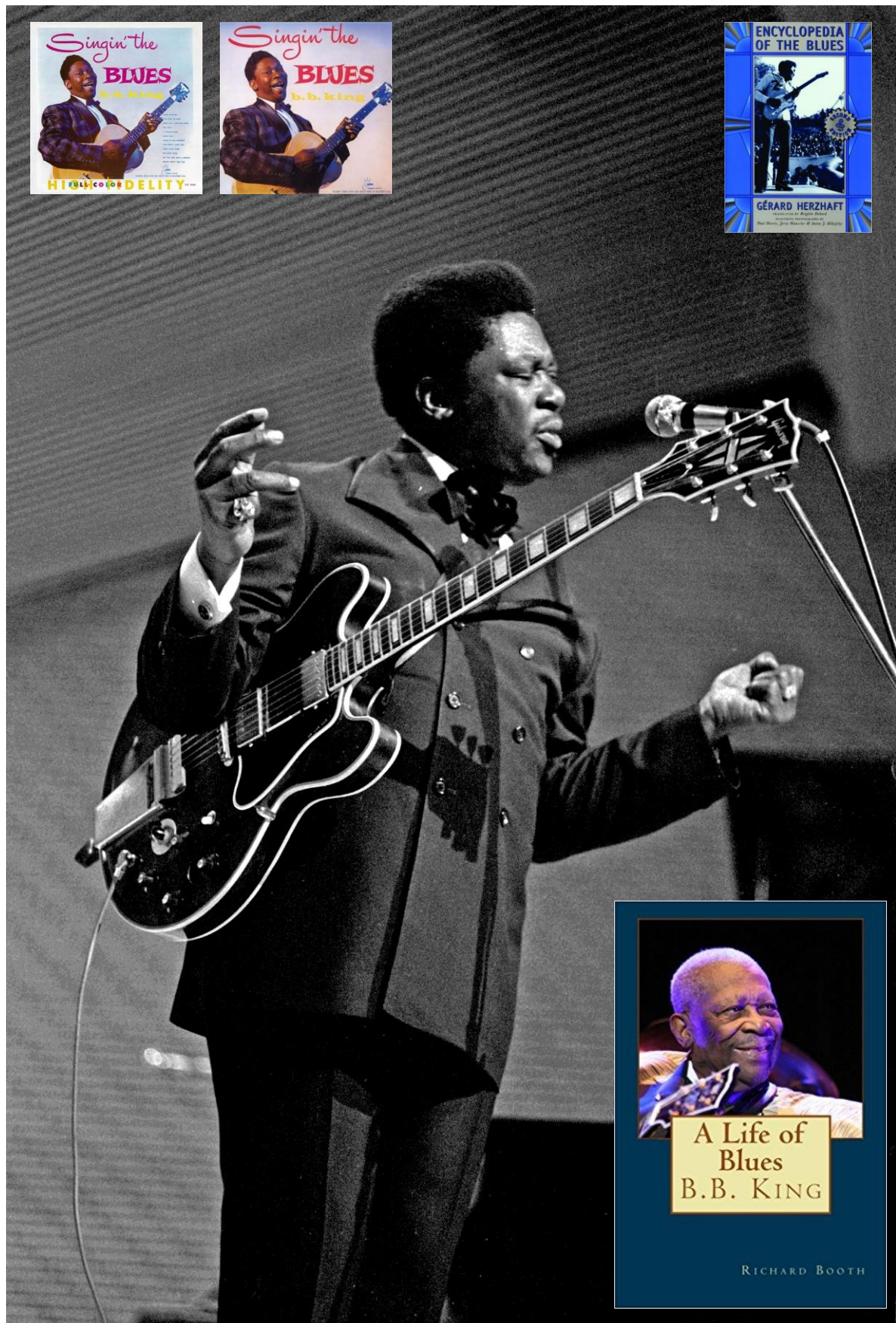
**James David Walker** (born in Elaine, Arkansas).  
Settled in Richmond, California during the early 1940s.  
Recorded in Oakland (foremost), San Francisco and Los Angeles from 1945 for ao, Globe, Trilon, DownTown/SwingTime, RPM/Modern; and in Houston, Chicago; New York and Los Angeles again for Peacock, Checker, ArtTone, Imperial, Minit. Famous songs and hits: Miss Mattie Left Me (1946), Rockin All Day (1949), Blues For The People (1950), Couldn't Be A Dream (1954), The Walk (1958), Just Got To Know (1961), Think (1965).



Blues Blatin/The Modern Recordings Vol 2 (1954) – Ace CDCHD 932(2004)  
Blues Blasters Boogie (1945-1955, 4 CD) – SPV 7789 (2013)



## KING OF THE BLUES





## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### B. B. KING's EARLY SESSIONS IN MEMPHIS

Here are B.B.'s early Memphis-sessions (based on "The Blues Discography" by Fancourt and McGrath, 2012; Fancourt's Retrack booklet of 1993; "The Vintage Years" on Ace Box 2002; and original RPM singles credits).

#### WDIA Radio Studio ca June 1949

with B.B. King vcl/g; Thomas Branch,tp; Sammie Jett,tb; Ben Branch,ts;  
Phineas Newborn Jr,p; Richard "Tuff" Green,b; Phineas Newborn Sr,d.  
(Calvin Newborn may have been the guitar player here)  
Miss Martha King – When Your Baby Packs Up And Goes (Bullet 309)  
Got The Blues – Take A Swing With Me (Bullet 315)

#### Memphis Recording And Sound Service ca July 1950

with B.B. King (Singing Star of Station WDIA, Memphis),vcl;  
Phineas Newborn Jr,p; Calvin Newborn,g; Tuff Green,b; Earl Forest,d  
Mistreated Woman – B. B. Boogie (RPM 304)  
The Other Night Blues – Walkin' And Cryin' (aka You Don't Love Me No More) (RPM 311)  
Note: Six alternates on Kent LP 9011, Ace CD LP CH 50 and CD 265

#### Memphis Recording And Sound Service January 8, 1951

with B.B. King vcl/g(not gtr on -1); E.A. Kamp,ts; Ford Nelson,p; James Walker,b;  
Solomon Hardy,d  
My Baby's Gone – Don't You Want A Man Like Me -1 (RPM 318)  
Questionnaire Blues – A New Way Of Driving (Kent LP KST 9011)  
B. B. Blues (RPM 323) - Fine Lookin' Woman (RPM 348 -x)  
Note: Five alternates on Ace CD 835

#### Memphis Recording And Sound Service May 27, 1951

with B.B. King vcl/g; Richard Sanders,ts; prob Calvin Newborn,  
extra g; poss Phineas Newborn Jr,p; poss Phineas Newborn Sr,d  
She's Dynamite (RPM 323)

#### Memphis Recording And Sound Service June 18, 1951

with B.B. King vcl/g; and unknown accomp featuring ts, p, b, d  
She's A Mean Woman – Hard Working Woman (RPM 330)  
Pray For You (Ace LP CH 50) – Darling I Love You (unissued)  
Note: Three alternates on Ace CD 835

#### YMCA Memphis ca September, 1951

with B.B. King vcl/g; Adolph Billy Duncan and Richard Sanders,tss; Johnny Ace,p;  
Ike Turner (not Ace) on-1; James Walker,b; Earl Forest,d; omit saxes and  
add unknown g on -2.  
3 O'Clock Blues -1 – That Ain't The Way To Do It -2 (RPM 339)  
She Don't Move Me No More (RPM 348 -x)  
Note: Alternate of "Ain't.." on Kent LP 9011. x: 348 issued as B .B. King And His Orchestra

#### Tuff Green's house January 24, 1952

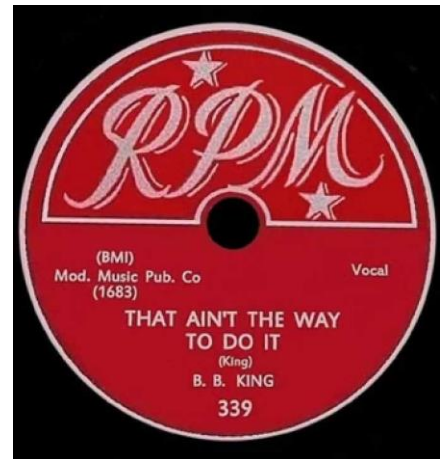
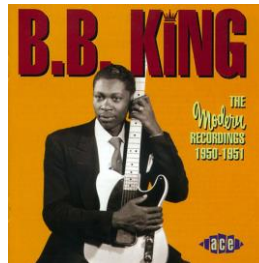
with B.B. King (And His Orchestra) vcl/g; Richard Sanders,ts; unknown,second ts;  
Johnny Ace,pno; George Joyner,b; Earl Forest,d; Onzie Horne,vb; omit saxes on -1  
Shake It Up And Go\* – My Own Fault, Darlin' -1 (RPM 355) \*may have been recorded earlier  
Someday Some Where – Gotta Find My Baby (RPM 360)  
Note: Alternates on Crown LP 5143, Kent LP 9011, and AceCDTop2 1406.

#### Unknown Studio Memphis (poss Tuff Green's house) 1952

with B.B. King,vcl/g; Raymond Hill,as; unknown p, b, d; Onzie Horne,vb  
Low Down Dirty Baby – I'm So Glad (Ace CD CHD 201)  
I Got A Girl Who Lives Up On The Hill (Ace CD CHD 201) Alternate on PVine PCD 3/20.

#### Unknown Studio Memphis poss April 1952

with B.B. King (And His Orchestra -x) vcl/g(only on -1); as (poss Hank Crawford), ts  
(poss Ben Branch), unknown bs; prob. Ike Turner,p; unknown, g, d. unknown  
congas on -2 (Charles Cosby?)  
You Didn't Want Me – You Know I love You (RPM 363 -x)  
Story From My Heart And Soul -2 – Boogie Woogie Woman -1 (RPM 374)  
Note: Alternate of "Story" on Ace CDCHM 1093 with no congas



The best CD covering the Memphis sessions 1950-51 (plus \*) is Ace 2-set CDCHM2 835 (2002), which includes the alternates.

After this session B.B. recorded from October 1952 and in 1953 in Houston (Texas), Covington (Tennessee), and Cincinnati with Bill Harvey's band (featuring Floyd Jones,tp; George Coleman,sax; Harvey.ts; Connie Mack Booker,p; James Walker,b; Ted Curry,d; Charles Cosby,cg). The records were issued as B.B. King And His Orchestra.

In February 1954 he started recording in Los Angeles (Capitol Studios and Modern's own studios in Culver City) – now with the orchestra arranged and conducted by Maxwell Davis, although King also recorded with his own orchestra when on tour (featuring "leftovers" from Harvey's band and newcomers). RPM now started releasing King's records as B.B. "Blues Boy" King And His Orchestra.



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### B. B. KING – some fine CDs

Six great CD-sets: Real Gone (4CD 2014), Acrobat (5CD 2015), Universal (2CD 1999), Jasmine (2CD 2015) Enlightenment (6CD 2015). And a new Ace CD.



Ace CDTOP 1457 feat 25 unissued alternate RPM/Kent rec. (Nov. 2015)

# B. B. KING



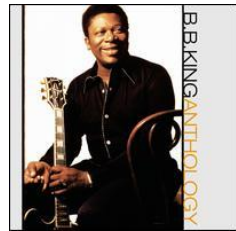
"Mr. Blues" - "The Beale Street Blues Boy" - "King of the Blues" - "Bee Bee". The most famous and internationally successful blues singer/guitarist and the greatest of the "industrial" city blues guitar stylists. Charter member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980, and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.



King mixed the traditions of Texas and Mississippi (with origins in Blind Lemon Jefferson, Lonnie Johnson, T-Bone Walker; his three most favorites; and Lowell Fulson, and Roy Brown - all last three partly Indian descents). Was also influenced by Charlie Christian, Django Reinhardt, and Bukka White (a distant cousin). Started his career, singing gospel, in Indianola, Miss and came to Memphis, Tenn in 1948. Had his own

radio show in Memphis during 1949-50 and formed The Beale Street Blues Boys, featuring Johnny Ace, pno; and Earl Forrest, dms. His early RPM recordings produced by Sam Phillips, and soon by Ike Turner. Later toured the South with Bill Harvey's Band (featuring Evelyn Young and George Coleman, saxes; Floyd Jones, tpt; Connie Mack Booker, pno; George Joyner and James Walker, bs; Ted Curry and sometimes also Earl Forrest, drums; and Charles Crosby, congas) and recorded in Houston. The last session with Harvey's band is of uncertain date, but there is a session noted February 6, 1954 (at Universal Recorders, Hollywood), featuring "The Woman I Love", "Everything I Do Is Wrong", "Whole Lotta Meat", and "Whole Lotta Love" of which "Everything..." really sounds like Harvey's band - although Maxwell seems to have written "Whole Lotta Love". Some of the Houston-sessions were brought to Los Angeles studios for editing/mastering. From 1954 he mostly made his studio recordings in L.A. led by Maxwell Davis (with Willard McDaniel on piano and Bumps Myers on tenorsax) starting with the great session done at Capitol Studios in L.A. March 2, 1954 featuring the re-recording of "Take A Little Swing With Me" as "Love You Baby", the second (jump) recording of "Don't You Want A Man Like Me", "When My Heart Beats Like A Hammer" and the hit "Every Day I Have The Blues" (The next session in August, done at Modern's own studios, featured "You Upset Me Baby"). Billed as B. B. "Blues Boy" King & His Orchestra from his mid '50s RPM releases through 1957 (the first single: "Love You Baby"). King got a new manager in the late 1960s - Sid Seidenberg.

Early members of the B. B. King touring Orchestra from 1955 were recruited from the Harvey band - Coleman, Joyner, Curry and Forrest, and probably also Crosby. Pianist Millard Lee became bandleader in the first line-up. Other original band members were Kenny Sands and Calvin Owens, trumpets (Owens later became band leader), Lawrence Burdine and Floyd Newman, baritone saxes. Soon also Johnny Board, tenorsax joined and later Pluma Davis, tbn; Bobby Forte, tenorsax; Sonny Freeman, dms; Duke Jethro, pno; Hugh McCracken and Milton Hopkins, gtrs; and Cato Walker, altosax (who had been bus driver and "extra tour manager"). The Maxwell Davis orchestra during 1954-1957 variously comprised: Davis, Bumps Myers, Charles Waller, Lorenzo Holden, Maurice Simon, Jack McVea, Floyd Turnham, and Jewel Grant (saxophones), Jake Porter (tpt), McDaniel (pno), Ralph Hamilton, Billy Hadnott and Red Callender (bass), Jesse Sailes and Jessie Price (drums). King worked in Texas, California, Chicago and later New York, settling in Los Angeles during the late 1960s. King switched from Kent to ABC in 1962 but made his last session for Kent on December 28, 1965 ("Rock Me Baby" may have been recorded March 18, 1964). During the early/mid '60s King's band was for a while reduced to Sands, tp; Bobby Forte, ts; Duke Jethro, pno; Wilbert Freeman, bsg; and Sonny Freeman, dms.



**Born:** Riley B. King, September 16, 1925, Bear Creek, Berclair (near Itta Bena and later moved to Kilmichael), Mississippi (although B.B. called Indianola, where he lived during the early 40s, his home). **Died** in Las Vegas, Nevada May 14, 2015. **First recordings:** Memphis late 1949 Miss Martha King and Take A Swing With Me - Bullet 309 and 315; September 1950 B.B. Boogie - RPM 304. **Records for:** RPM 50-57, Kent 58-62 (possibly longer) plus one session 1965, ABC/Bluesway 62-74, from 1980 MCA.

## Essential CDs.

The Best of the Early Years - Ace CDCHD 1160 (2007) with 25 super songs from 1950-1965 on RPM/Crown/Kent or Blues King Pins - Virgin 82712 (2003) - RPM/Kent recordings and Anthology (2CD) - MCA 12410 (2000) reissued as Gold on Geffen 658702 (2006)

## The Best CDs:

The Vintage Years (4CD) - Ace ABOXCD 8 (2002) - the legendary RPM and Kent recordings and King of the Blues (4CD) - MCA D4-10677 (1991) - mostly ABC/MCA recordings

## For Collectors:

Singin' The Blues/The Blues - Ace CDCHD 320 (also on Flair V2-86296) (1991)

The RPM Hits 1951-1957 - Ace CDCHD 712 (1999)

The Best of the Kent Singles 1958-1971 - Ace CDCHD 760 (2000)

The Modern Recordings 1950-1951 - Ace (2CD-set) CDCHM2 835 (2002)

Live at the Regal - MCA MCAD-11646 (1997)

Ace in U.K. have reissued eleven old Crown LPs on CDs with bonus tracks (2003-2006) - terrific stuff

## Reading:

The Arrival of B.B. King - The Authorized Biography by Charles Sawyer (US 1980, UK 1981)

Blues All Around Me - The Autobiography of B.B. King by B.B. King & David Ritz (US, 1996)

The B.B. King Treasures by B.B. King with Dick Waterman and Charles Sawyer (Bulfinch 2005 incl a 16-track CD)

Blues Boy - The Life and Music of B.B. King by Sebastian Danchin (University Press of Mississippi, 1998)

A Life of Blues: by Richard Booth (US 2015)

Every Day I Sing The Blues: The Story of B. B. King by David Shirley (US, 1995)

Lives In Music - B. B. King: There Is Always One More Time by David McGee (Backbeat, US 2005)

The B.B. King Reader by Richard Kostelanetz (1997 & 2005)

## First LP:

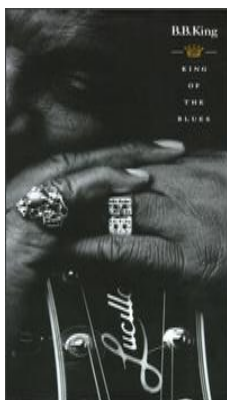
Singin' The Blues - Crown LP 5020 (spring 1957)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

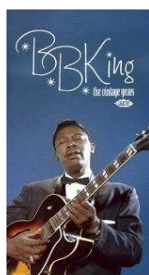
### B. B. KING, vocals/guitar "LUCKY-SEVEN"

1. **B. B. King and his Orchestra** (featuring Ike Turner or poss Johnny Ace, pno, Earl Forest, dms)  
- Memphis, ca September 1951:  
MM 1682 **3 O'Clock Blues** - RPM 339 (#1 for 5w, 17w tot, 1952)
2. **B. B. "Blues Boy" King and His Orchestra**  
(featuring Maxwell Davis, sax, Willard McDaniel, pno, Bumps Myers, sax) - Los Angeles Modern Studios, August 18-19, 1954:  
MM 2121 **You Upset Me Baby** - RPM 416 (#1 for 2w, 12w)  
3. Hollywood Capitol Studios, March 2, 1954:  
MM 2140 **Every Day I Have The Blues** - RPM 421 (#8, 5w 1955)
4. (featuring Millard Lee, pno, Floyd Newman, sax, Kenny Sands, tpt) - Little Rock, April/May 1956:  
MM 3057-2 **Sweet Little Angel** - RPM 468 (#6, 5w)  
This song was also recorded with Maxwell Davis, McDaniel, pno; and Johnny Board, sax in Los Angeles November 19, 1955 for Crown LP 5020
5. **B. B. King and his Orchestra**  
(featuring Johnny Board, sax and Sonny Freeman, dms)  
- Los Angeles, October 26, 1959:  
MM **Sweet Sixteen (Parts 1 & 2)** - Kent 330 (#2, 14w in 1960)
6. **B. B. King** (featuring Charles Brooks, pno; Lawrence Burdin, sax; Sands, Freeman) - New York, September 30, 1963:  
11796 **How Blue Can You Get** - ABC-Par 10527 (#23, 5w)  
This song was also recorded with Maxwell Davis as arranger in Los Angeles around December, 1961 as "Downhearted" for Crown LP 5309.
7. (featuring Jimmy McCracklin, pno; Sonny Freeman, dms)  
- Los Angeles, ca 1962 or poss. March 18, 1964:  
393 **Rock Me Baby** - Kent 393 (#12, 7w in 1964)



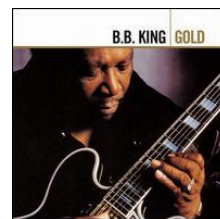
### R&B Top 10 Hits: (24 of 68 Top 40)

- |      |  |           |
|------|--|-----------|
| 1952 | <b>3 O'Clock Blues</b>                   | #1 for 5w |
| 1952 | <b>You Know I Love You</b>               | #1 for 2w |
| 1952 | Story From My Heart And Soul             | #9        |
| 1953 | Woke Up This Morning                     | #3        |
| 1953 | <b>Please Love Me</b>                    | #1 for 3w |
| 1953 | Please Hurry Home                        | #4        |
| 1954 | <b>When My Heart Beats Like A Hammer</b> | #8        |
| 1954 | <b>You Upset Me Baby</b>                 | #1 for 2w |
| 1954 | Whole Lotta Love                         | #8        |
| 1955 | Every Day I Have The Blues               | #8        |
| 1955 | Ten Long Years                           | #9        |
| 1956 | Bad Luck                                 | #3        |
| 1956 | Sweet Little Angel                       | #6        |
| 1956 | On My Word Of Honor                      | #3        |
| 1958 | Please Accept My Love                    | #9        |
| 1960 | Sweet Sixteen                            | #2        |
| 1960 | Got A Right To Love My Baby              | #8        |
| 1960 | Partin' Time                             | #8        |
| 1961 | Pease Of Mind                            | #7        |
| 1966 | Don't Answer The Door                    | #2        |
| 1968 | Paying The Cost To Be The Boss           | #10       |
| 1970 | The Thrill Is Gone                       | #3        |
| 1970 | Chains And Things                        | #6        |
| 1973 | I Like To Live The Love                  | #6        |



### Other Important Ones:

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1949 | <b>Take A Swing With Me</b>               |
| 1950 | B.B. Boogie                               |
| 1951 | Don't You Want A Man Like Me              |
| 1951 | She's Dynamite                            |
| 1955 | Sneakin' Around                           |
| 1955 | <b>Crying Won't Help You</b>              |
| 1957 | You Don't Know                            |
| 1957 | Troubles Troubles Troubles                |
| 1958 | Why Do Everything Happen To Me            |
| 1959 | Sweet Thing (LP - issued on single 1971)  |
| 1961 | Baby, Look At You (rec earlier)           |
| 1961 | I'm King                                  |
| 1962 | Gonna Miss You Around Here                |
| 1962 | <b>Easy Listening Blues</b>               |
| 1962 | Blues At Midnight - ABC                   |
| 1963 | Downhearted (How Blue Can You Get) - Kent |
| 1963 | Down Now - Kent                           |
| 1964 | Rock Me Baby (R&B # 12, Pop # 34) - Kent  |
| 1964 | Never Trust A Woman                       |
| 1965 | Got Em Bad - Kent                         |
| 1968 | I'm Gonna Do What They Do To Me           |
| 1968 | Lucille                                   |
| 1969 | Why I Sing The Blues                      |
| 1971 | The Thrill Is Gone                        |
| 1973 | To Know You Is To Love You                |



### B.B. King's original Crown and Kent LPs

The Crown albums were issued between early 1957-late 1963 - the Kent LPs during from 1964 - the early 1970s. The reissues are on Custom and United (issued during the very late '60s and in the 1970s - Custom 10xx / United 77xx). The Ace CDs (2003-2006) include 8 bonus tracks each (897 has 10).

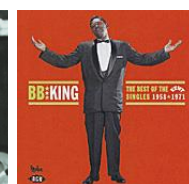
- |  |
|--|
| <b>Crown</b>   |
| 5020 Singin' The Blues (1071 / 7726) <b>Ace CDCHM 1041</b>                           |
| 5063 The Blues (1077 / 7732) <b>Ace CDCHM 1084</b>                                   |
| 5115 B.B. King Wails (1049 / 7711 as I Love You So) <b>Ace CDCHM 882</b>             |
| 5119 Sings Spirituals (1059 / 7721 as Swing Low Sweet Chariot) <b>Ace CDCHM 1093</b> |
| 5143 The Great B.B. King (1073 / 7728) <b>Ace CDCHM 1049</b>                         |
| 5167 King Of The Blues (1075 / 7730) <b>Ace CDCHM 897</b>                            |
| 5188 My Kind of Blues (1069 / 7724) <b>Ace CDCHM 881</b>                             |
| 5230 More B.B. King (1046 / 7708 as Blues For Me) <b>Ace CDCHM 1034</b>              |
| 5248 Twist With B.B. King (not on Custom/United) not on Ace                          |
| 5286 Easy Listening Blues (1043 / 7705) <b>Ace CDCHM 1011</b>                        |
| 5309 Blues In My Heart (1040 / 7703 as A Heart Full Of Blues) <b>Ace CDCHM 996</b>   |
| 5359 B. B. King (1052 / 7714 as The Soul Of B.B. King) <b>Ace CDCHM 986</b>          |

### Kent

- |   |
|---|
| 5012 Rock Me Baby - 14 Great Hits (7733)  |
| 5013 Let Me Love You (7734)   |
| 5015 Live On Stage (7736)   |
| 5021 The Jungle (7742)  |
| 5029 Boss Of The Blues (7750)   |
| 2-533 From The Beginning (2-set with dubbed brass)                              |
| 9011 Anthology of The Blues - B.B. King 1949-1950 (7788 as Original Folk Blues) |
| 539 The Incredible Soul Of BB. King (7756)                                      |
| 548 Turn On To B.B. King. (w. extra rhythm) (7763 as Turn On With ..)           |
| 552 The Greatest Hits of Vol 1 (7766) identical to first half of 2-533          |
| 561 Better Than Ever (7771 reissue of Crown 5167 + "That Evil Child")           |
| 563 I'm B.B. King - Doing My Thing, Lord (reissue of Crown 5119)                |
| 565 B.B. King Live (reissue of Kent 5015) (7772)                                |
| 568 The Original Sweet Sixteen (7773 -reissue of Rock Me Baby)                  |
- Note: Later (ca 1984/89) Kent issued **Kent KLP 2002** The Unexpected - Just Guitar - which was originally intended for United 7792 but resulted in **Spotlight on Lucille** on a CD in 1991.



Below are listed the tracks of the 2-set album by B.B. which has his old hits and some new ones, several with overdubbed brass and rhythm directed by Maxwell Davis:  
KST 2-533 - **From the Beginning** - B.B. King [1968/69] Album 1: Please Love Me/Rock Me Baby/Everyday I Have The Blues/Woke Up This Morning/My Own Fault/5 Long Years/You Upset Me/Blue Shadows/The Woman I Love/You Know I Love You/Sweet Little Angel/Treat Me Right. Album 2: Sweet Sixteen/Eyesight to the Blind/Beautician Blues/Bad Luck/Troubles/Troubles/Sneakin' Around/Sweet Thing/3 O'Clock Blues/The Jungle/Let Me Love You/The Worst Thing in My Life/Shot Gun Blues.

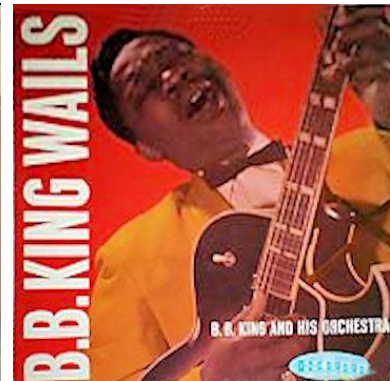




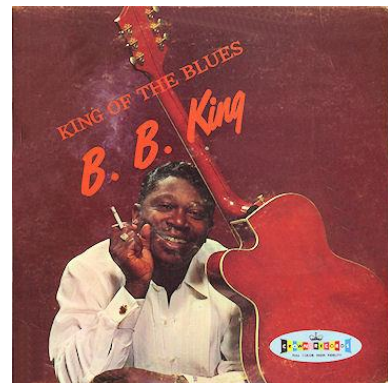
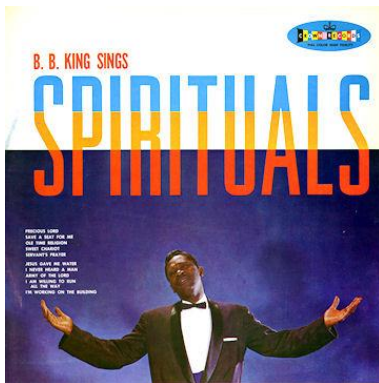
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### B. B. KING on CROWN Records

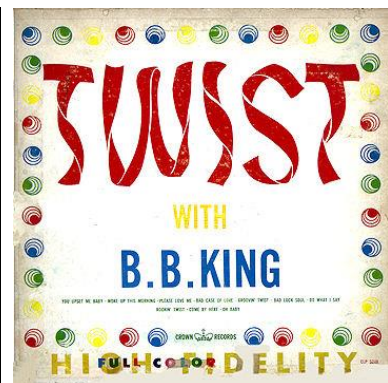
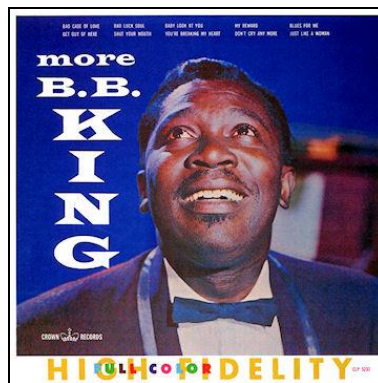
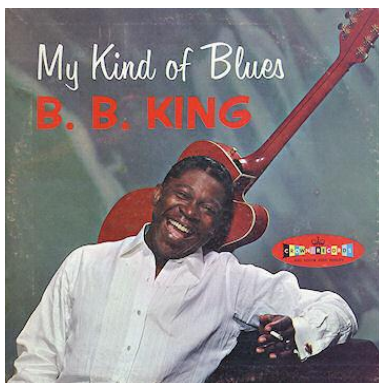
Here are the Bihari brothers' original B. B. King LPs on the budget series CLP- on the label Crown (not all of the "stereo" series had a CST-prefix and only three digits, and the covers of the stereo records could differ minor in layout). Rec dates indicate "main" dates and are approx. If no rec date, the album is a compilation.



Crown LPs CLP: 5020 (ca 6/57; originally intended as RPM LP 3005), 5063 (6/58), 5115 (4/59, rec January-April 1959, some poss Houston)



Crown LPs CLP: 5119 (10/59, rec April 3, 1959), 5143 (early 1960), 5167 (5/60, rec March 16, 1960)



Crown LPs CLP: 5188 (8/60, rec March 3, 1960, poss Chicago), 5230 (11/61, comp – mostly 1960-1961 recordings), 5248 (1962)



Crown LPs CLP: 5286 (1962, rec March 22, 1961), 5309 (early 1963, rec Dec 1961 or early 1962), 5359 (10/63, rec late 1961 +comp tracks)



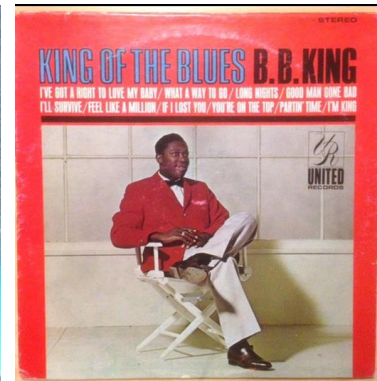
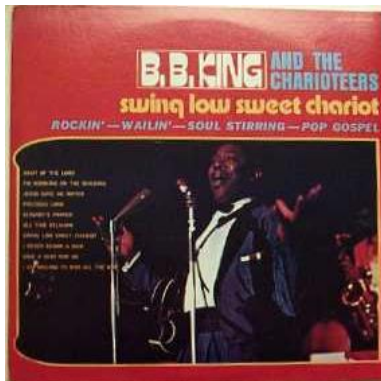
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### .... and its counterparts on UNITED Records (United/Superior)

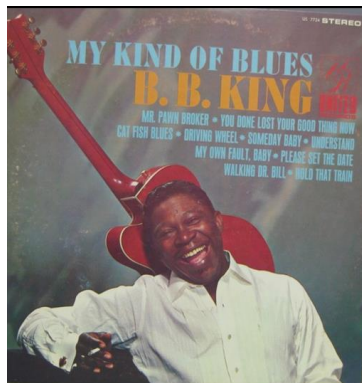
B. B. King's United/Superior albums (yet another Bihari-label) were issued during the 1970s. There are almost always differing covers on the albums different pressings, although often very similar but in changed colors and layout. This may be due to that the label often called itself simply United on further reissue sleevea and some album covers were printed under that banner. This label started as United/Superior, and the label was technically named this the entire time, but on the jackets and labels, the label name was shortened to "United" in the early 1970s. Although the front of the jackets and the later purple labels said "United Records," the early labels and the back slicks of the album covers always said "United/Superior Records". Please note that the LPs were not issued in the same chronological order as Crown, and that all these albums also had been issue issued on the Custom-label - again with some minor cover changes in mid late '60s, and not as widespread as the later United.



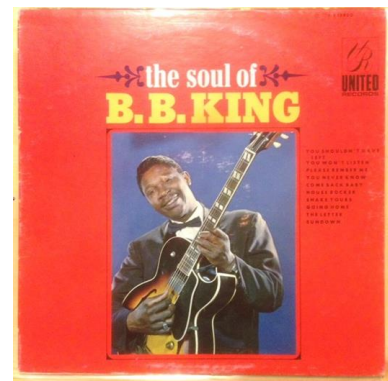
United-United/Superior LPs US:- 7725, 7732, 7711



United-United/Superior LPs US:- 7721, 7726, 7730



United-United/Superior LPs US:- 7724, 7708, 7721 (alternate stereo cover - Crown CLP 5248 "Twist" not issued on United)



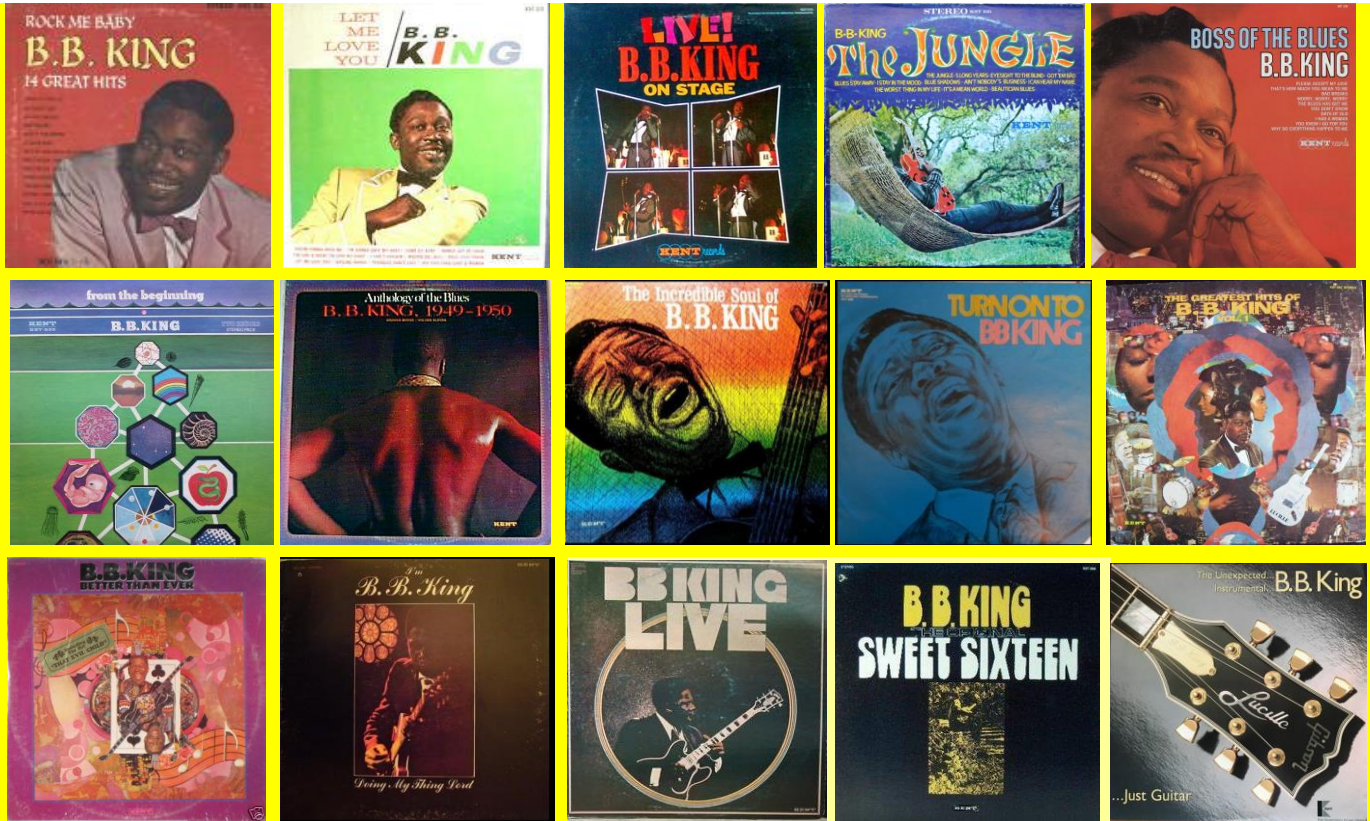
United-United/Superior LPs US:- 7705, 7703, 7714



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### B. B. King's original Kent LPs 1964 – 1972plus

Here they are – B. B.'s Kent LPs started being issued in 1964. Catalogue numbers were in the 500-series (except foldable 9011 "Anthology"), starting with 5012-mono/ 512-stereo. All but two were reissued in the United 77xx-series (mostly with changed covers). Check for details in the B. B. King feature. "Turn On To B.B. King" was titled "Turn On With" on United -United/Superior.

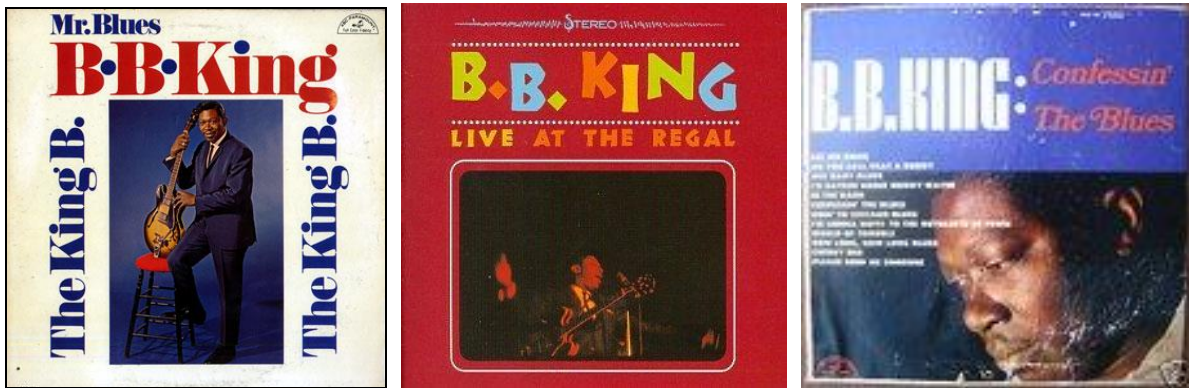


... and the United Superior reissues + Flair "Spotlight on Lucille" CD (Note: "From The Beginning" and "I'm B.B. King" not issued on United):





**B. B. King's original LPs on ABC-Paramount and BluesWay 1963-69**



ABC-Paramount 456 (1963), 509 (1965) and 628 (1965)



Bluesway 6001 (1967), 6011 (1968) and 6016 (1968)



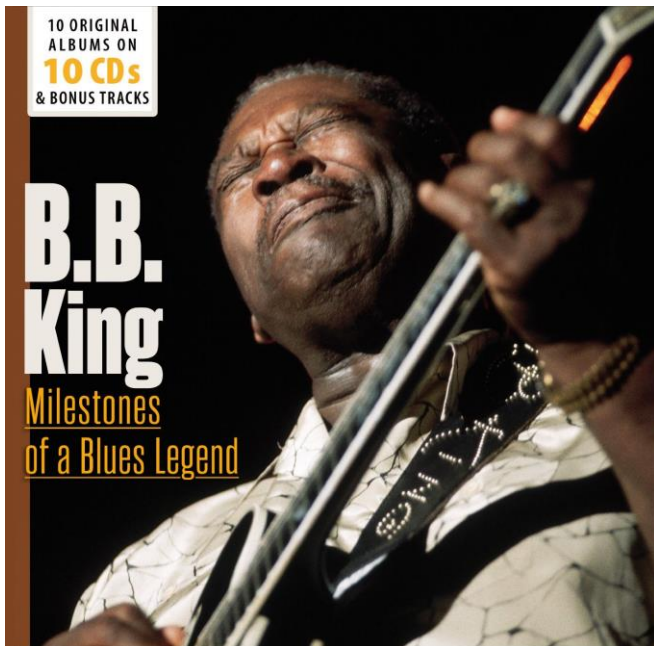
Bluesway 6022 (1969), 6031 (1969) and 6047 (1969)



BluesWay "reissue" 6050 "Back In The Alley" of ca 1973; and Kent's reissues: LP 565 "B.B. King Live" (reissue of 515 "Live On Stage"), and Kent LP 568 "The Original Sweet Sixteen" (reissue of "Rock Me Baby"); with its United/Superior re-release US-7773.  
Note: Later Kent issued Kent cassette 2002 Just Sweet Guitar (Spotlight on Lucille) - which was originally (circa 1973) intended for United 7792



## A NEW B. B. KING PUBLIC DOMAIN



**B.B. King** "I call myself a blues singer, but you ain't never heard me call myself a blues guitar man", said B.B. King, a guitarist and singer and a true legend of the music of the 20th century, in all modesty. The "Beale Street Blues Boy" and his guitar "Lucille" were an unbeatable duo that sold millions of records and was awarded every noteworthy prize in the music business – and beyond. There has virtually been no greater influence on generations of rock musicians than this former tractor driver on a cotton farm, who was an idol to legions of guitarists from Jimi Hendrix through Eric Clapton to Stevie Ray Vaughan or Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones. Ten original albums of his make up this box; in addition there are some exciting bonus tracks for the discerning Blues fan.

B.B. King recorded 70 singles and 25 albums for the Bihari brothers on their labels RPM, Crown and Kent, which were sold more or less exclusively in the black neighbourhoods of American cities. Such as the rare 1960 Crown LP King recorded with Duke Ellington's orchestra, as well as the scarce 1962 LP "Twist with B. B. King", which appears here on CD for the first time - they are included in this box next to many other legendary recordings. They form the basis of the legacy of B.B. King, who died in February 2015 at the age of 89.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>CD 1</b> "SINGIN' THE BLUES" (1957)  | <b>CD 6</b> "KING OF THE BLUES" (1960)      |
| <b>CD 2</b> "THE BLUES" (1958)  | <b>CD 7</b> "MY KIND OF BLUES" (1960)       |
| <b>CD 3</b> "B. B. KING WAILS" (1958)   | <b>CD 8</b> "MORE B. B. KING" (1961)        |
| <b>CD 4</b> "B. B. KING SINGS SPIRITUALS" (1959)                              | <b>CD 9</b> "EASY LISTENING BLUES" (1962)   |
| <b>CD 5</b> "B. B. KING SINGS COMPOSITIONS OF DUKE ELLINGTON & OTHERS" (1960) | <b>CD 10</b> "TWIST WITH B. B. KING" (1962) |
|   | <b>+ BONUS TRACKS</b>                       |

Order No.: 600267

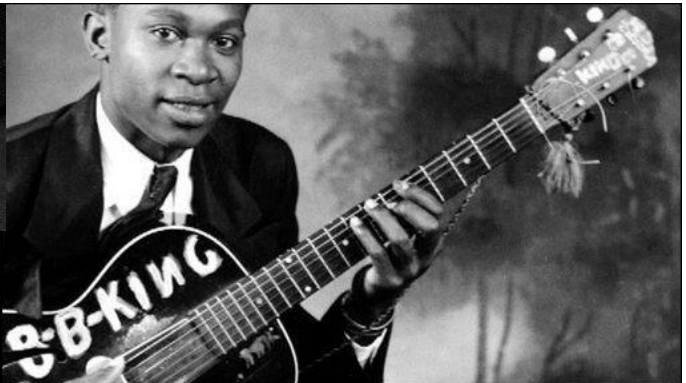
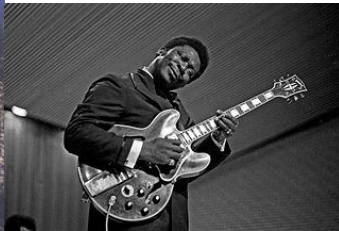
Made in the EU



www.intensemedia.de  
Cover picture:  
© Gail Mooney/Corbis



Documents 10 CD package issued November 2015. Find it at [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk)





# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## B. B. KING - ONE SINGLE PER YEAR 1949 – 1968



1949



1950



1951



1952



1953



1954



1955



1956



1957



1958



1959



1960



1961



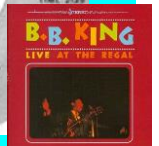
1962



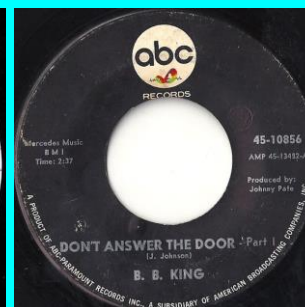
1963



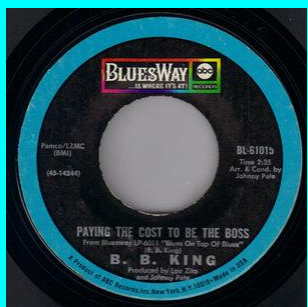
1964



1965



1966



1967



1968

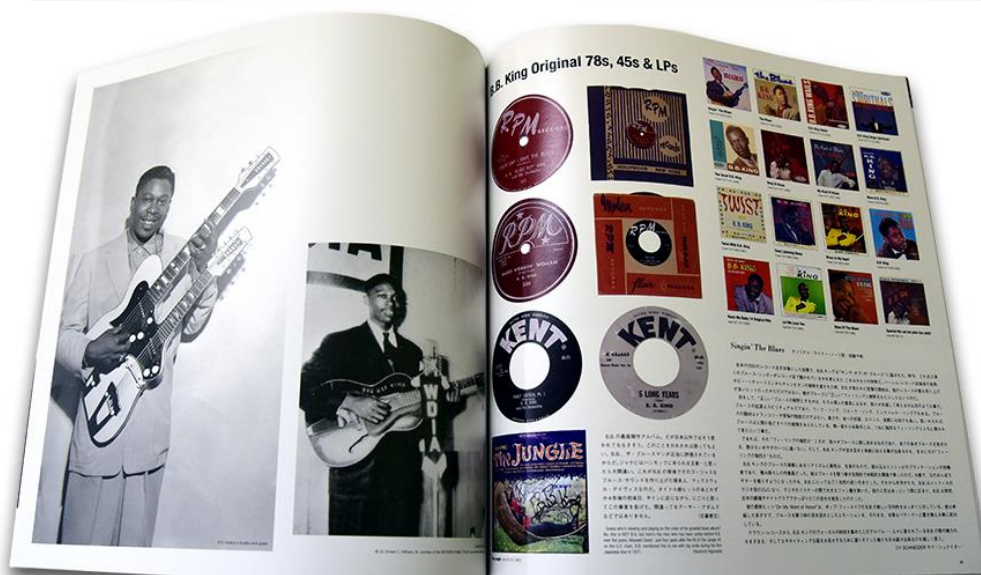
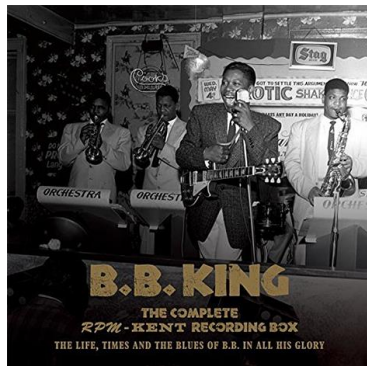


## B B King - NEW Japan P-Vine CD Box

### The Complete RPM-Kent Recording Box 1950-1965

—The Life, Times and the Blues of B.B. in All His Glory

PCD-LP-3/20 - 17CDs, 1 LP, and LP sized booklet, hardcover book (THE ARRIVAL OF B.B. KING by Charles Sawyer) and bonus glossy photos and postcard - 623 tracks – issued 16 Dec 2015

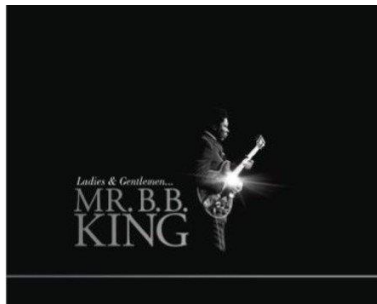




## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Ladies & Gentlemen... Mr B.B. King (Box set)

Issued 2012 on 4CD-set Universal 5339086 (also issued on Hip-O 5338499) and on LP Universal 5362973 in 2015



Ladies & Gentlemen...  
**MR. B.B. KING**  
NEW ARTIST  
(1949-1964)



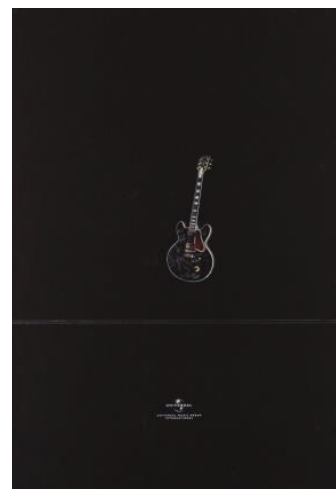
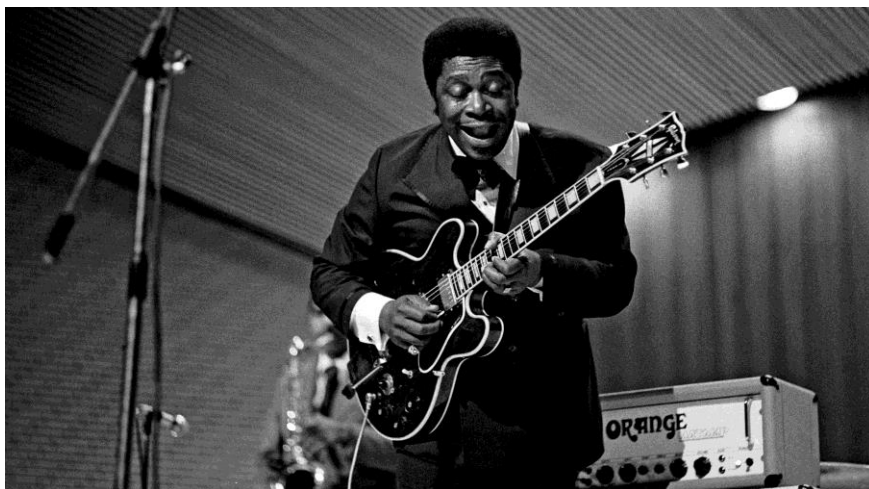
Ladies & Gentlemen...  
**MR. B.B. KING**  
NEW ARTIST  
(1964-1969)



Ladies & Gentlemen...  
**MR. B.B. KING**  
NEW ARTIST  
(1970-1983)



Ladies & Gentlemen...  
**MR. B.B. KING**  
NEW ARTIST  
(1984-2008)



## THE BLUES GIANTS

Chess Records' "Big Four"



The "Blues Guitar Kings"



The "Confederate Legends"



The Mississippi "Delta Idols"





## TWO FAMOUS VEE-JAY BLUES LPs

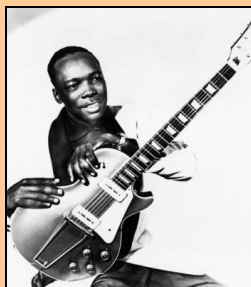
John Lee Hooker's very first LP was "I'm John Lee Hooker" - the same happened with Jimmy Reed's first a year earlier, "I'm Jimmy Reed". Both albums were (just like Chess' first ones) in principal compilations of earlier singles. Here are Hooker's first and Reed's second LP. The four bonus tracks on Charly's (UK) Hooker reissue SNAP 130 CD (2003) are marked \*. Master numbers and original Vee-Jay single catalogue numbers are given (with issue date). All recordings done in Chicago.



Vee-Jay LP 1007 (ca August, 1959)

### 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-1; Eddie Taylor,gtr; George Washington,bs; Tom Whitehead,dms

Chicago October 19, 1955  
55-336 \* Unfriendly Woman Vee-Jay 265 (2/58)  
55-339 Time Is Marching -1 Vee-Jay 164 (11/55)

John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; George Washington,bs; Tom Whitehead,dms

March 27, 1956  
56-443 \* I'm So Worried Baby alt on 233 (1/57)  
56-444 Baby Lee 205 (8/56)  
56-445 Dimples 205  
56-446 Every Night 188 (4/56)  
56-448 \* Trouble Blues 188

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)  
57-720 \* You Can Lead Me Baby 265 (2/58)

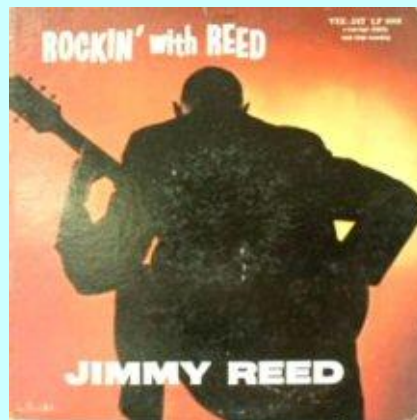
John Lee Hooker,vcl/gtr; Joe (Edward) Hunter (or poss Bob Porter),pno; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Everett McCrary,bs; Richard Johnson,dms

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.



Vee-Jay LP 1008 (September, 1959)

### Tracks:

Going To New York / A String To Your Heart / Ends And Odds / Caress Me Baby / Take Out Some Insurance / The Moon Is Rising // Down In Virginia / I Know It's A Sin / Wanna Be Loved / Baby, What's On Your Mind / My Bitter Seed / Rockin' With Reed



### Discography:

Jimmy Reed,hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor and John Littlejohn,gtrs; Albert King,dms  
53-123 Rockin' With Reed Poss December 29/30, 1953  
186 (1956)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Earl Phillips,dms

April 3, 1957  
57-662 Baby, What's On Your Mind 248 (1957)

Jimmy Reed,vcl-1/hca/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Earl Phillips,dms

September 5, 1957  
57-737 My Bitter Seed -1 unissued on single  
57-738 Ends And Odds 304 (1959)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/gtr; Remo Biondi and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Earl Phillips,dms

December 12, 1957  
58-811 A String To Your Heart 270 (1958)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca-1/gtr; Remo Biondi and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Earl Phillips,dms

March 12, 1958  
58-863 The Moon Is Rising unissued on single  
58-864 Down In Virginia -1 287 (1958)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/hca/gtr; Remo Biondi and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Earl Phillips,dms

May 28, 1958  
58-921 I Wanna Be Loved 326 (1959)  
58-922 Caress Me Baby 333 (1959)  
58-923 I Know It's A Sin 287 (1958)  
58-994 Going To New York 326 (1959)

Jimmy Reed,vcl/gtr; William "Lefty" Bates and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Earl Phillips,dms

March 26, 1959  
59-1101 Take Out Some Insurance 314 (1959)  
Note. This LP does not feature any R&B hit.

## TWO FAMOUS CROWN BLUES LPs – reissued on Ace, UK

Crown Records' budget LP series in Los Angeles, managed by the Bihari brothers, was initiated in 1957. We had to wait until issue number 20 (after some pop, jazz and rock 'n' roll releases), for the blues. Crown LP 5020 was (naturally) B.B. King's first LP. Elmore's first came in 1960. Both albums were in principal compilations of earlier singles. Here they are: presented on Ace Records' (UK) CD re-releases with bonus tracks. The bonus tracks on Ace are marked \*. The covers of the Ace CDs are the same as the original Crown LPs (although now with an Ace logo added – these logos are not shown below). Tracks list is Crown. Master numbers were insignificant, but listed are the original singles.



**Crown CLP 5020 (spring 1957)**

– originally intended for RPM RLP 3005) – Ace CDCHM 1041 (2005)

### Tracks:

Please Love Me / You Upset Me Baby / Every Day I Have the Blues / Bad Luck / 3 O'clock Blues / Blind Love // Woke Up This Morning / You Know I Love You / Sweet Little Angel / Ten Long Years / Did You Ever Love A Woman / Crying Won't Help You

### Discography:

B. B. King, vcl/gtr; Adolph "Billy" Duncan, ts; Richard Sanders, bs; Ike Turner, p; James Walker, b; Earl Forest, d; (first King song produced by Joe Bihari – earlier ones on RPM were produced by Sam Phillips)  
*Memphis ca September 1951*  
RPM 339 (R&B #1)

3 O'Clock Blues

B. B. King, vcl and **His Orchestra**; unknown accomp – prob Ike Turner, p; and poss Hank Crawford, as; Ben Branch, ts; bars, b, g, d.  
*Memphis ca April 1952*  
RPM 363 (R&B #1)

You Know I Love You

B. B. King, vcl/gtr and **His Orchestra**; Floyd Jones, tp; George Colmen, as/ts; Bill Harvey, ts; Connie McBooker, p; James Walker, b; Ted Curry, d; Charles Crosby, cga  
*Houston, Texas late 1952*  
RPM 380 (R&B #3)  
RPM 386 (R&B #1)  
RPM 395

Woke Up This Morning  
Please Love Me  
Blind Love

B. B. "Blues Boy" King, vcl/gtr and **His Orchestra**; with tp, saxes including Jewel Grant, as; Maxwell Davis and Hubert "Bumps" Myers, ts; Willard McDaniel, p; Jesse Sailes, d, prob Charles Crosby, cga-1

\* Whole Lotta Meat  
The alternate, was titled "Whole Lotta Love".

*Los Angeles, February 6, 1954*  
alt on RPM 416 (R&B #8)

\* When My Heart Beats Like A Hammer  
Every Day I Have the Blues -1

*Los Angeles March 2, 1954*  
alt on RPM 412 (R&B #8)  
RPM 421 (R&B #8)

You Upset Me Baby

*Los Angeles August 18/19, 1954*  
RPM 416 (R&B #1)

B. B. "Blues Boy" King, vcl/gtr (no gtr on -1) and **His Orchestra**; with tp, saxes including Maxwell Davis and Johnny Board, ts; Willard McDaniel, p; Ted Curry or Jesse Sailes, d; prob Charles Crosby, cga-2

\* Lonely And Blue -1  
\* Jump With You Baby

*Los Angeles December 1954*  
alt on RPM 425  
RPM 425

Ten Long Years

*Los Angeles 1955*  
RPM 437 (R&B #9)

\* I'm Cracking Up Over You  
\* Ruby Lee

*Los Angeles ca October 1955*  
alt on RPM 450  
RPM 450

Bad Luck  
Sweet Little Angel

*Los Angeles November 19, 1955*  
RPM 468 (R&B #3)  
Kent 340 (1960)

The original "Sweet Little Angel" single, RPM 468, was recorded in Little Rock, Arkansas April/May 1956 with King's road band (R&B #6).

Did You Ever Love A Woman  
\* Dark Is The Night Pt 1 -2

*Los Angeles December 10, 1955*  
RPM 457  
alt on RPM 459

B. B. "Blues Boy" King, vcl/gtr and **His Orchestra**; prob with his road band featuring Calvin Owens and Kenneth Sands, tps; Lawrence Burdine and Johnny Board, ts; Floyd Newman, Fred Ford or Henry Green, bs; Millard Lee, p; Jymie Merritt, b; Ted Curry, d

Crying Won't Help You

*prob Chicago 1955*  
RPM 451 (R&B #15)

B. B. "Blues Boy" King, vcl/gtr and **His Orchestra**; featuring Plas Johnson, ts

*Los Angeles September 16, 1956*  
alt on Kent 450 (ca 1965)

\* I Stay In The Mood



**Crown CLP 5168 (mid/late 1960)**

– Ace CDCHM 1043 (2005)

### Tracks:

Dust My Blues / Sunnyland / Mean and Evil / Dark and Dreary / Standing at the Crossroads // Happy Home / No Love in My Heart / Blues Before Sunrise / I Was a Fool / Goodbye Baby



From left: Homesick James, J.T. Brown, and Elmore James (ca 1960)

### Discography:

Elmore James, vcl/gtr and **The Broomdusters** -1 or **and His Broomdusters**; J.T. Brown, ts; Boyd Atkins, as/ts; Johnny Jones, p; prob Ransom Knowing, b; Odie Payne, d  
*Chicago August 1953*  
alt on Flair 1031

\* Make My Dreams Come True  
\* Strange Kinda Feeling  
Dark And Dreary

alt on Flair 1022 -1  
Flair 1048

Elmore James, vcl/gtr; poss Raymond Hill or Oliver Sain, ts; Johnny Jones, pno; Ike Turner, g; Odie Payne, d

\* Quarter Past Nine

*Chicago early 1954*  
issued on Kent LP 9010 (1970)

Elmore James, vcl/gtr and **His "Broomdusters"**; James Parr, tp; Maxwell Davis, ts; Jewell Grant, bs; Willard McDaniel, p; Jesse Sailes, d. Omit brass on-1  
*Los Angeles ca August 1954*

Sunny Land -1 (titled "Sunnyland" on LP)

Flair 1057

Standing At The Crossroads

Flair 1057

\* Late Hours At Midnight

Flair 1062

The Way You Treat Me (titled "Mean And Evil" on LP)

Flair 1062

Happy Home

Flair 1069

No Love In My Heart

Flair 1069

Elmore James, vcl/gtr and **His "Broom Dusters"**; Edward Frank, p; Frank Fields, b; Earl Palmer, d, vocal group backing on-1 (prob The Four Speeds)

*New Orleans August 1955*

Dust My Blues

Flair 1074

Blues Before Sunrise

Flair 1079

I Was A Fool

Flair 1074

Good Bye -1 (titled "Goodbye Baby" on LP)

Flair 1079

Elmore James, vcl/gtr and **His "Broom Dusters"**; Raymond Hill and prob J.T. Brown, ts; Eddie Taylor, g; unknown b; Odie Payne, d

\* So Mean To Me  
\* Wild About You Baby  
\* Elmo's Shuffle  
\* Long Tall Woman

*Chicago January 4, 1956*  
issued on Kent LP 9001 (1969)  
Modern 983  
issued on Kent LP 9010 (1970)  
Modern 983

Last title also recorded in Canton, Miss with Ike Turner on pno January 25, 1952 (issued on AceBox CD4).

(Note: the LP does not feature any hit).



## The three original MORE REAL FOLK BLUES LPs

All three in late 1966 on Chess – in mono and in "stereo" – LPs 1509 (LPS 1509) and 1511 (LPS 1511) of late 1966, and 1512 (LPS 1512) of early 1967. (In between came 1510 Memphis Slim "The Real Folk Blues", and 1508 was John Lee Hooker "The Real Folk Blues"). All recordings done in Chicago.



Help Me / Bye Bye Bird / Nine Below Zero / The Hunt / Stop Right Now / She's My Baby // The Goat / Decoration Day / Trying To Get Back On My Feet / My Younger Days / Close To Me / Somebody Help Me

**SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON**, vcl/hca  
with Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Fred Below,dms  
**January 30, 1960**  
9829 The goat Checker 943

with Otis Spann,pno; Eddie King Milton & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs, Fred Below,dms  
**June 1960**  
10269 Somebody help me LP 1509

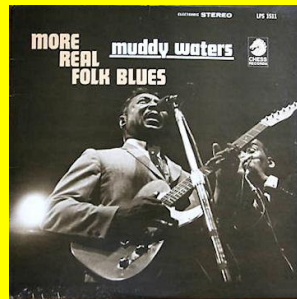
with Otis Spann,pno; Robert Jr Lockwood & Luther Tucker,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs&vcl on-1; Odie Payne,dms  
**December 14, 1960**  
10570 She's my baby LP 1509  
10571 Stop right now 975  
10572 The hunt -1 975

same with Fred Below, dms  
**September 8, 1961**  
11227 Nine below zero 1003

with Lafayette Leake or Billy Emerson,org; Matt Murphy,gtr; Milton Rector,bs; Al Duncan,dms  
**January 11, 1963**  
12114 Bye bye bird 1036  
12115 Help me 1036 (R&B 24)

with Jarrett Gibson,tsax, Donald Hankin,bsax; Lafayette Leake,pno; Buddy Guy,gtr; Jack Meyers,bs; Clifton James,dms  
**September 3, 1963**  
12664 My younger days 1080  
12665 Trying to get back on my feet 1065  
12666 Decoration day 1065

with Lafayette Leake,pno; Buddy Guy,gtr; Jack Meyers,bs; Fred Below,dms  
**April 30, 1964**  
13211 I want you close to me 1080  
Note: titled "Close to me" on LP.



Sad Letter / Gonna Need My Help / Whiskey Blues / Down South Blues / Train Fare Blues / Kind-Hearted Woman // Appealing Blues / Early Morning Blues / Too Young To Know / She's All Right / My Life Is Ruined / Honey Bee

**MUDDY WATERS**, vcl/gtr  
with Big Crawford,bs  
**ca September or November 10, 1948**

7131 Train fare home	Aristocrat 1306
7132 Down south blues	LP 1511
7133 Kind hearted woman	LP 1511
7134 Sittin' here and drinkin'	Aristocrat 1306

Note: 7131 and 7134 titled "Train fare blues" and "Whiskey blues" on LP.

with Little Walter,hca; Big Crawford,bs  
**August 15, 1950**  
7261 You're Gonna need my help("I said") Chess 1434  
7262 Sad letter as above  
7263 Early morning blues 1490  
7264 Appealing blues 1468  
Note: 7261 titled "Gonna need my help" on LP, 7263 aka "Before daybreak" and 7264 aka "Hello little girl".

**MUDDY WATERS and His Guitar**, vcl/gtr  
with Little Walter,hca (gtr-1); Big Crawford,bs  
**January 23, 1951**  
7305 Too young to know 1452  
7306 Honey bee -1 1468

with Jimmy Rogers,gtr; and prob Walter Horton,hca and Willie Nix,dms  
**Chicago or Memphis January 9, 1953**  
4333 My life is ruined LP 1511  
4334 She's all right (alt) LP 1511  
Note: 4333 aka "Land lady". Alternate take of 4334 issued on Chess 1537 single.



Just My Kind / I've Got A Woman / Work For Your Money / I'll Be Around / You Can't Be Beat / You Gonna Wreck My Life // I Love My Baby / Neighbors / I'm the Wolf / Rocking Daddy / Who Will Be Next? / I Have A Little Girl

**HOWLING WOLF** (LP front cover),  
or **HOWLIN' WOLF** (LP back cover and label)  
or **THE HOWLIN' WOLF** (1557), vcl/hca  
with piano, Willie Johnson,gtr; bs; dms  
**prob Memphis 1953**  
(mastered in Chicago September 24)

7556 I've got a woman	LP 1512
7557 Just my kind	LP 1512
7558 Work for your money	LP 1512
7566 I love my baby	Chess 1557

**THE HOWLIN' WOLF**, vcl/hca (no hca-1)  
with Otis Spann,pno; Lee Cooper,gtr;Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms  
**Chicago, March 1954**  
7618 No place to go 1566  
7619 Neighbors -1 LP 1512  
7620 I'm the Wolf LP 1512  
7621 Rocking daddy -1 1566  
Note: 7618 titled "You gonna wreck my life" on LP.

with Otis Spann,np; Jody Williams and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms  
**October 1954**  
7740 I'll be around 1584

**HOWLIN' WOLF**, vcl/hca  
with Henry Gray,np; Jody Williams and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms  
**March 1955**  
7795 Who will be the next 1593  
7796 I have a little girl as above

**HOWLIN' WOLF** (78)  
or **THE HOWLIN' WOLF** (45), vcl/hca  
with Hosea Lee Kennard,pno; Willie Johnson and Hubert Sumlin,gtrs; Willie Dixon,bs; Earl Phillips,dms  
**January 1956**  
7986 You can't be beat 1618



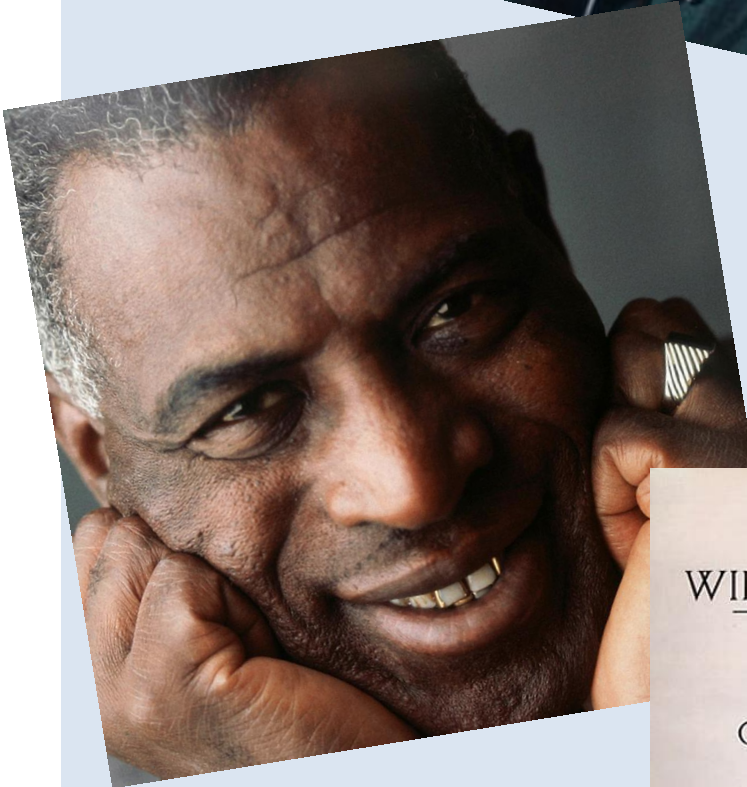
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Three Masters of Harmonica

Little Walter



The Howlin' Wolf



SONNY  
BOY  
WILLIAMSON  
KEEP  
IT  
TO  
OURSELVES



(Sonny Boy's Alligator album contains nice Storyville recordings)



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Three Great Mississippi-born Delta Blues Kings - in Heaven

Possibly the three most important blues performers (B. B. King, John Lee Hooker and Muddy Waters) have all been active through the most interesting years of blues history. They chose different directions (locations) to start their careers (Memphis, Detroit and Chicago). All three started recording during the 1940s, and did record lots of super-famous blues songs up to their last years on this earth. Here you have them in a true "blues battle"! (# indicates peak position on US R&B Charts)

These are their very best of their prime years!  
The first three songs listed are three great classic "bonus" waxings, representing favorite recordings not listed in the chronological battle on the following pages.



**B. B. King 1925 – 2015**



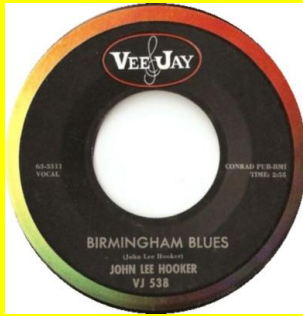
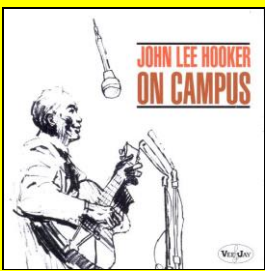
**John Lee Hooker 1912 – 2001**





**Muddy Waters 1913 – 1983**




**Every Day I Have The Blues – RPM 421 (#8)**  
*Rec in Los Angeles (Capitol Studios) March 2, 1954*  
 B.B. King, vcl/gtr; Jewell Grant, as; Maxwell Davis, Bumps Myers, tss; Willard McDaniel, pno; cga (poss Charles Crosby); unkn b; Jesse Sailes, d.  
 Issued in early 1955 (also on Crown LP 5020 in spring 1957).

**Birmingham Blues – Vee-Jay 538**  
*Rec in Chicago mid 1963*  
 John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; featuring horns and rhythm prob with a.o. Joe Edward Hunter, pno and Hank Cosby, ts.  
 Issued in 1963 (also on Vee-Jay LP 1066 in 1963)

**Manish Boy – Chess 1602 (#5)**  
*Rec in Chicago May 24, 1955*  
 Muddy Waters, vcl (no gtr); Junior Wells, hca; Jimmy Rogers, gtr; Willie Dixon, b; Fred Below, d; chorus.  
 Issued in mid 1955  
 (also on Chess LP 1501 in June 1966  
 – as "Mannish Boy")

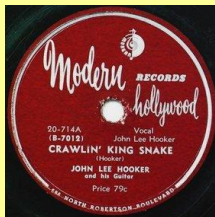
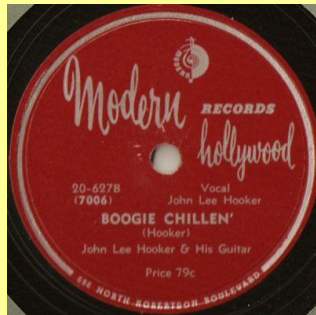
## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### Three Mississippi-born Delta Blues Kings – and their “Blues Battle”

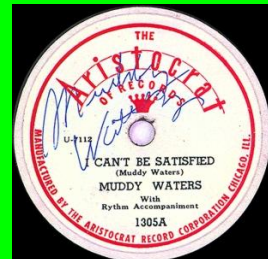
#### The 1940s



**Miss Martha King – Bullet 309**  
**Take A Swing With Me – Bullet 315**  
*Rec in Memphis ca June 1949*  
 B.B. King, vcl (and prob gtr); Thomas Branch, tp; Sammie Jett, tb; Ben Branch, ts; Phineas Newborn Jr, p; Tuff Green, b; Phineas Newborn Sr, d; (Calvin Newborn, gtr may have been present). Both records issued in 1949.  
 BB made a great re-recording of 315, now titled “Love You Baby”, on RPM 408 in L.A. (March 2, 1954).



**Boogie Chillen’ – Modern 20-627 (#1)**  
**Crawlin’ King Snake – Modern 20-714 (#6)**  
*Rec in Detroit September 3, 1948*  
 John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr.  
 Issued November 3, 1948; and October, 1949.

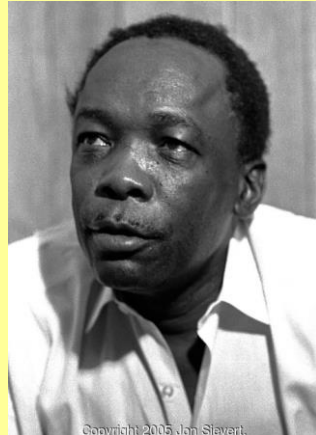
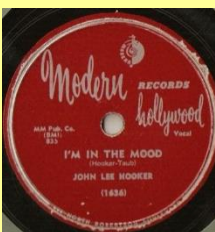


**I Can't Be Satisfied – Aristocrat 1305A**  
**I Feel Like Going Home – Aristocrat 1305B**  
*Rec in Chicago ca December 1947*  
 Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; Ernest Big Crawford, b.  
 Issued in June, 1948 (B-side #11 in 1948)  
 Muddy had recorded different versions of Mississippi songs already in August 1941 in Stovall, Mississippi as McKinley Morganfield for Alan Lomax.

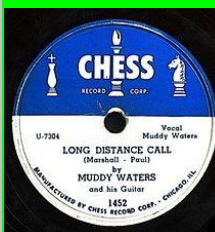
#### Classics of 1951-1952



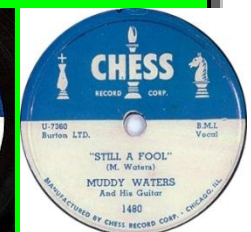
**Don't You Want A Man Like Me – RPM 318**  
*Rec in Memphis January 8, 1951*  
 B.B. King, vcl; E.A. Kamp, ts; Ford Nelson, p; James Walker, b; Solomon Hardy, d.  
 Issued in 1951.  
**3 O'Clock Blues – RPM 339 (#1)**  
*Rec in Memphis ca September 1951*  
 B.B. King, vcl/g; Adolph Billy Duncan and Richard Sanders, tss; Ike Turner, pno; James Walker, b; Earl Forest, d.  
 Issued in November 1951.



**I'm In The Mood – Modern 835 (#1)**  
*Rec in Detroit August 7, 1951*  
 John Lee Hooker, triple-voice vcl/double-track gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr.  
 Issued in September 1951.  
**Blues For Big Town – Fortune LP 3002**  
*Rec in Detroit 1952*  
 John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr, Bob Thurman, pno; Hooker or Eddie Kirkland, prob second gtr.  
 Issued on LP in ca 1963.



**Long Distance Call – Chess 1452 (#8)**  
*Rec in Chicago January 22, 1951*  
 Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; Little Walter, hca; Ernest Big Crawford, b.  
 Issued in March, 1951.  
**Still A Fool – Chess 1480 (#9)**  
*Rec in Chicago July 11, 1951*  
 Muddy Waters, vcl; Little Walter and Jimmy Rogers, gtrs; Ernest Big Crawford, b; Elga Edmonds or Len Chess, d.  
 Issued in October, 1951.





# THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

## The mid/late 1950s



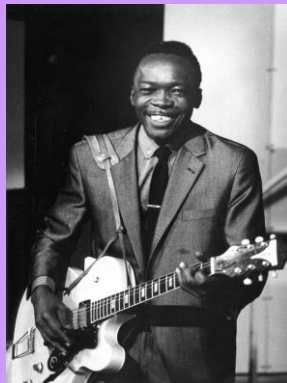
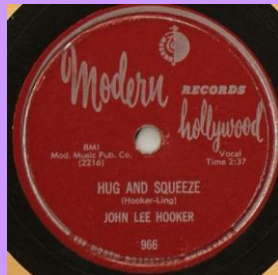
**When My Heart Beats Like A Hammer**  
– RPM 412 (#8) *Rec in Los Angeles (Capitol Studios) March 2, 1954*  
B.B. King, vcl/gtr; Jewell Grant, as; Maxwell Davis, Bumps Myers,ts; Willard McDaniel,pno; b, cga; Jesse Sailes,d. Issued in mid 1954.

**You Upset Me Baby** – RPM 416 (#1)  
*Rec in Los Angeles (Modern Studios Culver City) August 18-19, 1954*  
B.B. King, vcl/gtr; with a.o. Maxwell Davis, Willard McDaniel and prob Bumps Myers. Issued in October 1954.

**Crying Won't Help You** – RPM 451 (#15)  
*Rec in Chicago ca November 1955*  
B.B. King, vcl/gtr; prob, with King's road band featuring Johnny Board,ts. Issued in early 1956.

**Sweet Little Angel** – RPM 468 (#6)  
*Rec in Little Rock, Ark April/May 1956*  
B.B. King, vcl/gtr; with Calvin Owens, Kenneth Sands,tp; Lawrence Burdine,as; Johnny Board,ts; Floyd Newman (or Fred Ford or Hermann Green),bars; Millard Lee,pno; Jymie Merritt,b; Ted Curry,d. Issued in 1956.  
This song was also recorded in the L.A. studios November 19, 1955 with Maxwell Davis' studio orchestra (feat. David, Board, McDaniel; Curry or Sailes) and issued on Crown LP 5020.

**Sweet Thing** – from Crown LP 5115  
"B.B. King Wails". *Rec in Los Angeles (or poss Houston) ca April 3, 1959*  
B.B. King, vcl/gtr and his Orchestra: Henry Boozier, Hobart Dotson or Kenneth Sands,tps; Pluma Davis,tb; Lawrence Burdine,as; Johnny Board,ts; Barney Hubert,bs; Millard Lee,p; Marshall York,b; Ted Curry or Sonny Freeman,d. Issued in April, 1959.  
Also issued on Kent 475 single in 1967.

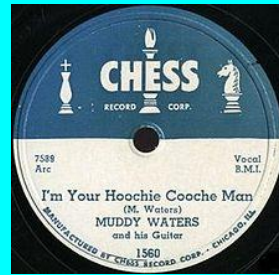
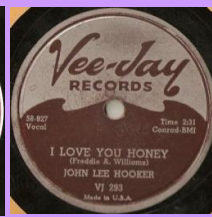


**Hug And Squeeze** b/w  
**The Syndicator** – Modern 966  
*Rec in Detroit prob. early 1955*  
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Otis Finch,ts; Bob Thurman,pno; poss unkn b; Tom Whitehead,d. Issued in August, 1955.

**Dimples** – Vee-Jay 205  
*Rec in Chicago March 27, 1956*  
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; George Washington,b; Tom Whitehead,d. Issued in August, 1956.

**I See You When You're Weak**  
– Vee-Jay 245  
*Rec in Chicago March 1, 1957*  
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Quinn Wilson,b; Tom Whitehead,d. Issued in April, 1957.

**I Love You Honey** – Vee-Jay 293 (#29)  
*Rec in Chicago June 10, 1958*  
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Eddie Taylor,gtr; Everett McCrary,b; Richard Johnson,d; Issued in September, 1958.

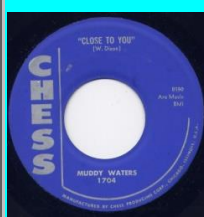


**I'm Your Hoochie Cooche Man**  
– Chess 1560 (#3)  
*Rec in Chicago January 7, 1954*  
Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann,pno; Jimmy Rogers,gtr; poss. Willie Dixon,b; Elga Edmonds (or Fred Below),d. Issued in 1954.

**Forty Days & Forty Nights**  
– Chess 1620 (#7)  
*Rec in Chicago February 2, 1956*  
Muddy Waters, vcl; Little Walter,hca; Otis Spann,pno; Pat Hare & Hubert Sumlin,grts; Willie Dixon,b; Fred Below,d. Issued in 1956.

**Close To You** (#9) c/w  
**She's Nineteen Years Old** – Chess 1704  
*Rec in Chicago August, 1958*  
Muddy Waters, vcl; Little Walter (or poss James Cotton),hca; Otis Spann,pno; Pat Hare & Luther Tucker,grts; Willie Dixon,b; Francis Clay or poss George Hunter,d. Issued in 1958.

**Southbound Train**  
– from Chess LP 1444 "Sings 'Big Bill'"  
*Rec in Chicago June 1959*  
Muddy Waters, vcl; James Cotton,hca; Otis Spann,pno; Pat Hare,gtr; Andrew Stephens,b; Francis Clay,d. Issued in early 1960.



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

### The "Super Greats" (from original '60s LPs)

   <p><b>Sweet Sixteen Pt. 1 &amp; Pt. 2 – Kent 330 (#2)</b>  <i>Rec in Los Angeles October 26, 1959</i>            B.B. King, vcl/gtr; with orchestra led by Maxwell Davis (tp, saxes, pno, b, d).            Single issued in early 1960.            Also issued on Crown LP 5143 (early 1960) where the two parts appear as one continued performance.</p>	   <p><b>Boom Boom – Vee-Jay 438 (#16)</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago ca December, 1961</i>            John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Joe Edward Hunter,pno;            Hank Cosby,ts; Andrew "Mike" Terry,bars;            Larry Veeder,gtr; James Jamerson,b;            Benny Benjamin,d.            Single issued in April, 1962.            Also on Vee-Jay LP 1043 (issued early 1962).</p>	   <p><b>Got My Mojo Working</b>            (shortened) – Chess 1774  <i>Rec in Newport, RI July 3, 1960</i>            Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; James Cotton,hca; Otis Spann,pno; Pat Hare,gtr; Andrew Stephens,b;            Francis Clay,d.            Single issued in 1960. Originally on Chess LP 1449 (issued mid 1960) where a full version (titled part 1 and 2) appears as one performance.            This song was also recorded by Muddy in studio in Chicago January 1957 (and issued on Chess 1652).</p>
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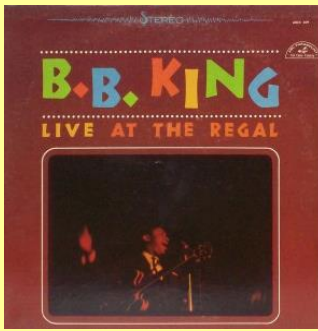
## The 1960s

   <p><b>How Blue Can You Get</b>            – ABC-Paramount 10527 (#21, 1964)  <i>Rec in New York September 30, 1963</i>            B.B. King, vcl/gtr; Carl Adams, Kenneth Sands,tp; Lawrence Burdine,as;            Vernone Slater,ts; Jerome Richardson, bars; Charles Brooks,pno; Leo Lauchie, b; Sonny Freeman,d. Issued in late 1963.            This song was also recorded in Los Angeles January 9, 1962 feat. Plas Johnson, ts and Maxwell Davis, pno; issued on Crown LP 5309 as "Down Hearted".</p> <p><b>Rock Me Baby – Kent 393 (#12)</b>  <i>Rec in Los Angeles March 18, 1964 (or poss 1962)</i>            B.B. King, vcl/gtr; with Jimmy McCracklin,pno; Sonny Freeman,d. Issued in 1964.</p> <p><b>Paying The Cost To Be The Boss</b>            – BluesWay 61015 (#10)  <i>Rec in Chicago September 14, 1967</i>            B.B. King, vcl/gtr; Henry Boozier, John Browning, Hobart Dotson,tp; Pluma Davis,tb; Lawrence Burdin,as; Johnny Board,ts; Barney Hubert,bars; Duke Jethro,org; unkn. pno; Leo Lauchi,b; Sonny Freeman,d. Issued in 1967.</p>	   <p><b>No Shoes – Vee-Jay 349 (#21)</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago March 1, 1960</i>            John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; William "Lefty" Bates,gtr; Sylvester Hickman,bs; Jimmy Turner,d. Issued in April, 1960.</p> <p><b>I'm Going Upstairs – Vee-Jay 379</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago January 4, 1961</i>            John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; William "Lefty" Bates,gtr; Quinn Wilson,b; Earl Phillips,d; and poss Pops Staples,gtr.            Issued in February, 1961.</p> <p><b>It Serves Me Right – Vee-Jay 708</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago mid 1964</i>            John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; with unknown rhythm acc, poss featuring Wayne Bennett,gtr.            Issued in November, 1965.            (later titled <i>It Serves Me Right To Suffer</i>)</p>	   <p><b>You Shook Me – Chess 1827</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago June 27, 1962</i>            Muddy Waters, overdubbed vcl with pre-recorded instrumental: A C Reed,ts; Big Moose Walker, org; Lafayette Leake,pno; Earl Hooker,gtr; Earnest Johnson,b; Bobby Little,d.            Issued in 1962.</p> <p><b>The Same Thing b/w</b>  <b>You Can't Lose What You Ain't Never Had – Chess 1895</b>  <i>Rec in Chicago April 9, 1964</i>            Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; Otis Spann,pno; Buddy Guy or James "Pee Wee" Madison,gtr; Willie Dixon,b; S.P. Leary,d.            Issued in 1964.</p>
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## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

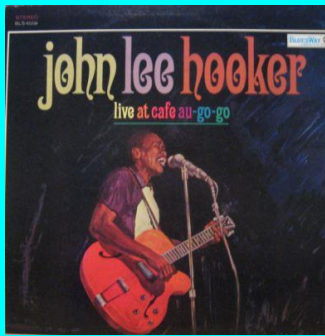
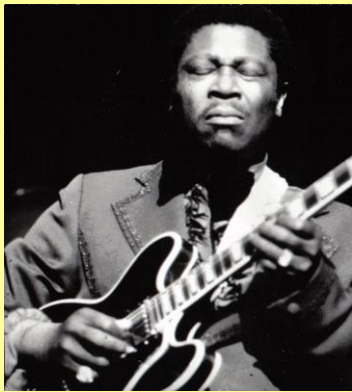
### Great "Live" (in their prime)



**Live at the Regal** – ABC-Paramount LPS 509  
*Rec in Chicago November 21, 1964*  
 – issued in 1965

B B. King, vcl/gtr; with his Orchestra:  
 Kenneth Sands,tp; John Watson,tb; Johnny  
 Board and Bobby Forte,tss; Duke Jethro,pno:  
 Leo Lauchie,b; Sonny Freeman,d.  
**Produced by Johnny Pate**

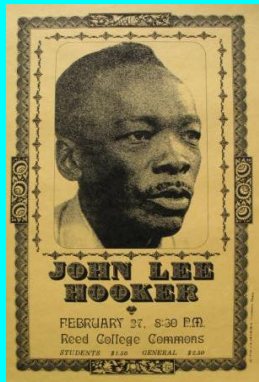
*Tracks:* Every Day I Have The Blues / Sweet  
 Little Angel / It's My Own Fault / How Blue Can  
 You Get? / Please Love Me // You Upset Me Baby  
 / Worry, Worry / Woke Up This Mornin' / You  
 Done Lost Your Good Thing Now / Help The Poor.



**Live at Cafe au-Go-Go** – BluesWay BLS 6002  
*Rec in New York August 30, 1966*  
 – issued in early 1967

John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr;  
 with the Muddy Waters Blues Band:  
 Otis Spann,pno; Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn  
 and Luther "Snake" Johnson,gtrs; Mac Arnold,b;  
 Francis Clay,d; (George Smith,hca -not audible).  
**Produced by Bob Thiele**

*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.



**"Live" (at Mr. Kelly's)** – Chess LP CH 50012  
*Rec in Chicago June 11-12, 1971*  
 – issued in Dec 1971

Muddy Waters, vcl/gtr; with his band:  
 Paul Oscher, hca; James ("Joe Denim") Cotton  
 hca-1; Joe "Pinetop" Perkins,pno; James 'Pee  
 Wee' Madison, Sam Lawhorn,gtrs;  
 Calvin Jones,b; Willie Smith,d.  
**Produced by Ralph Bass**

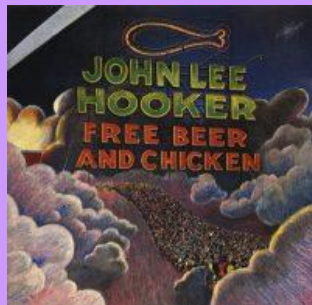
*Tracks:* What Is That She Got-1 / You Don't Have  
 To Go / Strange Woman-1 / Blow Wind Blow /  
 Country Boy // Nine Below Zero / Stormy Monday  
 Blues / Mudcat / Boom Boom-1 / C.C. Woman  
 (CD issue has bonus tracks: She's 19 Years Old  
 / Long Distance Call).



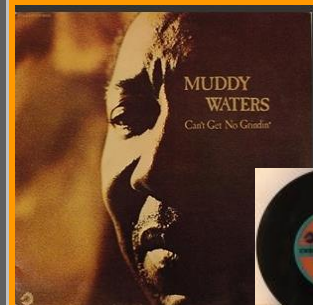
## The 1970s



**The Thrill Is Gone** – BluesWay 61032  
*Rec in New York October 8, 1969*  
 B.B. King, vcl/gtr; Paul Harris,org/pno; Hugh  
 McCracken,gtr; Gerry Jemmott,b; Herbie  
 Lovelle,d; and strings. Single issued in late 1969  
 (hitting R&B #3 and Pop #1 in early 1970).  
 Originally on BluesWay LP 6037 issued late 1969.  
**Produced by Bill Szymczyk**



**Homework** – on ABC LP 838  
*Rec in Los Angeles May 14, 1974*  
 John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr;  
 Clifford Coulter, synthesizers and fender bass;  
 Howard Roberts and Wa-Wa Watson, gtrs;  
 Ron Beck,d.  
 LP issued in 1974.  
**Produced by Ed Michel**



**Can't Get No Grindin'** – on Chess LP 50023  
*Rec in Chicago in March 1972*  
 Muddy Waters, vcl; James Cotton, hca; Joe  
 'Pinetop' Perkins, harpsichord; James 'Pee Wee'  
 Madison, Sam Lawhorn, gtrs; Calvin Jones,b;  
 Willie Smith,d; band vclds.  
 LP issued 1972. Track issued on single 2143 (1973).  
**Produced by Ralph Bass**

## ALMOST FORGOTTEN - JIMMY ROGERS

From Wikipedia:

**Jimmy Rogers** (June 3, 1924 – December 19, 1997)

was a Chicago blues singer, guitarist and harmonica player, best known for his work as a member of Muddy Waters's band in the early 1950s. He also had solo hits on the R&B chart with "That's All Right" in 1950 and "Walking by Myself" in 1954. He withdrew from the music industry at the end of the 1950s but returned to recording and touring in the 1970s. Rogers was born James Arhur Lane in Ruleville, Mississippi, on June 3, 1924 and was raised in Atlanta and Memphis. He adopted his stepfather's surname. He learned to play the harmonica with his childhood friend Snooky Pryor and as a teenager took up the guitar. He played professionally in East St. Louis, Illinois, with Robert Lockwood, Jr., among others. Rogers moved to Chicago in the mid-1940s. By 1946, Rogers had recorded as a harmonica player and singer for the Harlem record label, run by J. Mayo Williams. Rogers's name did not appear on the record, which was mislabeled as the work of Memphis Slim and His Houserockers ("Round About Boogie").

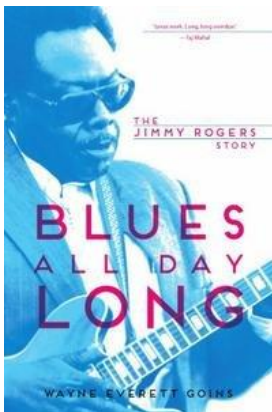
In 1947, Rogers, Muddy Waters and Little Walter began playing together, constituting Waters's first band in Chicago (sometimes referred to as the Headcutters or the Headhunters, because of their practice of stealing jobs from other local bands). The band members recorded and released music credited to each of them as solo artists. The band defined the sound of the nascent Chicago blues style (more specifically South Side Chicago blues). Rogers recorded several sides of his own with small labels in Chicago, but none were released at the time. He began to enjoy success as a solo artist with Chess Records in 1950, with the hit song "That's All Right", but he stayed in Waters's band until 1954. In the mid-1950s he had several successful releases on the Chess label, most featuring either Little Walter or Big Walter Horton on harmonica, notably "Walking by Myself". In the late 1950s, as interest in the blues waned, he gradually withdrew from the music industry.

In the early 1960s Rogers briefly worked as a member of Howling Wolf's band, before quitting the music business altogether for almost a decade. He worked as a taxicab driver and owned a clothing store, which burned down in the 1968 Chicago riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. He gradually began performing in public again, and in 1971, when fashions made him somewhat popular in Europe, he began occasionally touring and recording, including a 1977 session with Waters. By 1982, Rogers was again a full-time solo artist.

In 1995 Rogers was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame. He continued touring and recording albums until his death from colon cancer in Chicago in 1997. He was survived by his son, Jimmy D. Lane, a guitarist and a record producer and recording engineer for Blue Heaven Studios and APO Records.



Jimmy Rogers played on records in 1946-1961 by Memphis Slim, Lee Brown, Little Walter, Othum Brown, Muddy Waters, Baby Face Leroy Foster, Johnny Shines, Floyd Jones, Eddie Ware, T-Bone Walker, Sunnyland Slim, Leroy Jackson, and Howlin' Wolf beside his many fine recordings with his own group The Rocking Four. His first own recording were unissued waxings for Ora Nelle, Regal, TempoTone and Apollo in the late 1940s and in 1950 he started his career for Chess.

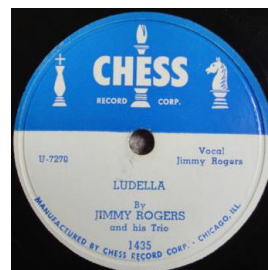
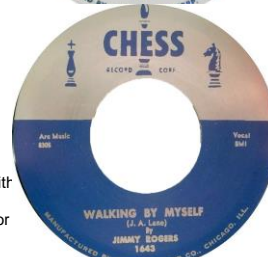
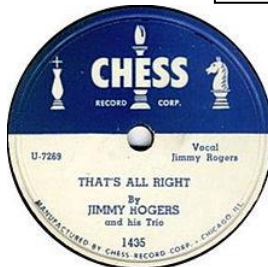


Both sides of Chess 1435 were recorded August 15, 1950 with Rogers, vcl/gtr; Little Walter, hca, Big Crawford, bs.

"The Last Time" was recorded August 12, 1952 with Rogers, vcl/gtr; Henry Gray, pno; Bob Woodfork, gtr; Willie Dixon, bs; A.J. Gladney, dms.

"Chicago Bound" was recorded January 7, 1954 with Rogers, vcl/gtr; Little Walter, hca; Henry Gray or Johnny Jones, pno; Muddy Waters, gtr; Willie Dixon, bs; Odie Payne, dms.

"Walking By Myself" was recorded October 29, 1956 with Rogers, vcl/gtr; Walter Horton, hca; Otis Spann, pno; Robert Jr Lockwood, gtr; Willie Dixon, bs; A.J. Gladney or Fred Below, dms.



### Jimmy Rogers' very first recordings (Chicago)

vcl/hca with Alex Atkins,ts; Lee Brown,p; Big Crawford; unkn d.

1946

Round About Boogie - Harlem 1021 (flip by Lee Brown)  
Above credited to **Memphis Slim** and Sunny Land Slim

1947

vcl/gtr with Little Walter,hca  
Little Store Blues tk.1 and tk. 2 - Barrelhouse LP BH04 (Ora Nelle)

vcl/gtr with Sunnyland Slim,p; Muddy Waters,gtr; Elga Edmonds,d

May 14, 1949

You Don't Have To Go / I'm In Love With A Woman - unissued Tempo Tone (credited to Sunny Land Slim and his Sunnyland Boys)

vcl/gtr with Sunnyland Slim,p; Andrew Harris,b

August 26, 1949

That's All Right / I'm In Love - Delmark CD DD 656 (Apollo recordings)  
vcl/gtr with Little Walter,hca; Sunnyland Slim,p; prob Ernest Lawlers,g;

Big Crawford,b; Leroy Foster,d

prob. January 1950

Ludella - Boogie Disease LP 101/2 (Regal recording)

**Jimmy Rogers and his Trio**, vcl/gtr with Little Walter,h; Big Crawford,b

August 15, 1950

That's All Right / Ludella - Chess1435 (first Rogers credited issue)

Loudella (alt) - Chess CHD 9372 (CD)



## THE TWELVE GREAT LEGENDS

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## THE TOP TWO

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*"Father of Blues" and "Mr. Blues"*



## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s

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(as of September 24, 2011) and do check <http://www.wirz.de/music/america.htm>



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## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s



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## THE Blues Giants of the 1950s – Presented by Claus Röhnisch

### Twelve Great Legends

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