

THE GREAT R&B FILES
(# 8 OF 12)

Updated July 11, 2019

Transitions from Rhythm to Soul

—

Twelve Original Soul Icons



Presented by Claus Röhnisch

The R&B Pioneers Series - Volume Eight of twelve



Yes - it's Jackie

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

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THE Top Ten Vocal Groups of the Golden '50s - Rhythm & Blues Harmony

Ten Sepia Super Stars of Rock 'n' Roll - Idols Making Music History

Transitions from Rhythm to Soul - Twelve Original Soul icons

The True R&B Pioneers - Twelve Hit-Makers from the Early Years

Predecessors of the Soul Explosion in the 1960s - Twelve Famous Favorites

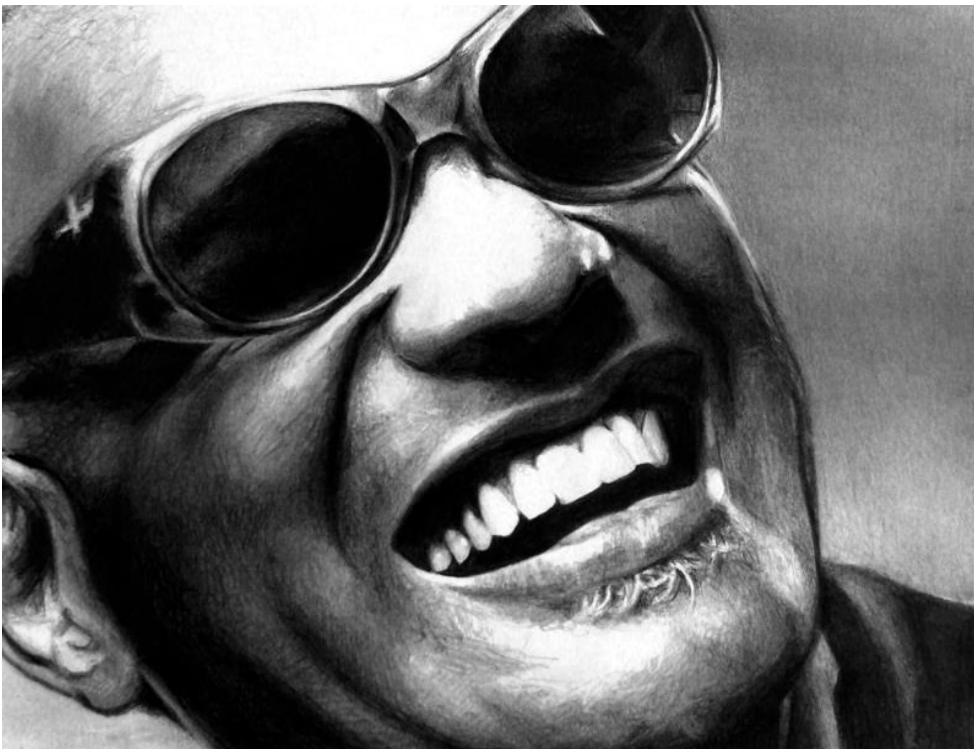
The Clown Princes of Rock and Roll: The Coasters

The John Lee Hooker Session Discography - The World's Greatest Blues Singer with Year-By-Year Recap

Those Hoodlum Friends - THE COASTERS

The R&B Pioneers Series - The Top 30 Favorites

Clyde McPhatter - the Original Soul Star





Introduction

As you may have noticed, the performers presented in the R&B Pioneers series are concentrated very much to the Golden Decade of the 1950s. It was the "music revolution" of the 1950s, which in many ways changed American Popular Music – I myself grew up with it. Contemporary Music is the music of Today, but in the 1940s, '50s and '60s the contemporary music was just that – the music of the 1940s, '50s and '60s. The popular music of the '30s and straight up into the '50s was headed by the likes of Bing Crosby, Glenn Miller, Eddie Fisher, Pat Boone, and of course Elvis. Jazz music was fronted by Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald, and soon Dinah Washington. And then there was the Sepia Pop – born in jazz – with the Ink Spots, Mills Brothers, and the greatest of them all – Nat "King" Cole. Hillbilly/Bluegrass (soon to be tagged Country & Western) had its Hank Williams. The still "underground" blues of Blind Lemon Jefferson and Bessie Smith of the 1920s was soon followed by Charley Patton, Tampa Red, Big Bill Broonzy, Lightnin' Hopkins, Muddy, Hooker et al. – and highlighted by B. B. King. The black religious music (gospel) was headed by the Swan Silvertones, Thomas A. Dorsey, and the Golden Gate Quartet. When jazz emerged with more commercial sounds in the early 1940s, Lionel Hampton and Louis Jordan entered the scene. And not just right out of the blue, but on a logical route of evolution. "Swing" and be-bop turned "rhythm" after the war, the blues turned electric. The music of the American Blacks "learned" from every angle of "contemporary music" and Rhythm & Blues was born. Either you jumped and stomped, or you crooned ballads (often picked up from the tin-pan-alley mainstream) – or you combined – and developed – the classic non-electric blues with the sounds of the church. That's how "Soul Music" was shaped. It was a music sung and played with feeling based on the rich heritage of the black community (naturally often not in the most fashioned ways). The first true Soul Icon was in the mind of the editor of this work, Clyde McPhatter, presented in an earlier volume of this series – and with a Special Feature: Clyde McPhatter – the Original Soul Star (the last volume in The R&B Pioneers Series). He practised the new "music form" right from the beginning with his early church going music and his classical trained coach with the Dominoes, continued his style with his new-formed Drifters, and smoothed it up when he turned solo. The transition from rhythm to soul was on its way (and with that the Transition of Black Music – crossing over to Mainstream Pop).

The performers in this volume of "The R&B Pioneers" have all in one way or another joined the school of Clyde McPhatter transforming early roots into new paths. They all contributed very heavy in shaping the Soul Era of the 1960s, although they all debuted in the early 1950s. Four of the performers were the Super Stars (with roots in St. Augustine-Florida, Chicago, Detroit, and Augusta-Georgia), four represent different moods of early soul – the gospel roots, the ever popular crooning, the exciting sounds of the innovative West-Coast, and the jazz roots. And then there are the four Southerners (three of them from Memphis, recording for Sam Phillips – and one from Texas), who truly were the ones who guaranteed that the blues was injected into the new Soul Music. So here are the twelve probably most important performers of "**Rhythm & Soul**". Several of the performers in this volume had an itch for exploring new locations to record and practise their music – South and North, Midwest, East, and West. One thing these twelve had in common, beside the deep, thorough Blues engagement, and their skilful abilities to express the true Soul feeling, was (in a matter of speaking) – they all went Pop! (although Bland and Parker still sounded "too black" to fit into the white community's mainstream market). The number of the presented performers' hits are listed below. Brown's hits include one issued as Fred Wesley and the J.B.'s.

Claus Röhnisch – updated July 18, 2018

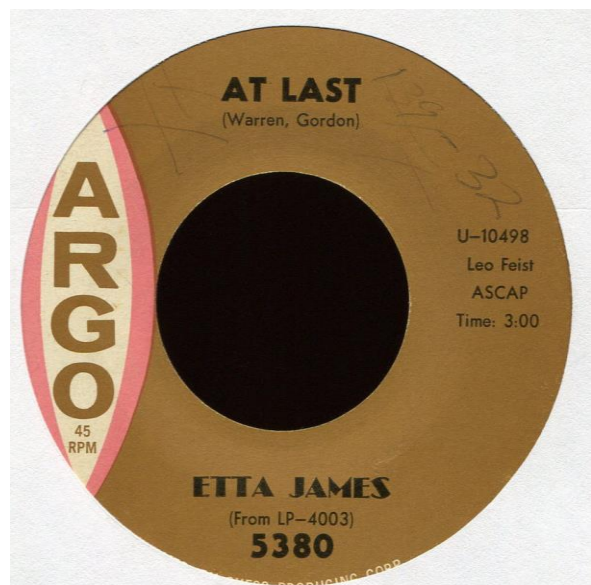
Transitions from Rhythm to Soul

Twelve Original Soul Icons

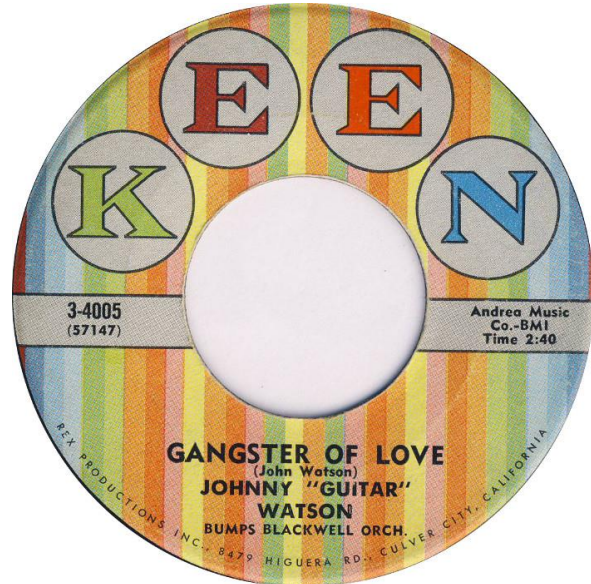
- presented by **Claus Röhnisch**

		R&B Top3	(Top10)	PopTop10	Page	Read more
1949	Ray Charles	15	(44)	11	6	http://raycharles.com/
1951	Sam Cooke	15	(24)	5	19	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_Cooke
1952	Jackie Wilson	9	(16)	6	27	http://www.jackiewilson.net/
1954	Little Willie John	1	(9)	-	34	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Willie_John
1954	Brook Benton	12	(21)	8	36	http://www.shewins.com/brook.htm
1955	Etta James	3	(13)	-	44	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Etta_James
1951	Rufus Thomas	3	(6)	1	48	http://www.seguerecords.com/rufusthomas/
1952	Bobby "Blue" Bland	8	(27)	-	51	http://www.souloftheman.com/bland11.html
1952	Little Junior Parker	-	(5)	-	58	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Junior_Parker
1953	Johnny "Guitar" Watson	-	(3)	-	59	http://www.rockabillyhall.com/JohnnyWatson1.html
1956	King Curtis	1	(3)	-	60	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_Curtis
1956	James Brown	30	(60)	7	62	http://www.soul-patrol.com/funk/father.htm

TRANSITIONS: CLASSIC HITS by the Original Soul Icons - pt1



TRANSITIONS: CLASSIC HITS by the Original Soul Icons - pt2



Brother Ray - THE GENIUS – Father of Soul



RAY CHARLES: ONE PER YEAR 1949 – 1967 ('52-2)

One representative single side per year.



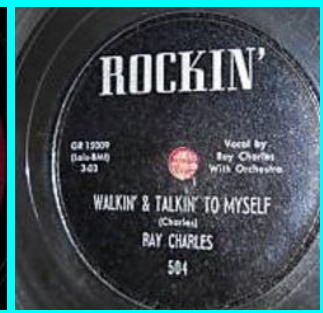
1949



1950



1951



1952



1952



1953



1954



1955



1956



1957



1958



1959



1960



1961



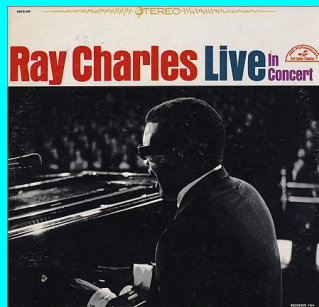
1962



1963



1964



1965



1966



1967



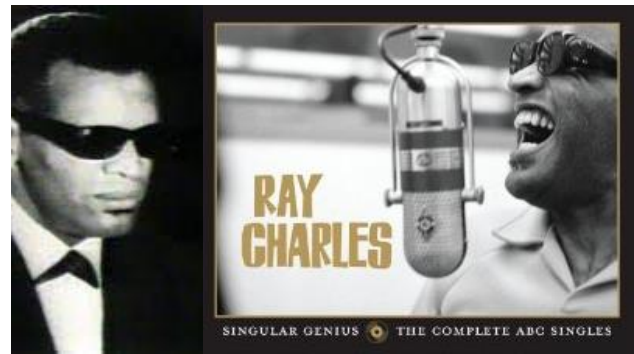
RAY CHARLES



"The Genius" - "Father of Soul" - "Brother Ray" - Pianist - singer - altosaxophonist, mixing blues-gospel-R&B-country, and trail blazer of modern black music. Grew up in Florida (Greenville, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, and Tampa). Moved to Seattle, Washington in 1948 with Florida friend, guitarist Garcia McKee starting a trio - "The McSon Trio" (adding Milton Garret, bs). Came to Los Angeles in 1950. Roots in West Coast club blues from Nat Cole and Charles Brown, and later the jump blues of Louis Jordan - soon mixed with gospel sounds. Worked with Quincy Jones in Seattle (Quincy later playing trumpet with Lionel Hampton), saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, and during 1950-52 with Lowell Fulson & his orchestra; and was bought out from Jack Lauderdale by Ahmet Ertegun. Left Fulson and toured with Joe Morris' band. Later worked with Lloyd Lambert's orchestra and Guitar Slim (producing his hit "The Things That I Used To Do"). Formed his own band in Houston, Texas during July, 1954 with trumpeter/band leader Renald Richard plus Charles Whiely, tpt; A.D. Norris, tens; Jimmy Bell, bass - during a West Coast tour David Newman joined. Married Bea in Houston, where they had their home until they moved to L.A. in 1959. Some of his early and later members of the orchestra: Joe Bridgewater and Ricky Harper, tpts; Dave "Fathead" Newman, tenorsax (who he already had met with Lowell Fulson in 1952); Hank Crawford, sax (succeeding Renald Richard as band leader); Edgar Willis, bass; Phil Guilbeau, tpt; long-time saxophonist Leroy Cooper (who turned Ray's seven-piece-band into an 8-piece); Sonny Forriest, gtr; and Billy Preston, organ. Long-time arranger/conductor: Sid Feller.

Ray's first girl singer: Mary Ann Fisher. Ray later transformed Jesse Stones' and Chuck Willis' girl group the Cookies into the Raelets (aka Raylettes or Rayletts), featuring Marjorie Hendricks (who died in 1973); Darlene McCrae, Gwen Berry, Dorothy Jones, and soon Pat Lyles (who was not from The Cookies); later Earl-Jean McCrae (sister of Darlene), Susay Green, Mabel John (sister of Little Willie John), and Dorothy Berry (former wife of Richard Berry). One lineup in 1968: Alex Brown, Clydie King, Gwen Berry, Merry Clayton. Long-time manager (succeeding Jeff Brown in the early-mid '60s) and business companion: Joe Adams. Another friend (and sometimes producer): Quincy Jones. Ray was inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1982, and a charter member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986.

Born: Horris (Raymond) Charles Robinson September 23, 1930 (some files say September 30 and others give the year 1932), Albany, Georgia. Moved very early on to Greenville, Florida. **Died** in Beverly Hills, California June 10, 2004.
First recordings: as **The Maxin Trio** (with all three musicians labelled; originally the McSon Trio) Seattle, Washington ca. November, 1948 (issued in February 1949 *Confession Blues / I Love You / Love You* - DownBeat 171 (hitting the charts on April 9, 1949). Ray recorded four titles in Miami, Florida for Henry Stone in 1951 (probably not earlier, even if Ray Charles has stated they were done in Tampa in 1948 - prob. late 1951, some files say even in October 1952 - information that these recordings were done in Tampa, Florida before Ray went to Seattle has flourished several times): *Baby Let Me Hear You Call My Name* (aka *St. Pete Florida Blues* or *St. Pete's Blues* or *I Found My Baby There*) issued probably late 1951 on *Sittin In With 641* and on *SwingTime 300* (in 1952); (*I'm Wonderin' And Wonderin'* and *Walkin' And Talkin' (To Myself)* issued on *Rockin' 504* in ca 1952; plus *I Can't Do No More* (aka *Why Did You Go*) issued on *SIW 651* (both *SIW* singles had flips featuring instrumentals prob not including Ray).
Records for: DownBeat/SwingTime 49-52, Atlantic 52-59, ABC 60-66, ABC/Tangerine 66-73, Crossover 73-76, Atlantic 77-79.
First LPs: Rock & Roll – Atlantic (June 1957)
 The Great Ray Charles – Atlantic 1239 (August 1957)



Essential CDs.

The Very Best of (Greatest Hits) - Rhino RCD 79822 (2000) or: The Definitive Ray Charles (2CD) - Rhino R2 73556 (covering Atlantic & ABC) (2004) and Ray Charles Live (At Newport 1958 and In Person 1959 on one CD) - Atlantic 81732 (1987); The Definitive Soul Collection - Rhino (2CD) 77664 (2006) (Atlantic recordings); Ultimate Hits Collection - Rhino (2CD) R2 75644 (1999)

For collectors:

The Birth of Soul-The Complete Atlantic R&B Sessions (3CD 1991) - Atlantic 782310-2 and The Classic Years (3CD covering the ABC years) - Castle ESBOD 144/1-2-3 (1991) plus The Birth of a Legend (2CD with all 41 pre-Atlantic tracks) - Ebony CD 8001 & 8003 (2007) or: Genius & Soul/50th Anniversary Album (5CD) - Rhino RHCD 72859 (1997); Trilogy: Three Classic Albums (At Newport, The Great & The Genius of..) - Warner Strategic Marketing (UK) 3CD 81227-32392 (1998) Singular Genius: The Complete ABC Singles 1960-1972 (6CD) – Concord 33258 (November 2011)

More of early Ray:

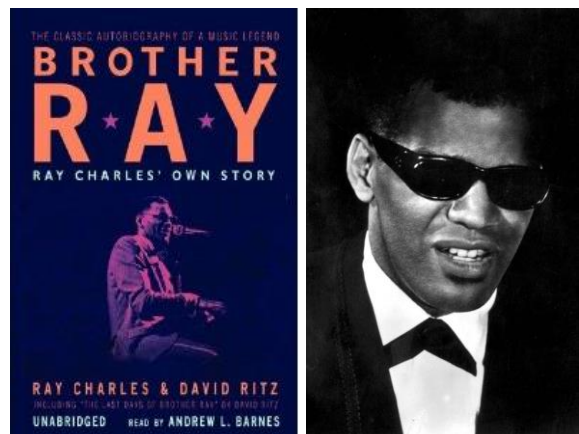
The Chronological Ray Charles 1949-1950 - Classics 5000 (2001) plus The Chronological Ray Charles 1950-1952 - Classics 5150 (2003) or: The Complete Swing Time and Downbeat Recordings 1949-1952 - Night Train International NTI CD 2001 (2-set 2004) plus Ray Charles Unreleased NTI CD 7154 (with alternates of above) (2006) or: The Way I Feel - Properbox 133 (4CD) (contains chronological tracks 1949-1956 with heavy booklet-great!) (2007)

Testament: Pure Genius - The Complete Atlantic Recordings (1952-1959) - Rhino 74731 - 7CDbox, 165 tracks, 80-pagebooklet +DVD (2005)



Reading:

Brother Ray - Ray Charles' Own Story by Ray Charles & David Ritz (1979)
 Ray Charles - Man and Music by Michael Lydon (Payback Press, 1999/2004)
 Ray Charles - The Birth Of Soul by Mike Evans (Omnibus, 2005)



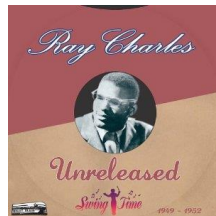
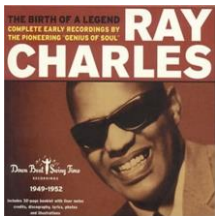
R&B #1 Hits (10 of 44 Top 10) - from a total of 79 Top 40 hits:

- 1955 **I've Got A Woman** (aka I Got A Woman) 1w
- 1955 **A Fool For You** 1w
- 1956 **Drown In My Own Tears** 2w
- 1959 **What'd I Say** 1w, Pop #6
- 1961 **One Mint Julep** (instr) 1w, Pop #8
- 1961 **Hit The Road Jack** 5w, Pop #1
- 1962 **Unchain My Heart** 2w, Pop #9
- 1962 **I Can't Stop Loving You** 10w, Pop #1
- 1962 **You Are My Sunshine** 3w, Pop #7
- 1966 **Let's Go Get Stoned** 1w, Pop #31



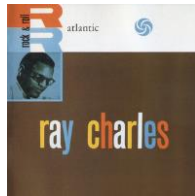
The Other R&B Top 10 Hits of the 1950s:

- 1949 Confession Blues (Maxin Trio) #2
- 1950 **Baby Let Me Hold Your Hand** (Ray Charles Trio) #5
- 1952 Kissa Me Baby (Ray Charles and Orchestra) #8
- 1954 It Should've Been Me (Ray Charles and his Orchestra) #5
- 1954 Don't You Know #10
- 1955 Come Back (Baby) #4
- 1955 This Little Girl Of Mine #9
- 1955 Blackjack #8
- 1955 Greenbacks #5
- 1956 Halleluja I Love Her So #5
- 1956 Lonely Avenue #6
- 1957 Ain't That Love #9
- 1958 (Night Time Is) The Right Time #5



Some More Great Ones:

- 1951 The Snow Is Falling (Gloom And Misery)
- 1951 Baby Let Me Hear You Call My Name (St. Pete Florida Blues)
- 1951 Wonderin' And Wonderin'
- 1952 The Sun's Gonna Shine Again
- 1952 The Midnight Hour
- 1953 Mess Around
- 1953 Heartbreaker
- 1954 Sinner's Prayer
- 1954 Losing Hand
- 1956 Mary Ann
- 1956 Doodlin' (instr)
- 1956 Rockhouse (instr) #14
- 1957 That's Enough #19
- 1958 Yes Indeed
- 1958 I Had A Dream
- 1959 Let The Good Times Roll
- 1960 Georgia On My Mind #3, Pop #1
- 1961 I've Got News For You #8
- 1962 **At The Club** #7
- 1963 No One #9, Pop #21
- 1963 Busted #3, Pop #4
- 1964 Smack Dab In The Middle #19
- 1967 In The Heat Of The Night #21, Pop #33
- 1967 If You Were Mine #19

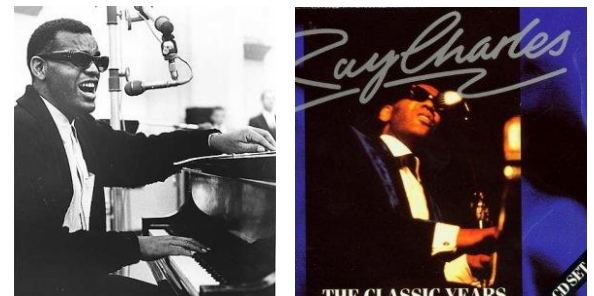


Ray Charles' original Atlantic LPs

- 6/57 Rock & Roll - later Hallelujah I Love Her So - Atlantic 8006
- 8/57 The Great Ray Charles - Atlantic 1259
- 6/58 Soul Brothers: Milt Jackson & Ray Charles - Atlantic 1279
- 10/58 Ray Charles At Newport - Atlantic 1289
- 10/58 Yes Indeed - Atlantic 8025
- 8/59 Fathead: Ray Charles Presents David Newman - Atlantic 1304
- 9/59 What'd I Say - Atlantic 8029
- 10/59 The Genius of Ray Charles - Atlantic 1312
- 5/60 Ray Charles In Person - Atlantic 8039
- 2/61 Soul Meeting: Ray Charles and Milt Jackson - Atlantic SD-1360
- 6/61 The Genius After Hours - Atlantic 1369
- 9/61 The Genius Sings The Blues - Atlantic 8052
- 11/61 Do The Twist with Ray Charles - Atlantic 8054 - reissued as:
The Greatest Ray Charles (same catalogue # 1963)
- 7/62 The Ray Charles Story - Atlantic 2-900 (2-set) - also issued as:
7/62 The Ray Charles Story, Vol One - Atlantic 8063 and:
7/62 The Ray Charles Story, Vol Two - Atlantic 8064
- 6/63 The Ray Charles Story Vol 3 - Atlantic 8083
- 6/64 The Ray Charles Story Vol 4 - Atlantic 8094
- 6/64 The Great Hits of Ray Charles - Atlantic SD-7101
- 2/70 The Best of Ray Charles - Atlantic SD-1543
- 5/73 Ray Charles Live - SD2-503 (2-set)

RAY CHARLES, vocals/piano "LUCKY-SEVEN"

1. Featuring Mickey Baker, gtr, Candido Camero, cga; Jesse Stone, arr - New York, May 17, 1953:
A 1069 **Mess Around** - Atlantic 999
2. **Ray Charles and His Band** (featuring David Newman, sax)
- Atlanta, November 18, 1954:
A 1383 **I've Got A Woman** - Atlantic 1050 (#1, 20w)
3. Featuring The Cookies and poss Mary Ann Fisher, vcls, Panama Francis, dms - New York, November 30, 1955:
A 1768 **Drown In My Own Tears**
- Atlantic 1085 (#1, 15w 1956)
4. **Ray Charles and His Orchestra** (featuring The Raylettes, vcls; David Newman and Hank Crawford, saxes)
- New York, February 18, 1959:
A 3263/4 **What'd I Say (Parts I & 2)** - Atlantic 2031 (#1, 17w)
5. Featuring Ray Charles, organ - New York, early 1961:
Impulse **One Mint Julep** - Impulse 200 (#1, 12w)
6. Featuring The Raelets incl Marjorie Hendricks, vcls
- New York, mid 1961:
ABC **Hit The Road Jack** - ABC-Paramount 10244 (#1, 15w)
7. - New York, late 1962:
ABC **You Are My Sunshine** - ABC-Paramount 10375
(#1, 11w 1963, issued late 1962)



Ray Charles: His three first R&B LPs on Atlantic

Here are Ray Charles first three R&B LPs. They were issued on Atlantic Records (with reissues in 1961 - the first two with new covers, but with the original catalogue numbers). The Discography is listed in one chronological order for all three LPs with Peak Pos on the R&B Charts. Songs with LP marks in the discography are "bonus tracks" not originally on the three LPs below. The **Discography** lists all of Ray's Atlantic "R&B" recordings (with no Nesuhi Ertegun jazz sessions or "live" sessions included – Ray made his first jazz session on April 30, 1956). Most of the discographical details are "picked" from "Pure Genius" (although with some minor editing).

 <p>Rock & Roll - Atlantic LP 8006 - June 1957 Reissued 1961 with new cover and title <i>Hallelujah I Love Her So</i></p> <p>Tracks: Ain't That Love / Drown In My Own Tears / Come Back Baby / Sinner's Prayer / Funny (But I Still Love You) / Losing Hand / A Fool For You // Hallelujah I Love Her So / Mess Around / This Little Girl Of Mine / Mary Ann / Greenbacks / Don't You Know / I Got A Woman</p>	 <p>Yes Indeed! - Atlantic LP 8025 - Oct 1958 Reissued in 1961 with new cover</p> <p>Tracks: What Would I Do Without You / It's All Right / I Want to Know / Yes Indeed! / Get on the Right Track Baby / Talkin' Bout You / Swanee River Rock // Lonely Avenue / Blackjack / The Sun's Gonna Shine Again / I Had a Dream / I Want a Little Girl / Heartbreaker / Leave My Woman Alone</p>	 <p>What'd I Say - Atlantic LP 8029 - Sept 1959 Reissued in 1961</p> <p>Tracks: What'd I Say Parts I & II / Jumpin' in the Mornin' / You Be My Baby / Tell Me How Do You Feel / What Kind of Man Are You // Rockhouse Parts 1 & 2 / Roll With My Baby / Tell All the World About You / My Bonnie / That's Enough</p>
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Atlantic R&B Discography - Ray Charles, vocal/piano – Several jazz recordings were issued on singles from December 1959 into 1967.

Ray Charles and His Orchestra

unknown accomp with poss Jessie Drakes,tp; Dave McRea,bs; Sam Taylor,ts; Mickey Baker,g; Lloyd Trotman,b; Connie Kay,d; Jesse Stone,arr

New York City September 11, 1952

A 890	The Sun's Gonna Shine Again	Atlantic 984
A 891	Roll With Me Baby	976
A 892	The Midnight Hour	976, LP 8052
A 893	Jumpin' In The Mornin'	984

Ray Charles

Vcl-1/pno; Ahmet Ertegun, "rehearsal dialog"

New York City May 10, 1953

-	Some Day Baby (Worried Life Blues) -1	LP 8052
-	Low Society	LP 81694 (v.a.)

Note: These were the only "rehearsals" from this long session released before "Pure Genius".

Ray Charles and His Orchestra

Jessie Drakes,tp; Dave McRea,bs; Sam Taylor,ts; and poss Freddie Mitchell and Ernie "Pinky" Williams,ts; Mickey Baker,g; Lloyd Trotman,b; Connie Kay,d; Candido Camero; cga-1; Jesse Stone,arr (and extra vcl on-2)

Atlantic Studios, NYC May 17, 1953

A 1065	It Should've Been Me -2	1021 (#5), LP 8063 (LP 900)
A 1066	Losing Hand	1037
A 1067	Heartbreaker -1	1008
A 1068	Sinner's Prayer	1021
A 1069	Mess Around	998
A 1070	Funny (But I Still Love You)	998

Edgar Blanchard,g & leader; Dimes Dupont,as; Warren Hebrard,ts; Frank Fields,b; Alonzo Steward,d

J&M Studios, New Orleans August 18, 1953

A 1109	Feelin' Sad	1008, LP 8052
A 1110	I Wonder Who (Ray's Blues)	2118, LP 8052

Wallace Davenport and Frank Mitchell,ts; O'Neal Gerald,as; Joe Tillman,ts; Warren Bell,bs; Lloyd Lambert,b; Oscar Moore,d; Ray Charles,arr

New Orleans December 4, 1953

A 1187	Don't You Know	1037 (#10)
A 1188	Nobody Cares	LP 8052
A 1189	Ray's Blues	LP 8052
A1189A	Mr. Charles Blues (I Got A Break Baby)	LP 8052

Note: LP 8052 "The Genius Sings The Blues" (12 tracks) issued in September 1961.

Ray Charles and his Band

Joe Bridgewater and Charles Whitley,tps; Don Wilkerson,ts; David "Fathead" Newman,bs; Wesley Jackson,g; Jimmy Bell,b; Glenn Brooks,d; Renald Richard,bandleader

Atlanta, GA November 18, 1954

A 1382	Blackjack	1076 (#8)
A 1383	I've Got A Woman (*)	1050 (#1)
A 1384	Greenbacks	1076 (#5)
A 1385	Come Back (*)	1050 (#4)

(* - the 1050 songs were titled "I Got A Woman" and "Come Back Baby" on most later issues)

Joe Bridgewater and Riley Webb,ts; Don Wilkerson,ts; David Newman,as/bs; Roosevelt Sheffield,b; William Peebles,d; backing band vcIs (incl Mary Ann Fisher) -1; Ray Charles,arr; no vcl on -2

Miami, FL April 23, 1955

A 1513	A Fool For You	1063 (#1)
A 1514	This Little Girl Of Mine -1	1063 (#9)
A 1515	Hard Times (No One Knows Better Than I)	2118, LP 8052
A 1516	A Bit Of Soul (Blues Hangover) -2	2094, LP 8094

Joe Bridgewater and Joshua Willis,ts; poss Don Wilkerson,ts; Cecil Payne,ts; Paul West,b; David "Panama" Francis,d; vclgrp -1 (Mary Ann Fisher plus two unkn.females and a male vocalist)

Capitol Studios, NYC November 30, 1955

A 1767	Mary Ann	1085 (flip hit)
A 1768	Drown In My Own Tears -1	1085 (#1)
A 1769	Hallelujah I Love Her So	1096 (#5)
A 1770	What Would I Do Without You	1096 (flip hit)

Ray Charles with Orchestra and Chorus (or with Chorus and Orch.)

Joe Bridgewater and John Hunt,tps; David Newman, as/ts; Emmett Dennis, bs; Roosevelt Sheffield,b; William Peebles,d; The Cookies; Margie Hendricks (Hendrix), Darlene McCrea, Dorothy Jones, prob Mary Ann Fisher, vclgrp; plus prob one male vcl-1; no group-2; no vocal -3

Capitol Studios, NYC May 16, 1956

A 1998	Lonely Avenue	1108 (#6)
A 1999	I Want To Know	1124
A 2000	Leave My Woman Alone	1108

Coastal Studios, NYC November 27, 1956

A 2231	It's All Right -1	1143
A 2232	Ain't That Love -1	1124 (#9)
A 2233	Get On The Right Track Baby -2	1143
A 2234/35	Rockhouse Parts 1 & 2 -3	2006 (#14)

Joe Bridgewater and Lee Harper,tps; David Newman, as/ts; Emmett Dennis,bs; Edgar Willis,b; William Peebles,d; The Cookies; Margie Hendricks (Hendrix), Darlene McCrea, Dorothy Jones, prob Mary Ann Fisher, vclgrp-1; Mary Ann Fisher, lead vcl on-2 (Ray not singing)

Capitol Studios, NYC May 20, 1957

A 2706	Swanee River Rock -1	1154 (#14)
	(Talkin' ' Bout That River)	
A 2707	That's Enough -1 (with the Raylettes)	2022 (#19) issued 1959
A 2708	Talkin' 'Bout You -1	1172
A 2709	What Kind Of Man Are You -2	1172
A 2710	I Want A Little Girl	1154

Ray Charles, Vocal Background by The Cookies

Ray,org-2; Marcus Belgrave and Lee Harper,tps; David Newman, as/ts; Hank Crawford or poss Emmett Dennis,bs; Edgar Willis,b; Richie Goldberg,d; The Cookies,vclgrp (Margie Hendricks co-lead vcl-1, Darlene McCrea, and Pat Lyles).

Atlantic Studios, NYC February 17 & 20, 1958

A 2968	Yes Indeed -2	1180
A 2969	I Had A Dream	1180
A 2970	You Be My Baby	1196
A 2971	Tell All The World About You (with the Raylettes)	2010 issued 1959
A 2972	My Bonnie	1196

Note: One or more of the following Cookies - Dorothy Jones, Mae Mosely-Lyles, Doretta James, Pat Lion, and poss Earl-Jean McCrae or Gwen Berry - may have been on the above recordings. Mary Ann Fisher may have been present, but went solo in early 1958.

Ray Charles with The Raylettes (or Ray Charles – 2094, 2174)

Musicians /vcl group as above plus Mongo Santamaria,cgs; and MiltonTurner,d

Atlantic Studios, NYC October 28, 1958

A 3193	Early In The Mornin'	2094, LP 8052
A 3194	(Night Time Is) The Right Time -1	2010 (#5), LP 8052
A 3195	Carrying That Load	2174, LP 7101(st. alt)
A 3196	Tell Me How Do You Feel -2	2022

Note: Phillip Guilbeau, John Hunt,tps; Leroy Cooper,bs; Edgar Willis,b; and Milton Turner were in Ray's band during the late 1950s and early 1960s. Earl-Jean McCrae featured at this session.

Ray Charles and his Orchestra

Ray, vcl/elpiano; Marcus Belgrave and poss John Hunt,tps; David Newman, as/ts; Hank Crawford,bs; Edgar Willis,b; Milton Turner,d; Jerry Wexler,tamb?; The Raylettes (later known as The Raelets),vcIs with Hendricks, colead-1; Pat Lyles, Darlene McCrea, and poss Gwen Berry, Mae Mosely-Lyles or Ruby Roberson

Atlantic Studios, NYC February 18, 1959

A 3263/64	What'd I Say Parts I & II	2031 (#1)
A 3363	What'd I Say Parts I & II (stereo edition)	LP 7101
A 3364	Tell The Truth -1	2068 (#13), LP 8054

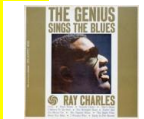
Note: A 3364 is probably an edited version from the live "In Person" LP 8039 (master A 4375) recorded at Herndon Stadium, Atlanta, Georgia on May 29, 1959; featuring Belgrave, Hunt,tps; Newman, Crawford,saxes; Edgar Willis,b; Teagle Fleming,d; and the Raylettes - produced by Zenas Sears. Note: It may have been the other way around - meaning it was a studio recording turned into a "live" one on "In Person". There is an edited version on Atlantic single 2068. Ray had also recorded the famous "At Newport" live LP 1289 (in the jazz series, produced by Nesuhi Ertegun) on July 5, 1958. Cookies/Raylettes lineups approximative on all sessions.

Ray, vcl/elpiano/(and multidubbed vcIs on -2); Marcus Belgrave and John Hunt,tps; David "Fathead" Newman, ts; Hank Crawford,as/bs; Charley Macey, steel gtr; Edgar Willis,b; Teagle Fleming,d; The Raelets (as above on-1),vcIs

Atlantic Studios, NYC June 26, 1959

A 3597	I'm Movin On -1	2043 (#11), LP 8052
A 3598	I Believe To My Soul -2	2043, LP 8052

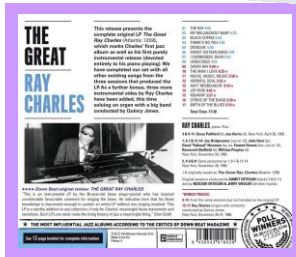
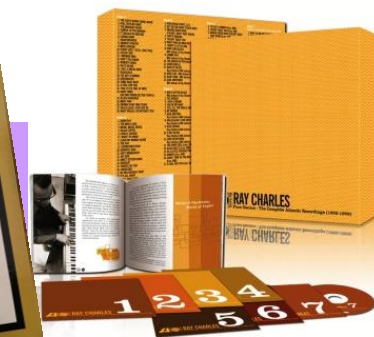
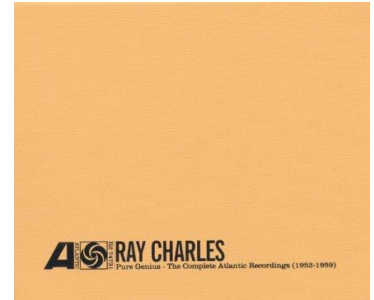
Note: LP 8052 is titled "The Genius Sings The Blues" (issued Sept. 1961).



Ray Charles: Rhino's (Atlantic/Warner) "Pure Genius"

On September 20 of 2005 Rhino released a truly super Ray Charles CD-Box, "Pure Genius: The Complete Atlantic Recordings 1952-1959" (Rhino R2 74731), covering all of Ray Charles' Atlantic waxings in chronological session order (also featuring all the jazz things – including those with Milton Jackson and David "Fathead" Newman"). The box has seven CDs (#7 featuring the whole previously unissued "rehearsal" session with Ahmet Ertegun in 1953, plus some more later unissued ones). The original Box was a full-size package, which also included an eight record (a DVD). Later the box was reissued (same cat#), but now a smaller package (with the DVD out). Both boxes have an 80-page great book inlayed (with liner notes foremost by David Ritz – and simply great), which includes a full album discography and complete session discography. **A true historic collection!** Compilation produced by Ahmet Ertegun and James Austin.



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	The Jazz Side	
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	Fathead/Ray Charles Presents David Newman (1959)	Gary Kramer
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Ray's Jazz and Live Recordings on Atlantic

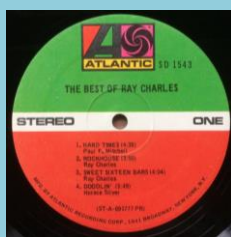

Here are the original jazz and live LPs by Ray Charles for Atlantic Records (1957-1959) with the best and most interesting recordings and the session musicians listed. *Cookies and Raylettes lineups approximative.*

<p>The Great Ray Charles</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios, NYC April 30, 1956 Black Coffee Ray, pno; Oscar Pettiford, b; Joe Harris, d Prod: Nesuhi and Ahmet Ertegun, and Jerry Wexler</p> <p>Capitol Recording Studios, NYC November 20, 1956 The Ray, Sweet Sixteen Bars Ray, pno; Joe Bridgewater and John Hunt, tps, David Newman, ts; Emmett Dennis, bs; Roosevelt Sheffield, b; Williams Peoples, d (brass and reed only on "The Ray") Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler</p> <p>Coastal Recording Studios, NYC November 26, 1956 Doodlin' (same musicians as "The Ray") Arr: Quincy Jones, Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler</p>	 <p>8/57 – Atlantic LP 1259</p>	
<p>Soul Brothers: Milt Jackson & Ray Charles</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios, NYC September 12, 1957 How Long Blues -1, Bag's Guitar Blues -2 Ray, pno-1/alto sax-2; Milt Jackson, vibes-1; pno-2; Billy Mitchell, ts; Clifton "Skeeter" Best, gtr; Oscar Pettiford, b; Connie Kay, d Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun</p>	 <p>6/58 - Atlantic LP 1279</p>	
<p>Ray Charles At Newport</p> <p>Newport Jazz Festival July 5, 1958 Blues Waltz -1, In A Little Spanish Town -2, The Right Time -3,4 and Ray, pno-1/alto sax-2; Marcus Belgrave and Lee Harper, tps; David Newman, as; Bennie "Hank" Crawford, bs; Edgar Willis, b; Richard Goldberg, d, Mary Ann Fisher and The Cookies (Margie Hendricks, colead-4, Darlene McCrea, prob. "Pat" Lyles), backing vocals on -3 (soon known as The Raylettes, now without Fisher); band vcIs-2 Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun</p>	 <p>10/58 – Atlantic LP 1289</p>	
<p>Fathead - Ray Charles Presents David Newman</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios November 5, 1958 Hard Times Ray, pno; Marcus Belgrave, tp; David "Fathead" Newman, as; Bennie "Hank" Crawford, bs; Edgar Willis, b; Milt Turner, d Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler</p>	 <p>8/59 – Atlantic LP 1304</p>	
<p>The Genius of Ray Charles</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios May 6, 1959 Just For A Thrill, Come Rain Or Come Shine Ray, vcl/pno; Bob Brookmyer, tb; Allan Hanlon, g; Wendell Marshall, b; Ted Sommers, d and others incl strings and chorus - directed by Harry Lookowsky; arr by Ralph Burns. Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios June 23, 1959 Let The Good Times Roll Ray, vcl/pno; Marcus Belgrave, John Hunt; Joe Newman, Ernie Royal, Clark Terry and Snooky Young, tps; Al Grey, Quentin Jackson, Melba Liston and Thomas Mitchell, tbs; Frank Wess, Marshall Royal, Paul Gonsalves, Billy Mitchell, David Newman, Zoot Simms, Hank Crawford and Charlie Fowlkes, saxes; Freddie Greene, g; Eddie Jones and Edgar Willis, b; Teagle Fleming and Charlie Persip, d; Quincy Jones arr.; Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler. (Jose Mangual, cg and The Raylettes at the session)</p>	 <p>10/59 – Atlantic 1312</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">Ray Charles In Person</p> <p>Herdon Stadium, Atlanta GA May 28, 1959 Tell The Truth, (Night Time Is) The Right Time, What'd I Say Ray, vcl/el.pno; Marcus Belgrave and John Hunt, tps; David Newman, as/ts; Hank Crawford .bs; Edgar Willis, b; Teagle Fleming, d; The Raylettes, (Margie Henricks, co-lead; Darlene McCrea prob Pat Lyles, and Mae Mosely-Lyles), vcIs Prod. Zenas Sears and from Newport Jazz Festival July 5, 1958 Yes Indeed with accomp as from "At Newport". Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">5/60 - Atlantic LP 8039</p>	
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<p style="text-align: center;">Soul Meeting - Ray Charles and Milt Jackson</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios, NYC April 10, 1958 Soul Meeting Ray, pno; Milt Jackson, vibes; Kenny Burrell, gtr; Percy Heath, b; Art Taylor, d; Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">2/61 – Atlantic SD 1360</p>	
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<p style="text-align: center;">The Genius After Hours</p> <p>Atlantic Recording Studios, NYC April 30, 1956 Dawn Ray and Music, Music, Music Ray, pno; Oscar Pettiford, b; Joe Harris, d Prod: Nesuhi and Ahmet Ertegun, and Jerry Wexler Capitol Recording Studios, NYC November 20, 1956 Hornful Soul Ray, pno; Joe Bridgewater and John Hunt, tps; David Newman, ts; Emmett Dennis, bs; Roosevelt Sheffield, b; Williams Peeples, d; arr by Quincy Jones Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun and Jerry Wexler Atlantic Recording Studios, NYC September 12, 1957 The Genius After Hours Ray, pno; Billy Mitchell, ts; Clifton "Skeeter" Best, gtr; Oscar Pettiford, b; Connie Kay, d Prod: Nesuhi Ertegun</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">6/61 – Atlantic LP 1369</p>	
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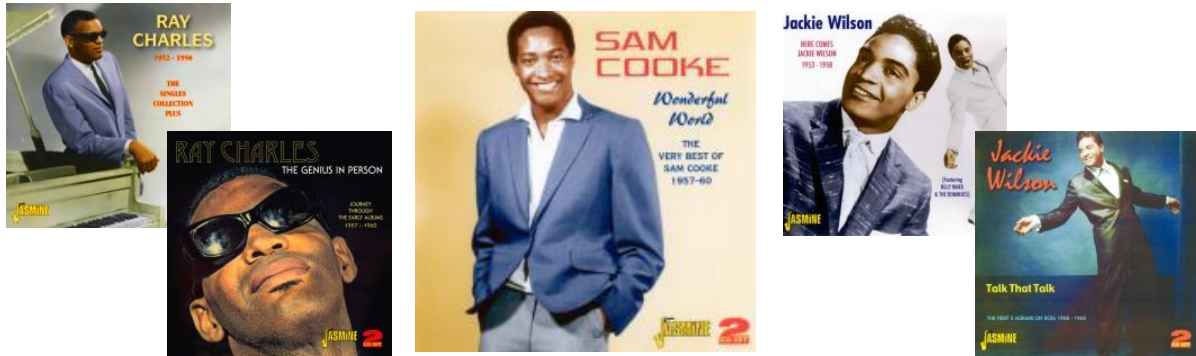
<p style="text-align: center;">The Best of Ray Charles</p> <p>Tracks: Hard Times (instrumental with Fathead Newman from "Fathead") Rockhouse (from R&B session November 27, 1956) Sweet Sixteen Bars (from "The Great") Doodlin' (from "The Great") How Long Blues (from "Soul Brothers") Blues Waltz (from "At Newport")</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">2/70 – Atlantic SD 1543</p>	
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Facsimile from "Pure Genius"

		THE RAY CHARLES
		ATLANTIC SINGLES
		DISCOGRAPHY
The Midnight Hour/ Roll With My Baby	#976 (9/52)	
The Sun's Gonna Shine Again/ Jumpin' In The Mornin'	#984 (1/53)	
Mess Around/ Funny (But I Still Love You)	#999 (7/53)	
Feelin' Sad/ Heartbreaker	#1008 (9/53)	Tell All The World About You/ The Right Time #2010 (11/58)
It Should've Been Me/ Sinner's Prayer	#1021 (3/54)	That's Enough/ Tell Me How Do You Feel #2022 (4/59)
Losing Hand/ Don't You Know	#1037 (8/54)	What'd I Say Part I/ What'd I Say Part II #2031 (6/59)
I've Got A Woman/ Come Back Baby	#1050 (12/54)	I'm Movin' On/ I Believe To My Soul #2043 (10/59)
A Fool For You/ This Little Girl Of Mine	#1063 (6/55)	Let The Good Times Roll/ Don't Let The Sun Catch You Cryin' #2047 (12/59)
Blackjack/ Greenbacks	#1076 (10/55)	Just For A Thrill/ Heartbreaker #2055 (2/60)
Mary Ann/ Drown In My Own Tears	#1085 (1/56)	Sweet Sixteen Bars/ Tell The Truth #2068 (7/60)
Hallelujah I Love Her So/ What Would I Do Without You	#1096 (5/56)	Doodlin' Part 1/ Doodlin' Part 2 #5005 (1960)
Lonely Avenue/ Leave My Woman Alone	#1108 (8/56)	Tell Me You'll Wait For Me/ Come Rain Or Come Shine #2084 (11/60)
I Want To Know/ Ain't That Love	#1124 (1/57)	A Bit Of Soul/ Early In The Morning #2094 (2/61)
It's All Right/ Get On The Right Track Baby	#1143 (6/57)	Am I Blue/ It Should've Been Me #2106 (5/61)
Swanee River Rock/ I Want A Little Girl	#1154 (8/57)	Hard Times (No One Knows Better Than I)/ Ray's Blues (I Wonder Who) #2118 (9/61)
Talkin' 'Bout You/ What Kind Of Man Are You	#1172 (1/58)	Carrying The Load/ Feelin' Sad #2174 (1/63)
Yes Indeed!/ I Had A Dream	#1180 (4/58)	Talkin' 'Bout You/ In A Little Spanish Town #2239 (6/64)
You Be My Baby/ My Bonnie	#1196 (8/58)	Come Rain Or Come Shine/ Tell Me You'll Wait For Me #2470 (12/67)
Rockhouse Part 1/ Rockhouse Part 2	#2005 (10/58)	

Fresh and great “public-domain” - CDs from UK issued in later years, all packed with important early singles/hits.



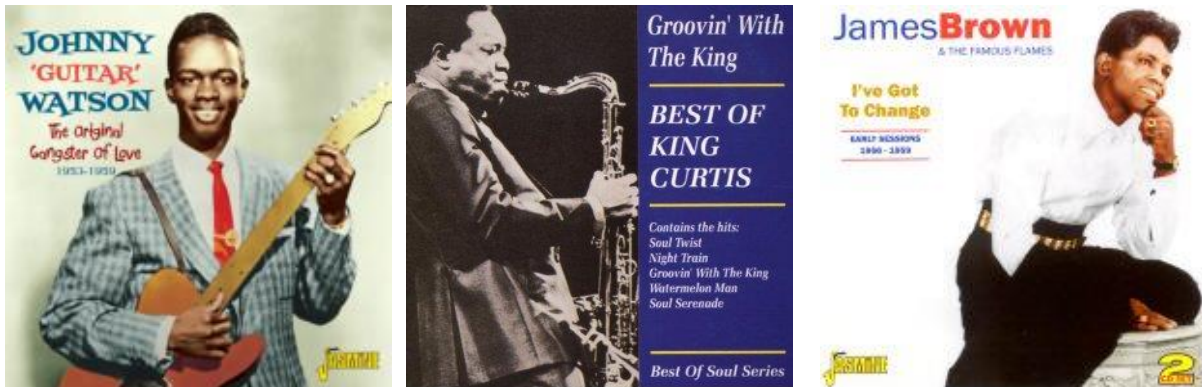
Ray Charles – The Singles Collection Plus 1952–1956 - Jasmine 2CD JASCD 507 (2009) 50 tracks;
 and The Genius In Person: Journey Through The Early Albums 1957-1960 – Jasmine 2CD JASCD 160 (2011) 36 tracks
Sam Cooke – Wonderful World 1957-1960 - Jasmine 2CD JASCD 152 (2011) 59 tracks
 The Very Best of **Sam Cooke** 1957-1960 - Jasmine 2CD JASCD 152 (2011) 59 tracks
Jackie Wilson Here Comes **Jackie Wilson** 1953-1958 - Jasmine JASCD 509 (2009) 25 tracks
 and Talk That Talk: The First Five Albums on CD 1958-1960 – Jasmine 2CS JASCD 509 (2011) 60 tracks



Mister Little Willie John plus Talk To Me, 2 albums plus bonus – Hoodoo CD98821 (2010) 28 tracks
 The Silky Smooth Tones of **Brook Benton** (his first albums 1959-1960) – Jasmine 2CD JASCD 687 (2011) 54 tracks. Soon to come a second CD with earlier recordings.
Etta James – Tough Woman, The Early Recordings 1955-1960 – Jasmine 2 CD JASCD 3013/4 (2011) 46 tracks



Rufus Thomas – Before Stax – The Complete 50's Recordings – Important Artists CD 7801 (2008) 20 tracks
Bobby "Blue" Bland – It's My Life, Baby, The Singles As & Bs 1951-1960 – Jasmine 2CD JASCD 564 (2011) 46 tracks
Little Junior Parker – Junior's Blues, the Duke Recordings volume one – MCA/Duke CD (not public domain, 1992) 18 tracks



Johnny "Guitar" Watson – The Original Gangster Of Love 1953-1959 – Jasmine JASCD 171 (2011) 20 tracks
Best of King Curtis – Groovin' With The King - early 1960s recordings - Aim 2010CD (2006) 15 tracks
James Brown & The Famous Flames – I've Got To Change, Early Sessions 1956-1959 – Jasmine 2CD JASCD 563 (2010) 40 tracks

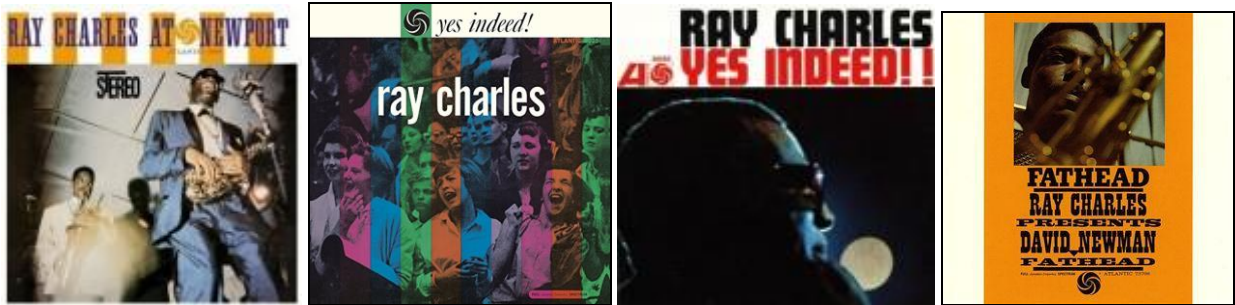
RAY CHARLES' Original LPs 1957-1961

(Atlantic and ABC-Paramount)

LPs viewed in order of original release date. Track lists and details, see <http://raycharles.com/ray-charles-albums/>
 Note. Atlantic's jazz series 1200, Atlantic's pop series 8000. ABC-Paramount (ABC-Par) 300-500 series.



Rock & Roll – Atlantic 8006 (June 1957) and its new cover Hallelujah I Love Her So! (1961), The Great Ray Charles – Atlantic 1259 (August 1957), Soul Brothers: Ray Charles/Milt Jackson – Atlantic 1279 (June 1958), - shown is the stereo edition were Ray and Milt have changed credit order



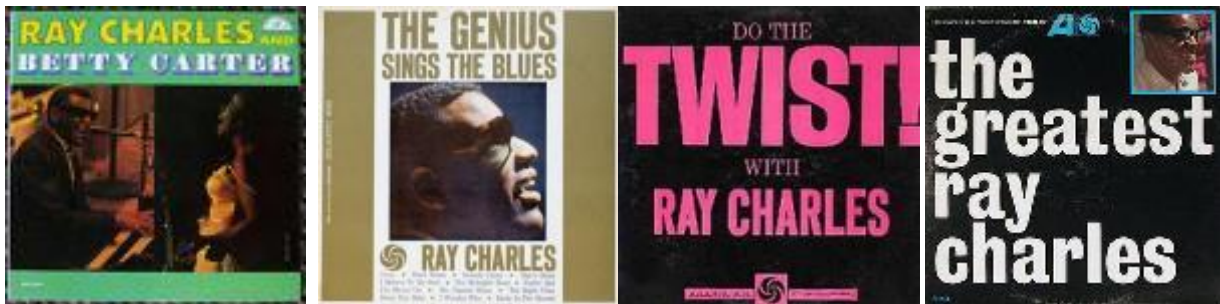
Ray Charles At Newport – Atlantic 1289 (October 1958), Yes Indeed! – Atlantic 8025 (October 1958, reissued in 1961); Fathead: Ray Charles presents David Fathead Newman – Atlantic 1304 (August 1959, with Ray on the piano)



What'd I Say – Atlantic 8029 (September 1959), The Genius of Ray Charles – Atlantic 1312 (October 1959), Ray Charles In Person – Atlantic 8039 (May 1960), The Genius Hits The Road – ABC-Par 335 (July 1960)



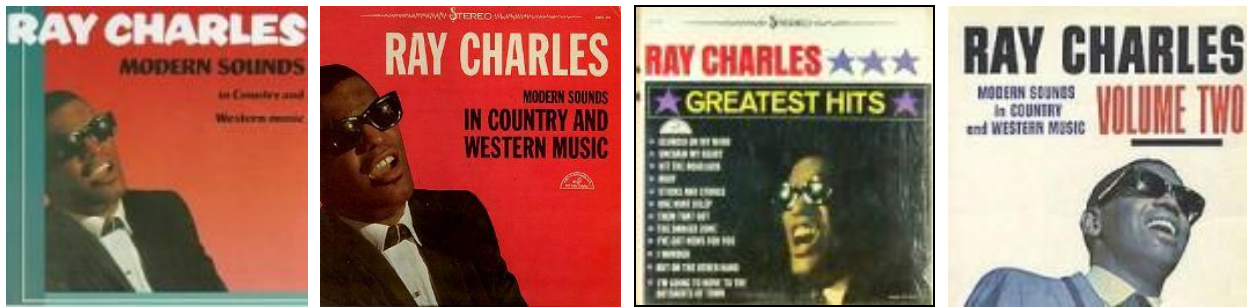
Dedicated To You – ABC-Par 355 (January 1961), Soul Meeting: Ray Charles/Milt Jackson – Atlantic 1360 (February 1961), Genius+Soul=Jazz – Impulse A-2 (ABC-Par subsidiary label, February 1961), The Genius After Hours: Ray Charles Plays – Atlantic 1369 (June 1961)



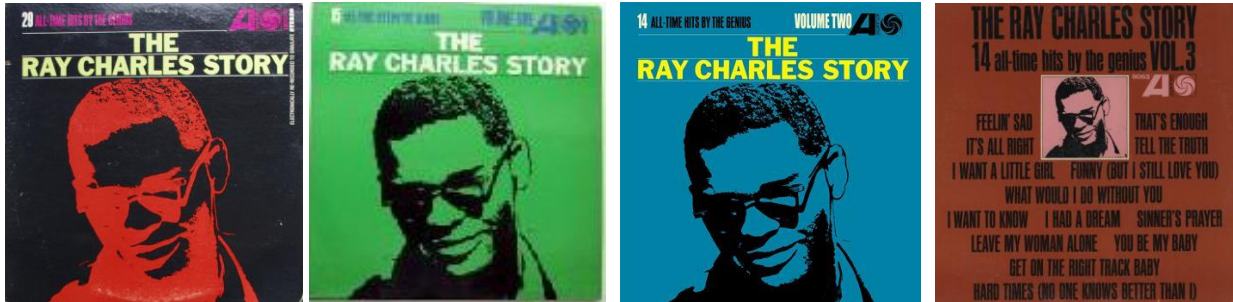
Ray Charles and Betty Carter – ABC-Par 385 (June 1961), The Genius Sings The Blues – Atlantic 8052 (September 1961), Do The Twist! with Ray Charles – Atlantic 8054 (November 1961) and its new cover The Greatest Ray Charles (1963)

RAY CHARLES' Original LPs 1962-1966 plus

(Atlantic and ABC-Paramount)



Modern Sounds In Country And Western Music – ABC-Par 410 (April 1962) and its Stereo version, Ray Charles: Greatest Hits – ABC-Par 415 (ca June 1962), Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music Volume Two – ABC-Par 435 (October 1962)



The Ray Charles Story double LP - Atlantic 2-900 (July 1962) – also issued as The Ray Charles Story Volume One – Atlantic 8063 and The Ray Charles Story Volume Two Atlantic 8064 (both July 1962), The Ray Charles Story Volume 3 – Atlantic 8083 (June 1963).



Ingredients in a Recipe For Soul – ABC-Par 465 (August 1963), Sweet And Sour Tears – ABC-Par 480 (January 1964), Have A Smile With Me – ABC-Par 495 (June 1964), The Ray Charles Story Volume 4 – Atlantic 8094 (June 1964).



The Great Hits of Ray Charles Recorded on 8-track Stereo – Atlantic SD-7101 (June 1964). Ray Charles Live In Concert – ABC-Par 500 (January 1965) Country & Western meets Rhythm and Blues – ABC-Par 520 (August 1965) and its new cover Together Again (also numbered T-90847 – issued 1966/67),



Crying Time – ABC-Par 544 (January 1966), Ray's Moods – ABC-Par 550 (July 1966), Ray Charles: A Man And His Soul - ABC 590X (2-set compilation LP issued early 1967 - one LP Atlantic recordings), The Best of Ray Charles – Atlantic SD-1543 (February 1970), Ray Charles Live – Atlantic 2-503 (2-set 2SD-503 May 1973) (reissued with one previously unused bonus track, "Swanee River Rock", on CD 81732 in July 1987 (contains tracks from "At Newport" and "In Person" - 16 tracks), A Life In Music – Atlantic/Deluxe AD 5-3700 (5-LP-box October 1982); Alternate covers of The Ray Charles Story Volumes 3 and 4 and the total of four on one 4LP-set 1966 (Italy). Note: 12 of Ray's ABC-Paramount LPs were reissued in 1967 on ABC (no Paramount).



The Cookies & The Raelets

The Cookies & The Raelets



The Cookies were formed in Brooklyn, New York late 1953 and consisted of Dorothy Jones, Darlene McCrea and Dorothy's cousin, Beulah Robinson (or Robertson, who actually sang lead on their early hits). Beulah was replaced in around early 1956 by Margie Hendricks (later often spelt Hendrix). Pat Lyles may have joined around that time (or possibly even earlier - in reality replacing Mary Ann Fisher, and stayed until 1965). The Cookies (soon coached by Jesse Stone) recorded for Lamp and Atlantic, and also backed a.o. Chuck Willis, LaVern Baker and Ray Charles.

In 1957 Hendricks and McCrea transformed into The Raylettes (soon Raelettes or Raelets) with Doretta James (wrong for Dorothy Jones?) and Pat Lion (was that actually Lyles?) joining the new group. Mae Mosely-Lyles was in the group 1959-60. Gwendolyn Berry joined a bit earlier or (as of some sources) around 1960. She left in 1968. Ruby Roberson sang with The Raelets in 1959-60. The trio turned into a quartet and even a quintet during Charles' prime years. Darlene and Hendricks stayed with the group up to 1964. Mary Ann Fisher was not a Cookie/Raelet but a solo singer with Ray 1955-1958 and prob sang on the Cookies-backed singles of Ray.

In 1961 a new Cookies group emerged, formed by Dorothy Jones (who had left the Raylettes/Raelets around 1958 or possibly even earlier) – now with newcomers Earl-Jean McCrea (Darlene's younger sister) and another of Dorothy's cousins Margaret Ross (later Williams). In 1965 Earl Jean left the group but later her older sister Darlene entered for a recording.

Heading image: Ray and his backing in the mid/late 1950s. You'll find from left Dorothy, Margie, (Ethel) "Darlene" and Pat plus possibly Earl-Jean, Gwen or Mary Ann Fisher in that image ("The Atlantic Story - What'd I Say" missed the fifth singer- and probably wrongly baptised Darlene as "Earl Jean").

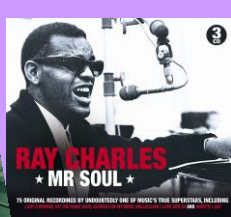
Images right: The original Cookies with Robinson, McCrae, Jones; and the early "back-up singers" of Cookies with Jesse Stone (Dorothy Jones, Margie Hendricks, and Ethel "Darlene" McCrea).



The original Cookies trio who made their recording debut for Lamp Records in 1954. Top: Beulah Robinson, Darlene McCrea, Dorothy Jones. Beulah sang lead on both sides of the Lamp release, on which they were accompanied by sax player King Curtis. Courtesy: James Kriegsmann - Schomburg Centre For Research In Black Culture, New York Jazz Museum, Collection of Darlene Jackson.



Images below: The 1962 Cookies (Dorothy Jones, Margaret Ross, and Darlene's little sister Earl-Jean McCrea). The Raelets in circa 1959 with fr. I. Pat, Gwen, Darlene and Margie; and finally Ray and his Raelets in 1960.

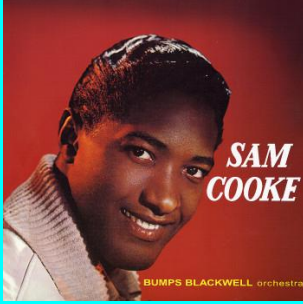

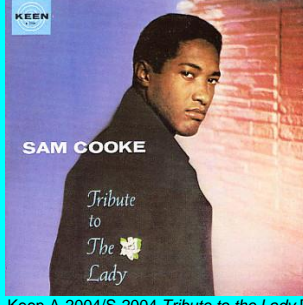








MR. SOUL - the man who invented Soul

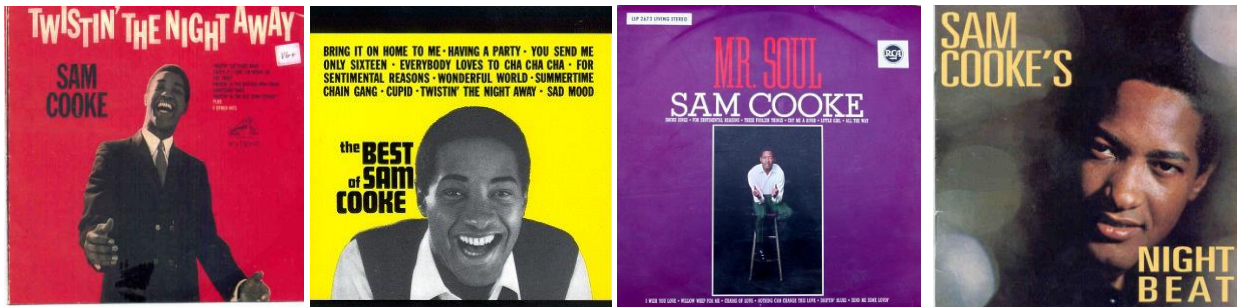


All of SAM COOKE's Keen (and Famous) Albums 1958 – 1962 (+69)

The Famous albums contain "re-organized" Keen recordings.

 <p>Keen A-2001 <i>Sam Cooke</i> [2/58]</p>	 <p>Keen A-2003 <i>Encore</i> [11/58]</p>	<p>A-2001 Sam Cooke You Send Me / The Lonesome Road / Tammy / Ol' Man River / Moonlight In Vermont / Canadian Sunset // Summertime / Around the World / Ain't Misbehavin' / The Bells Of St. Mary's / So Long / Danny Boy / That Lucky Old Sun</p> <p>A-2003 Encore Oh Look At Me Now/Someday/Along The Navaho Trail/Running Wild/Accentuate The Positive/Mary Mary Lou/When I Fall In Love/I Cover The Waterfront/My Foolish Heart/Today I Sing The Blues/The Gypsy/It's The Talk Of The Town</p>
 <p>Keen A-2004/S-2004 <i>Tribute to the Lady</i> [4/59]</p>	 <p>Keen 8-6101 <i>Hit Kit</i> [1959]</p>	<p>2004 Tribute to the Lady God Bless The Child / She's Funny That Way / I've Got A Right To Sing The Blues / Good Morning Heartache / T'Aint Nobody's Bizness (If I Do) // Lover Girl (Man) / Let's Call The Whole Thing Off / Lover Come Back To Me / Solitude / They Can't Take That Away From Me / Crazy In Love With You</p> <p>8-6101 Hit Kit Only Sixteen / All Of My Life / Everybody Likes To Cha Cha Cha / Blue Moon / Win Your Love For Me / Lonely Island // You Send Me / Love You Most Of All / For Sentimental Reasons / Little Things You Do / Let's Go Steady Again / You Were Made For Me</p>
 <p>Keen 8-6106 <i>The Wonderful World Of Sam Cooke</i> [1960]</p>	 <p>Famous F-502 <i>Sam's Songs</i> [1961]</p>	<p>8-6106 The Wonderful World of Sam Cooke Wonderful World / Desire Me / Summertime / Almost In Your Arms / That's Heaven To Me / No One // With You / Blue Moon / Stealing Kisses / You Were Made For Me / There I've Said It Again / I Thank God</p> <p>F-502 Sam's Songs Little Things You Do / Come Love / Lonesome Road / The Gypsy / That's Heaven To Me / Love You Most Of All / Canadian Sunset / Solitude / I Thank God / Danny Boy</p>
 <p>Famous F-505 <i>Only Sixteen</i> [1961]</p>	 <p>Famous F-508 <i>So Wonderful</i> [1961]</p>	<p>F-505 Only Sixteen Only Sixteen / She's Funny That Way / My Foolish Heart / So Long / Mary Mary Lou / So Glamorous / Crazy In Love With You / When I Fall In Love / Good Morning Heartache / Let's Go Steady Again</p> <p>F-508 So Wonderful Wonderful World / Summertime / Almost In Your Arms / Tammy / Talk Of The Town / You Were Made For Me / Along The Navajo Trail / No One/I Cover The Waterfront / Around The World In 80 Days</p>
 <p>Famous F-509 <i>You Send Me</i> [1962]</p>	 <p>Famous F-512 <i>Cha-Cha-Cha!</i> [1969]</p>	<p>F-509 You Send Me You Send Me / Old Man River / Ee-Yi-Ee-Yi-Oh / With You / Accentuate The Positive / Desire Me / Ain't Misbehavin' / Lucky Old Sun / Today I Sing the Blues / Lonely Island</p> <p>F-512 Everybody Likes to Cha-Cha-Cha! Everybody Likes To Cha Cha Cha / T'Aint Nobody's Bizness / Runnin' Wild / Deep River / Oh Look At Me Now // Stealin' Kisses / Someday / They Can't Take That Away From Me / Blue Moon / There I've Said It Again</p>

SAM COOKE's RCA Albums (1960 – on) (the last four are CDs)



SAM COOKE: One+ Per Year 1956-1965



1956



1957



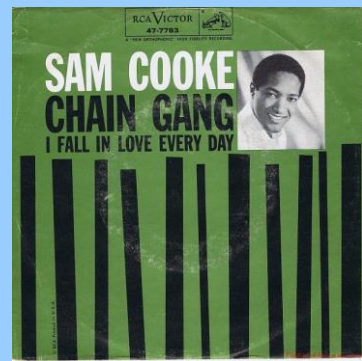
1958



1959



1960



1961



1961



1962



1962



1963



1964



1965



SAM COOKE



"Mr. Soul" - "The Man who Invented Soul" - "Mister Feeling" - The most influential of all soul singers (by many called the first), his elements reverberating in today's pop, rock, soul, blues, gospel, and reggae. At the age of 15, Sam became lead singer of the famous "teenage" gospel group The Highway QC's in Chicago until he was 19 when he was hand picked by Roy (S.R.) Crain, manager of the The Soul Stirrers, to replace the legendary R.H. Harris as lead singer. The group was stationed in Chicago since 1933 and came to Los Angeles in 1951. Sam sang with The Soul Stirrers on the label Specialty for six years until he went solo (produced by Bumps Blackwell on his new label Keen). Worked with Lou Rawls, Billy Preston, and Bobby Womack. Cooke's roadband during 1962-1964 were the Upsetters (Little Richard's original band), but in the L.A. studios it was mostly René Hall who led studio musicians (with Sam's all-time guitarist Clif White). Started his own label with J.W. Alexander (SAR) after his RCA success (recording demos on that label himself). Charter member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986.

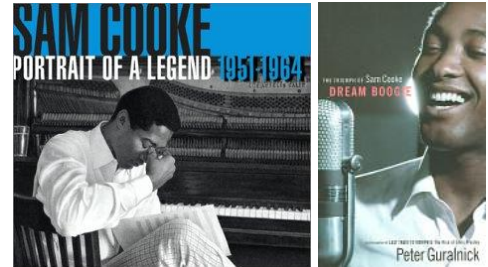
Born: Sam Cook January 22, 1931 (not 1935) in McCain, near Clarksdale, Miss.
Died December 11, 1964, Los Angeles, Calif. (shot by a motel hostess).
First recordings: L.A. March 1, 1951 with the Soul Stirrers - "Jesus Gave Me Water" for Specialty (recording as lead through April 10, 1957 for the label); first "secular solo" recordings: New Orleans December 12, 1956 Lovable and prob. I'll Come Running Back To You (remastered with overdubs in Hollywood November 1, 1957) - the first issued as Dale Cook on Specialty 596 in January, 1957, composed by Roy Hamilton's manager Bill Cook - and originally recorded August 21, 1956 in New York as a demo together with Happy In Love / I Need You Now (the latter two issued on Specialty single 667 in 1959); - and the second as Sam Cooke on Specialty 619 in November 1957. First for Keen: L.A. June 1, 1957 You Send Me (issued in September 1957).
Records for: Specialty 56-58, Keen 57-60, RCA 1960-.
First LPs (all four on Keen):
 Sam Cooke - A-2001 (1958); Encore - A-2003 (1958);
 Tribute to The Lady - A-2004 (1959); Hit Kit - 86101 (1959)
 "The Wonderful World of Sam Cooke", 86103, issued 1960 after RCA's three first LPs.



Essential CD: Portrait of a Legend 1951-1964 - ABKCO9872418 (2003) (30 great tracks) or: The Man And His Music - RCA PCD1-7127 (1986) (28 tracks similar to above)
For Collectors: The Man Who Invented Soul (4CD-box 2000) - RCA 67911-2 and: CD "With the Soul Stirrers": Specialty SPCD 7009-2 /Ace CDCHD 359 (1992)

Reading:

Dream Boogie - The Triumph of Sam Cooke: Peter Guralnick (US 2005) and
 You Send Me - The Life and Times of Sam Cooke by David Wolf with S.R. Crain, Clifton White and G. Davis Tenebaum (US, 1995)
 and The Man Who Invented Soul - Sam Cooke: Joe McEwen (US, 1977)



- R&B Top 10 Hits: (24 of 35 Top 40)**
- 1957 **You Send Me** #1 for 6w, **Pop #1**
 - 1958 **I'll Come Running Back To You** #1 for 1w, P18
 - 1958 **You Were Made For Me** #7, P27
 - 1958 **Lonely Island** #10, P26
 - 1958 **Win Your Love For Me** #4, P22
 - 1959 **Everybody Likes To Cha Cha Cha** #2, P31
 - 1960 **Wonderful World** #2, P12
 - 1960 **Chain Gang (RCA Records)** #2, **Pop #2**
 - 1962 **Twistin' The Night Away** #1 for 3w, **Pop #9**
 - 1962 **Bring It On Home To Me** #2, P13
 - 1962 **Having A Party** #4, P17
 - 1962 **Nothing Can Change This Love** #12, P12
 - 1962 **Somebody Have Mercy** #3
 - 1963 **Send Me Some Lovin'** #2, P13
 - 1963 **Another Saturday Night** #1 for 1w, **Pop #10**
 - 1963 **Frankie And Johnny** #4, P14
 - 1963 **Little Red Rooster** #2, P11
 - 1964 **Good News** #1 for 1w, P11
 - 1964 **Good Times** #1 for 2w, P11
 - 1964 **Tennessee Waltz** #6, P31
 - 1964 **Cousin Of Mine** #6
 - 1964 **That's Where It's At** #8
 - 1965 **Shake** #2, **Pop #7**
 - 1965 **A Change Is Gonna Come** #9, P31

Here's More Good Ones:

- 1957 **That's Heaven To Me** (with the Soul Stirrers)
- 1957 **Lovable** (as Dale Cook)
- 1959 **Only Sixteen** #13, P28
- 1961 **Cupid (RCA)** #20, P17
- 1961 **Baby Won't You Please Come Home**



SAM COOKE, vocals "LUCKY-SEVEN"

1. **Sam Cooke with Bumps Blackwell Orch** (featuring Earl Palmer, dms) - Los Angeles, June 1, 1957: 4013 **You Send Me** - Keen 3-4013 (#1, 18w)
2. **Sam Cooke** - New Orleans, December 12, 1956 (with overdubs in Hollywood, November 11, 1957): 619 **I'll Come Running Back To You** - Specialty 619 (#1, 10w, issued late 1957)
3. Featuring Clif White, gtr - Los Angeles, March 2, 1959: 2112 (What A) **Wonderful World** - Keen 8-2212 (#2, 10w 1960)
4. Featuring Jewell Grant, sax, René Hall, gtr - Hollywood, December 18, 1961: 7983 **Twistin' The Night Away** - RCA Victor 7983 (#1, 15w 1962)
5. Featuring Lou Rawls, secvcl with René Hall, arr and Ernie Freeman, pno - Hollywood April 26, 1962: 8036 **Bring It On Home To Me** - RCA Victor 8036 (#2, 18w)
6. Featuring Earl Palmer, dms - Hollywood, August 23, 1962: 8088 **Nothing Can Change This Love** - RCA Victor 8088 (#2, 12w)
7. Featuring Harold Battiste, pno - Hollywood, January 30, 1964: 8486 **A Change Is Gonna Come** - RCA Victor 8486 (#9, 11w 1965)





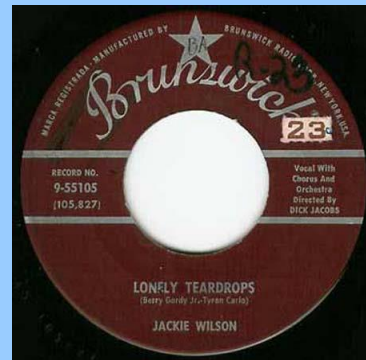
JACKIE WILSON: One+ Per Year 1957-1966



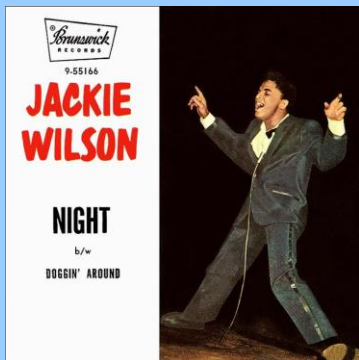
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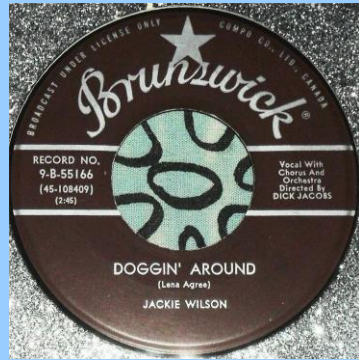
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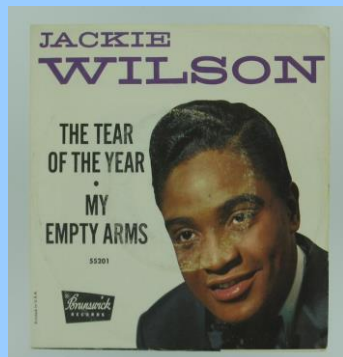
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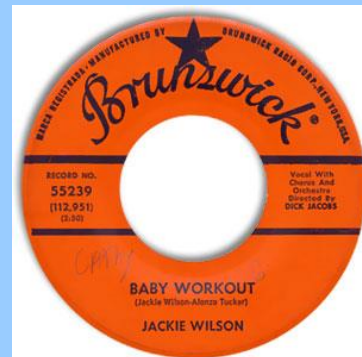
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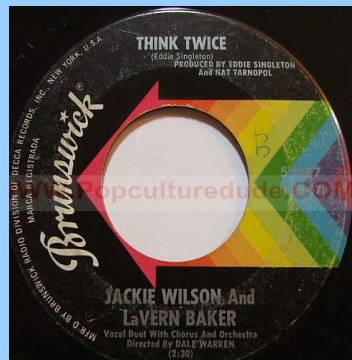
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1963



1964

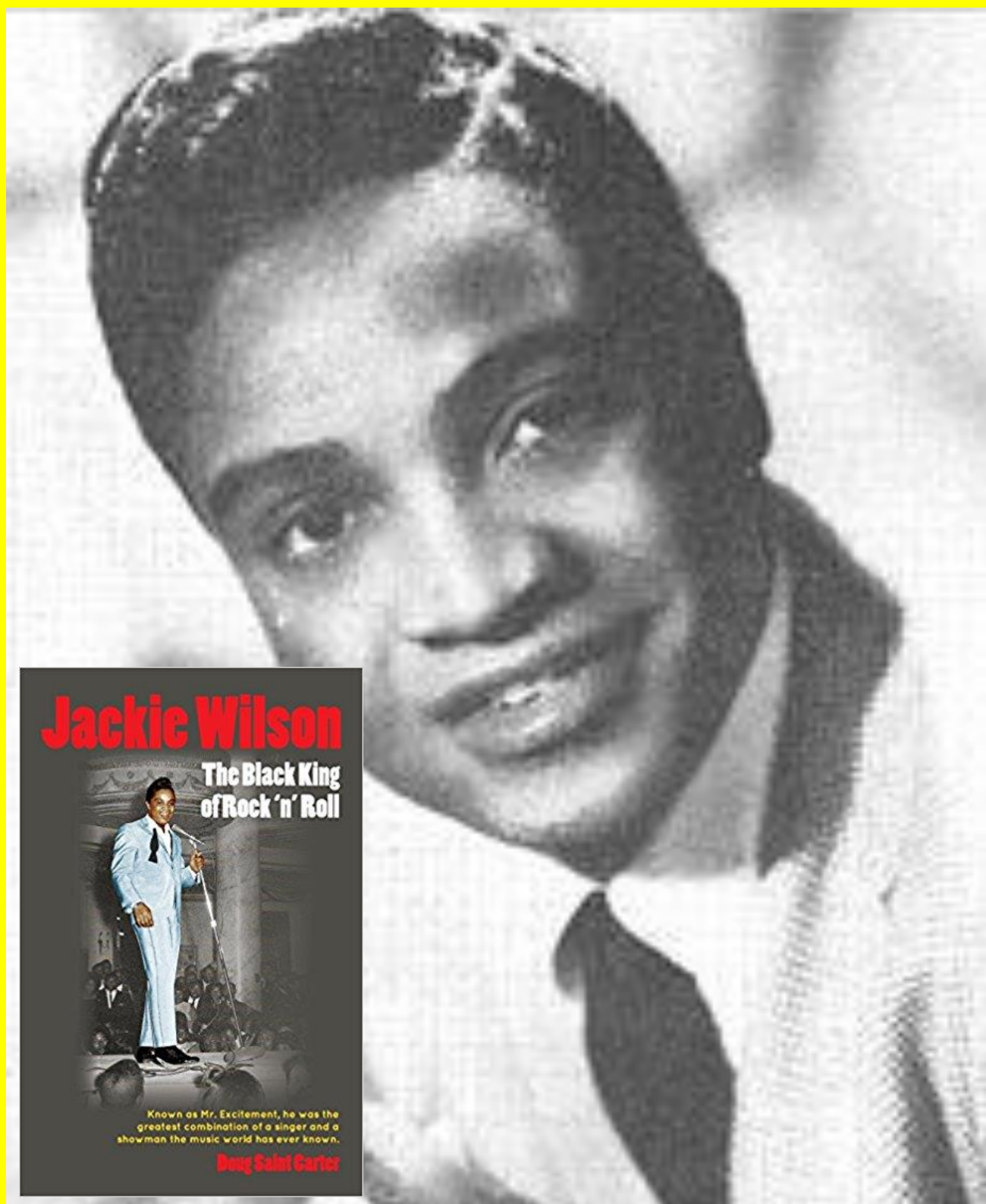


1965



1966

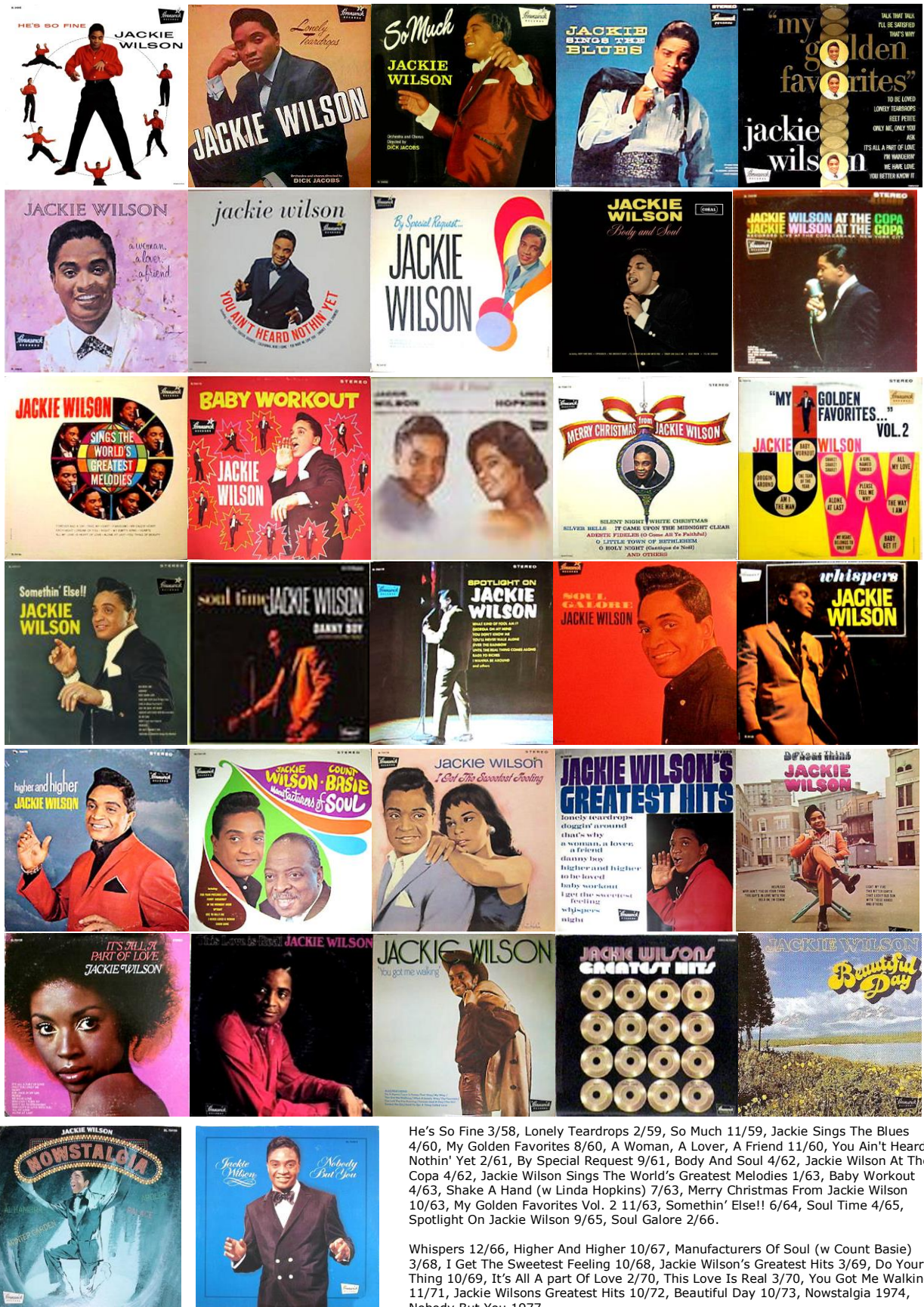
MR. EXCITEMENT – Titan of Soul



The re-written "Black Elvis", "The Black King of Rock 'n' Roll by Doug Saint Carter (US 2017)

Transitions from Rhythm to Soul – Twelve Original Soul Icons

JACKIE WILSON'S Original LPs (all on Brunswick) from March 1958 – March 1973 plus one 1974 and one 1977.



He's So Fine 3/58, Lonely Teardrops 2/59, So Much 11/59, Jackie Sings The Blues 4/60, My Golden Favorites 8/60, A Woman, A Lover, A Friend 11/60, You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet 2/61, By Special Request 9/61, Body And Soul 4/62, Jackie Wilson At The Copa 4/62, Jackie Wilson Sings The World's Greatest Melodies 1/63, Baby Workout 4/63, Shake A Hand (w Linda Hopkins) 7/63, Merry Christmas From Jackie Wilson 10/63, My Golden Favorites Vol. 2 11/63, Somethin' Else!! 6/64, Soul Time 4/65, Spotlight On Jackie Wilson 9/65, Soul Galore 2/66.

Whispers 12/66, Higher And Higher 10/67, Manufacturers of Soul (w Count Basie) 3/68, I Get The Sweetest Feeling 10/68, Jackie Wilson's Greatest Hits 3/69, Do Your Thing 10/69, It's All A part Of Love 2/70, This Love Is Real 3/70, You Got Me Walking 11/71, Jackie Wilsons Greatest Hits 10/72, Beautiful Day 10/73, Nowstalgia 1974, Nobody But You 1977.



JACKIE WILSON



"Mr. Excitement" - "The Black Elvis" – "The Complete Entertainer" – "Titan of Soul" - Original Detroit Soul singer, who never recorded for Motown, but initiated that city's famous '60s sound. Started out in 1952 as Sonny Wilson and then joined the Dominoes (succeeding lead Clyde McPhatter) and went solo again in 1957. Inspired James Brown's stage routines, and definitely Elvis Presley's and Michael Jackson's. Worked in Detroit and came to New York City to record in 1956, also worked in Chicago and Los Angeles. Was managed by Al Green (who also managed LaVern Baker up to his death in 1957). Jackie's early hits were composed by Berry Gordy and Roquel "Billy" Davis (under the pseudonym of Tyron Carlo). Later Nat Tarnopol, soon owner of Brunswick, became Wilson's manager (and producer). Eddie Singleton was also producer of some of the 1961-66 New York recordings. Dick Jacobs did most of the arrangements up to 1965 in New York, although some of Jackie's early Brunswick recordings may have been done in Detroit, including the hit "To Be Loved". "Soul Galore" was the last New York LP. From 1966 Carl Davis co-produced and arranged Jackie's recordings - now in Chicago with the famous Detroit Motown musicians moonlighting (Jackie's great album with Count Basie was done in Los Angeles). Long-time friend: original Midnighter Alonzo Tucker (who co-wrote several of Jackie's songs on the 1960 blues album including "Doggin' Around" and later "Baby Workout" and the nice male-back-up-vocal album "Somethin' Else"). Jackie collapsed from a stroke on stage at a rock 'n' roll revival show at Little Casino on September 29, 1975 in Camden, N.J. and was hospitalized (unable to communicate) for the rest of his life. Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.



¹"Talk That Talk", The First 5 Albums 1958-1960 on Jasmine 2CD JASCD 589 (2011) with 60 tracks; and ²"The Brunswick Anthology" 2CD with 40 tracks from 1957-1975 (issued 2001 and 2004).

Born: Jack Leroy Wilson Jr. June 9, 1934, Detroit, Mich.
Died January 21, 1984, Burlington hospital, New Jersey (after more than nine years of hospitalizing).
First recordings: Detroit 1952 as Sonny Wilson, Rainy Day Blues and Danny Boy - DeeGee 4000 and 4001; with Billy Ward & his Dominoes NYC June 17, 1953 You Can't Keep A Good Man Down - Federal 12139; first new solo rec. NYC July 12, 1957 Reet Petite (The Finest Girl You Ever Want To Meet) /By The Light Of The Silvery Moon - Brunswick 55024.
Records for: Brunswick 1957-1975.
First LP:
 He's So Fine – Brunswick 44042 (March, 1958).

Essential CD: The Very Best of.. - Rhino R2 71559
 or: The Brunswick Anthology (2CD) - Brunswick BICD 1001 (2001/2004)
For Collectors: Mr. Excitement! - Rhino R2 70775 (3CD 1992)
 or: The Titan of Soul - Edsel FBook 18 (3CD 1998)
 also: Reet Petite The Original Recordings - Not Now 294 (2CD 2009) featuring his first Brunswick LP plus bonus + The Dominoes and NYC 1961-1966 – Ace (2CD) CDTOP 1428 (2015) featuring great alternates and unissued tracks

Reading: Jackie Wilson - Lonely Teardrops by Tony Douglas (US and UK Routledge, 2001 and 2005) also published as The Man, The Music, The Mob (Mainstream, 2001); and Jackie Wilson - The Black Elvis by Doug Carter (US 1998)



R&B Top 10 Hits: (16 of 48 Top 40)

- 1958 To Be Loved #7, P22
- 1958 **Lonely Teardrops** #1 for 7w, **Pop #7**
- 1959 That's Why (I Love You So) #2, P13
- 1959 I'll Be Satisfied #6, P20
- 1959 **You Better Know It** #1 for 1w, P37
- 1959 Talk That Talk #3, P34
- 1960 **Doggin' Around** #1 for 3w, P15
- 1960 Night #3, **Pop #4**
- 1960 **A Woman, A Lover, A Friend** #1 for 4w, P15
- 1960 Am I The Man #10, **Pop #8**
- 1961 The Tear Of The Year #10
- 1961 I'm Comin' On Back To You #9, P19
- 1963 **Baby Workout** #1 for 3w, **Pop #5**
- 1966 Whispers (Gettin' Louder) #5, P11
- 1967 (Your Love Keeps Lifting Me) Higher And Higher #1 for 1w, **Pop #6**
- 1970 This Love Is Real #9



Some of the Other Gems: Groovin'

- 1957 **Reet Petite** (The Finest Girl You Ever Want To Meet)
- 1961 My Empty Arms #25, **Pop #9**
- 1962 Stormy Weather
- 1963 Shake A Hand (with Linda Hopkins)
- 1964 **Danny Boy**
- 1964 Big Boss Line (from Somethin' Else LP)
- 1964 **Groovin' (Somethin' Else)**
- 1964 Give Me Back My Heart (Somethin' Else)
- 1964 Squeeze Her - Tease Her (Somethin' Else)
- 1964 Be My Girl (Somethin' Else)
- 1964 Baby (I Just Can't Help It) (Somethin' Else)
- 1964 She's All Right
- 1965 Think Twice (with LaVern Baker)
- 1966 Brand New Thing
- 1969 **Chain Gang** (with Count Basie)



The Dominoes – Wilson far right

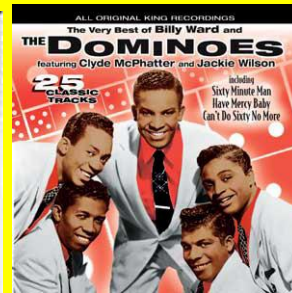


JACKIE WILSON, vocals "BIG-SIX"

1. **Jackie Wilson** with Dick Jacobs Orchestra - New York, July 12, 1957: 55024 **Reet Petite** (The Finest Girl You Ever Want To Meet) - Brunswick 55024
2. **Jackie Wilson** (with rhythm acc.) – poss. Detroit, January 7, 1958: 54042 **Danny Boy** - Brunswick 54042 (flip of "Right Now")
3. with **Dick Jacobs Orchestra** - New York, October 15, 1958: 55105 **Lonely Teardrops** - Brunswick 55105 (#1, 22w)
4. **Jackie Wilson** - New York, December 21, 1959: 55166 **Doggin' Around** - Brunswick 55166 (#1, 19w 1960)
5. - New York, February 15, 1960: 55167 **A Woman, A Lover, A Friend** - Brunswick 55167 (#1, 13w)
6. Featuring Sonny Sanders, arr, Ronnie Bright, bassvcls, Alonzo Tucker, co-arr; Dick Hyman, pno; Panama Francis, dms; Dick Jacobs, dir. - New York, January 9, 1963: 55239 **Baby Workout** - Brunswick 55239 (#1, 14w)

Jackie Wilson with Billy Ward and His Dominoes (ca September 1952 – ca January 1957)

Jackie joined Billy Ward's Dominoes around September 1952 but did not sing on records until Clyde had left. He started recording with them on June 17, 1953. "You Can't Keep A Good Man Down" was issued in July on Federal. In October came the minor hit "Rags To Riches" on King. In November 1954 the Dominoes moved to Las Vegas (see image below). Jackie was fired by Ward around January 1957. Among his last recordings with them were "St. Therese of the Roses" on Decca in June 1956 (recorded in April), "St. Louis Blues" recorded for Decca probably in January 1957, and "September Song" issued on the same label late that year (the later records were more like Jackie Wilson solos than group harmony). Prentice Moreland and soon Milton Grayson replaced James Van Loan around 1956 in the Jackie Wilson line-up of Ward's Dominoes.





1954

Milton Merle Cliff Givens Billy Ward James Van Loan Jackie Wilson



Strike Oil—One good deed deserves another, so Colorado oil millionaire William H. Teel rewards Billy Ward and members of his Dominoes quartet with shares in one of his Texas oil gushers that will give them a monthly dividend of \$100 for the next two years. The famed group had just staged a benefit affair, while they were appearing at the swank Wolhurst Country Club in Denver, to raise money for an operation for veteran jazz trumpet player Billy Butterfield, who is destitute.



WITH SYD NATHAN, OWNER OF FEDERAL

JAMES VAN LOAN

BILLY WARD

JACKIE WILSON

CLIFF GIVENS MILTON MERLE



Billy Ward

DOMINOES 1954

Jackie Wilson

James Van Loan

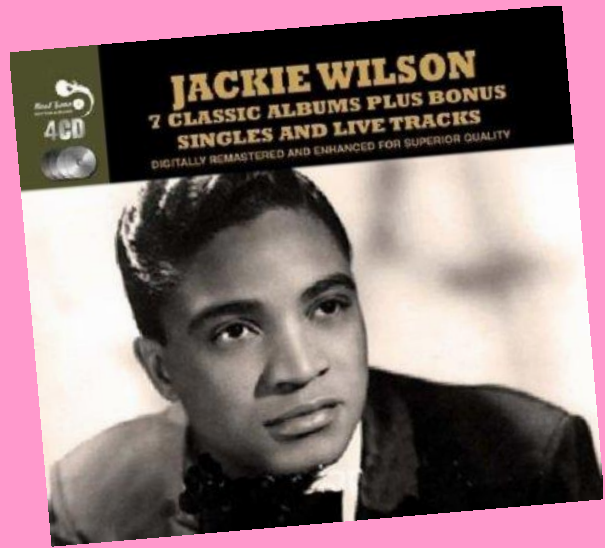
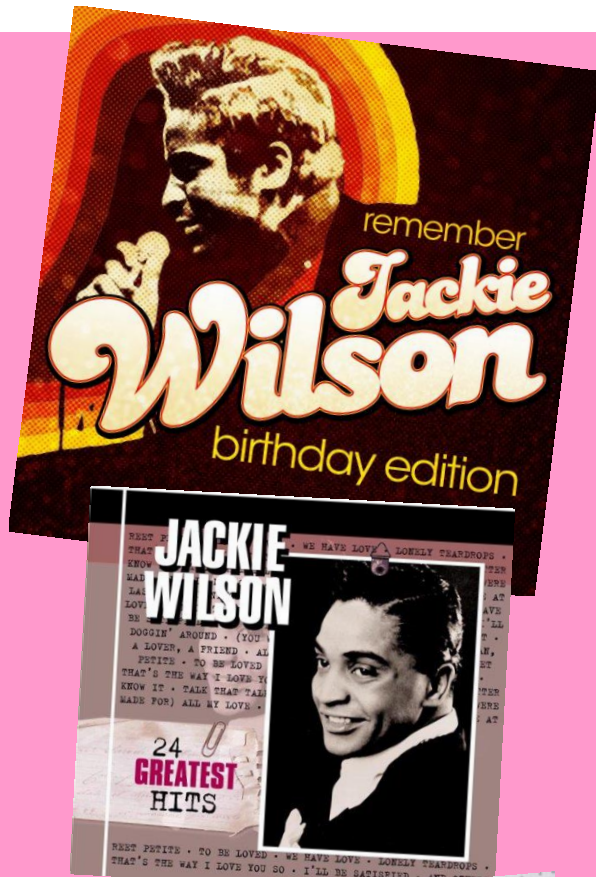
Cliff Givens

Milton Merle



Dominoes Sign—Bill Miller (seated right), boss of Las Vegas' famed Sahara Hotel, signs Billy Ward (also seated) and his Dominoes to a two-year pact which will make the fabulous Wardmen "one of the highest-paid vocal groups in show business." Miller discloses that the quintet will receive \$5,000 per week when they next appear at the Sahara in November and that "the Dominoes' salary will double before the contract expires." Standing left to right: Cliff Givens, Jackie Wilson, Jimmy Van Loan and Milton Merle.





Some of several new CDs

Get the one at left here (2CD-set on Ace, UK)



Contains 16-page booklet including rare photos, vintage memorabilia, detailed liner notes and more.

JACKIE WILSON
He's So Fine + Lonely Teardrops The Definitive Remastered Edition

01. EXCITEMENT 2:24
 02. HE BE LOVER 2:30
 03. COME BACK TO ME 2:15
 04. IF I COULDN'T HAVE YOU 1:44
 05. ALL I CAN DO IS LOVE YOU 2:40
 06. BEET PETER 2:44
 07. IT'S TOO BAD WE HAD TO SAY GOODBYE 2:20
 08. YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME 2:41
 09. I'M WARRIOR 2:43
 10. HEAR HIM 2:22
 11. SHAKY BUT 3:28
 12. IT'S SO FINE 3:11

13. LONELY TEARDROPS 3:04
 14. LOVE TIME 3:10
 15. THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU 2:25
 16. ON THE BEACH OF EXOTICISM 3:32
 17. THE NAME IS NOT ON ME 1:54
 18. SOMETHING TO ASK ME 3:11
 19. THE BETTER KNOW 3:28
 20. BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILENT MOON 2:21
 21. SINGING ALONG 3:14
 22. LOVE IS ALL 2:40
 23. MY SWEET LOVE 2:24
 24. HEAR A-SHOUT 3:11

BONUS TRACKS
 25. ILL BE WAITING 2:28
 26. THE MAGIC OF LOVE 2:10
 27. SHINE ON ME 3:11
 28. I'M A MAN 3:27
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MR. EXCITEMENT
 Jackie Wilson was an electrifying showman and one of the best rhythm & blues singers and performers of all time. His athletic stage moves influenced everyone from Elvis Presley to James Brown, and his astounding vocal range included high-pitched whooping to operatic soaring, and everything in between. Known as "Mr. Excitement", Jackie Wilson's unique singing style combined a passionate energy with infectious energy. He was a very important influence on the soul era that followed his prominence in the music business. He was also a significant contributor in building early rock & roll into the commercial success that it became. This release compiles two of his complete Brunswick LPs, *He's So Fine* (1958) and *Lonely Teardrops* (1959). Both albums contain some of his greatest studio recordings from the beginning of his career, including well-known hits such as "Heel Flippin'" "Lonely Teardrops" and "You Better Know It". This special collection edition also includes 8 bonus tracks from the same period. There's no better proof of Jackie Wilson's talents than these consistent, stylish and exuberant remastered recordings.

"No other singer of his generation so perfectly combined James Brown's rough, sexy style and Sam Cooke's smooth, gospel-influenced pop." *Rolling Stone* magazine

★★★★½ by *All Music Guide*

JACKIE WILSON
 vocals on all tracks, plus The Dells, Jackie DeLoatch and Chama, featuring Jimmie Hendricks, The Impressions, The Chantays, Dick Hyman piano, Don Lammond (strings), Jimmy Hayes.

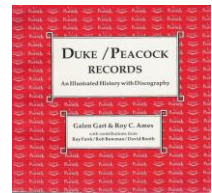
Recorded in New York City, between 1953 and 1959. Produced by Dick Jacobs.

CD 1 (10 tracks) 59:30
 CD 2 (10 tracks) 59:30
 Total Time: 1:58:00

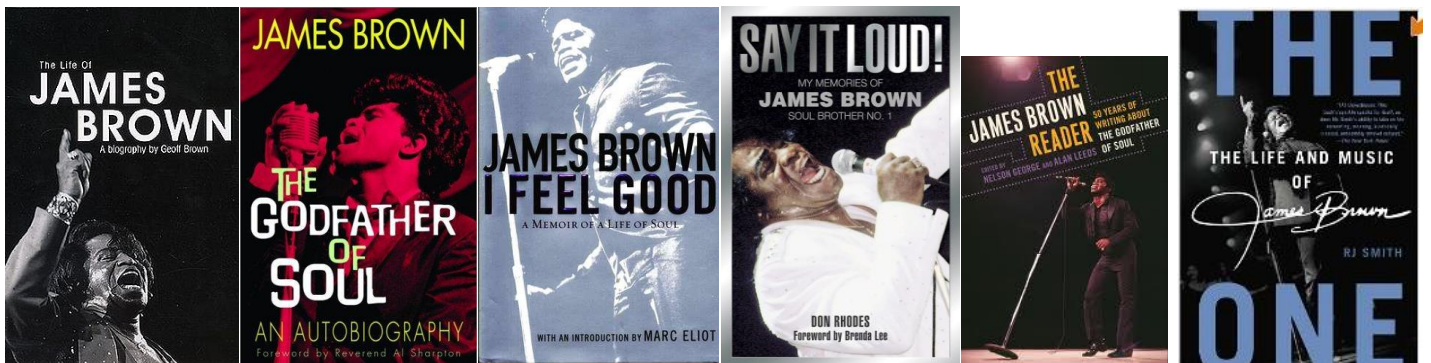
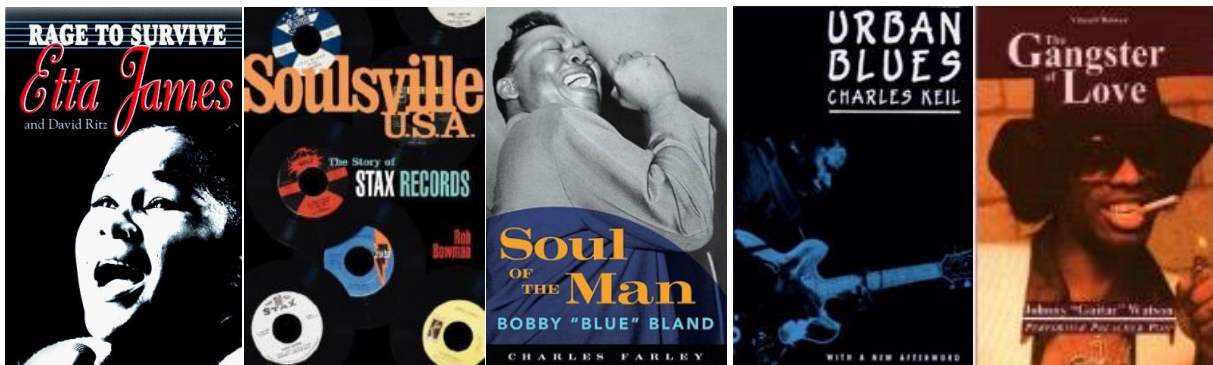
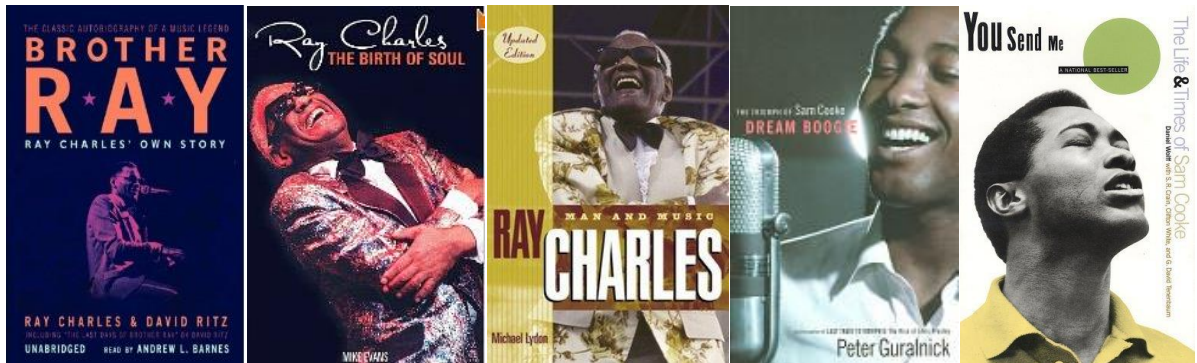
HOOF DOO! THE MUSIC OF JACKIE WILSON

CD 1 (10 tracks) 59:30
 CD 2 (10 tracks) 59:30
 Total Time: 1:58:00

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Biographies (and other books) on some of the original Soul Icons



THE PRINCE OF THE BLUES – Soul Inventor

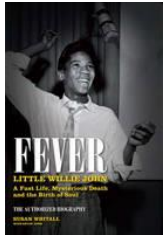




LITTLE WILLIE JOHN



"The Prince of the Blues" – "Soul Inventor" - Intensive and "feverish" young Detroit soul/blues ballad singer. Moved with family to Detroit from Arkansas in 1941. Regarded as a highly qualitative soul pioneer (especially by James Brown). His band of 1958, the Upsetters (Little Richard's old band) was taken over by Sam Cooke later. Said to have used John Davenport as a composer pseudo for "Fever", although it is more likely an Otis Blackwell pseudo - possibly with John as co-writer. Mostly stationed in Detroit but also worked in NYC and moved to Miami, Florida in later years. Willie was jailed for manslaughter (knife-killing in a bar fight) in 1966. Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996.



Born: William Edward John. November 15, 1937, Lafayette (not Cullendale), Arkansas. **Died** of heart attack on May 26, 1968, Washington State Penitentiary, Walla Walla, Washington.
First recordings: As Willie John Detroit December, 1953 Mommy What Happened To The Christmas Tree - Prize; As Little Willie John NYC June 27, 1955 All Around The World - King 4818.
Records for: King 55-63.
First LP:
 Fever- King LP 396-564 (1956)



R&B Top 10 Hits: (9 of 17 Top 40)
 1955 All Around The World #5
 1956 Need Your Love So Bad #5
 1956 Home At Last #6
 1956 Fever 5w at #1, P24
 1956 Letter From My Darling #10
 1958 Talk To Me, Talk To Me #5, P20
 1960 Heartbreak (It's Hurtin' Me) #6
 1960 Sleep #10, P13
 1961 Take My Love (I Want To Give It All To You) #5



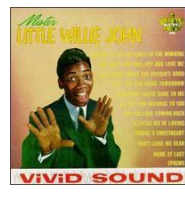
These Ones Are Good Too:
 1956 Suffering With The Blues
 1959 Leave My Kitten Alone
 1960 You Hurt Me



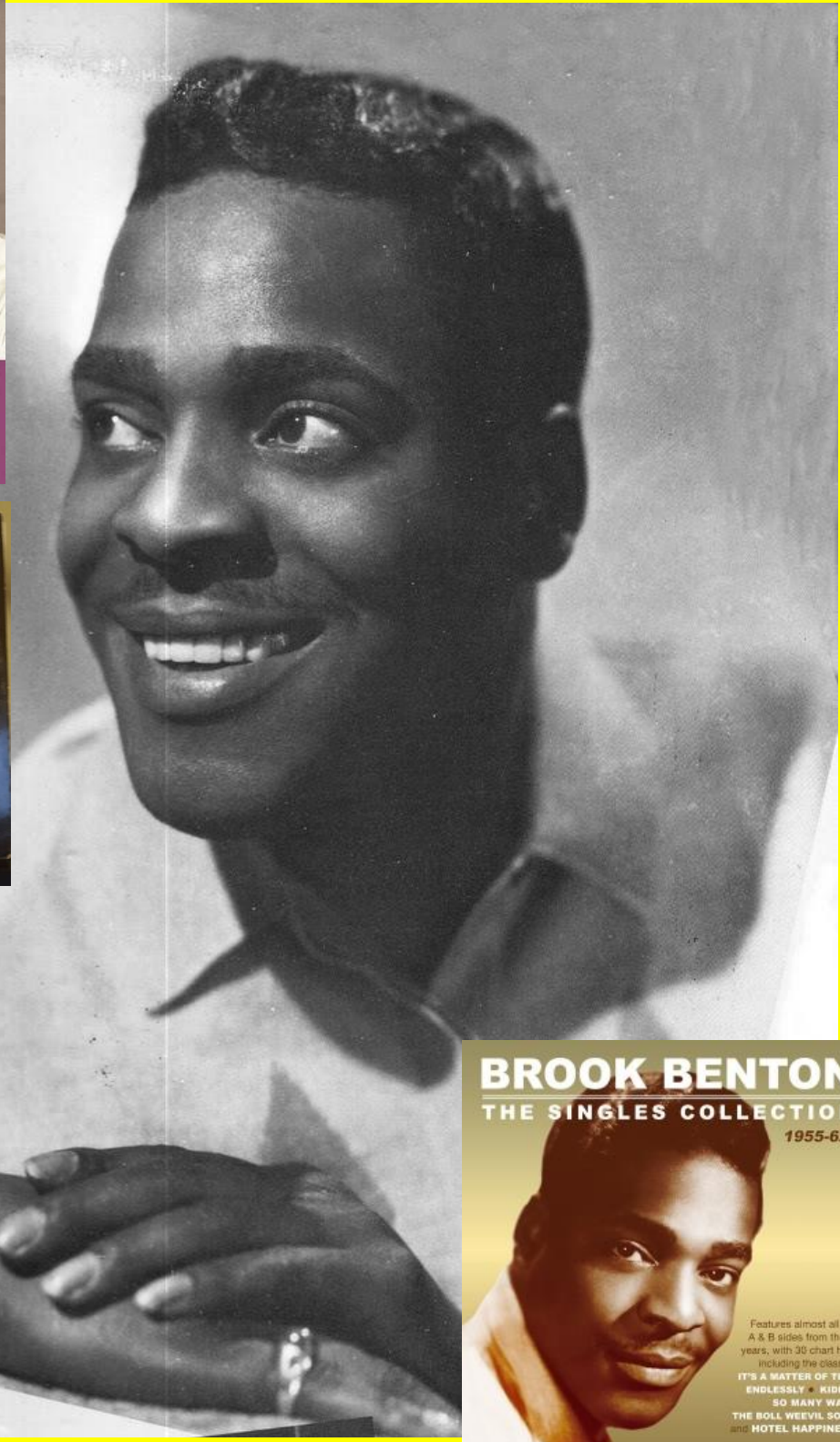
Essential CD: Fever: The Best Of..(anth) - Rhino R2 71511 (1993)
 or: The Very Best Of .. - Collectables CD 2822 (25 classic tracks) (2001)
 or Complete Hit Singles (1955-1961) – Real Gone (2CD) RGM 0046 (2012)
Reading: Fever - Little Willie John - A Fast Life, Strange Death and the Birth of Soul by Susan Whittall & Kevin John (US 2011)



John's original albums:
 1956 Fever – King LP 385-564 / LP 564
 1958 Talk To Me – King LP 596
 1958 Mister Little Willie John – King LP 603
 1960 Little Willie John In Action – King LP 691
 1961 Sure Things – King LP 739
 1961 The Sweet, the Hot, the Teenage Beat – King LP 767
 1962 Come On And Join Little Willie John – King LP 802
 1964 These Are My Favorite Songs – King LP 895
 1966 Little Willie Sings All Originals – King LP 949
 2008 Nineteen Sixty Six – Kent CDKEND (UK) 305



BROOK BENTON – the great balladeer



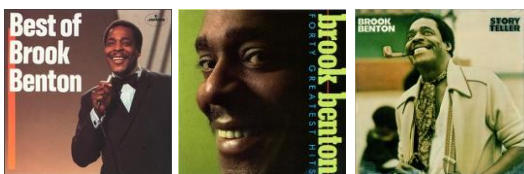
Inserted: There Goes That Song Again (British version of a great Benton book published in 2015), Trip 2LP 8026 (issued 1972 with 1956 demo recordings prod by Clyde Otis), and The Singles Collection 1955-62 on Acrobat 2-set ADDCD3269 with 57 classic singles from OKeh, Epic, Vik, RCA, and Mercury.



BROOK BENTON



Productive hit-maker, singer/songwriter with a deep gospel-schooled baritone - "The Nat King Cole" for the new black generation. Started as a sophisticated gospel singer with the Camden Jubilee Singers, and sang with several gospel groups, pitchin' in at various times with the The Langfordaires (recorded 1949 and 1953), The Jerusalem Stars (around 1951), and The Harlemaires. He returned to Camden and joined the the Sandmen, which he took to New York, where they signed with Okeh Records. He later wrote hits for a.o. Nat Cole and Clyde McPhatter. Became a huge star during the early '60s with producer Clyde Otis and arranger Belford Hendricks. Worked in South Carolina, NYC 48, Nashville 62, Muscle Shoals (Alabama), NYC again.



Born: Benjamin Franklin Peay September 19, 1931 (not Sept 17, 1932) in Lugoff near Camden, South Carolina.
Died of complications from spinal meningitis May 9, 1988 in NYC.
First recordings: December 15, 1949 with Bill Langford's Langfordaires for Columbia; (probably with Jerusalem Stars 1951 and possibly with the Golden Gate Quartet in 1953); with the Bill Langford Quartet May 19, 1953 for RCA; first recordings with The Sandmen December 14, 1954 Somebody To Love - Okeh 7052; first solo recording May 26, 1955 Ooh on Okeh 7058 (featuring the Sandmen). First recordings for Mercury already in August 1955 - It's Just A Matter Of Time and in April 1956 So Many Ways and Endlessly - the



first Mercury recording were not issued until late 1958. Benton was contracted to RCA-Victor after his first Mercury recordings: If Only I Had known on RCA 564 (recorded June 5, 1957) in New York; and Million Miles From Nowhere for Vik (recorded November 14, 1957). First new recordings for Mercury New York early 1959 for the album It's Just A Matter Of Time.

Records for: Okeh 54, Epic 55-56, RCA-Vik 57-58, Mercury 59-65, RCA 65-66, Reprise, Cotillion 69-71, Stax, All Platinum, Olde World 79.

First LPs:
 It's Just A Matter Of Time – Mercury MG-20421 (early 1959)
 Brook Benton At His Best – Epic LN 3574 (mid 1959)

Essential CD:
 The Best Of Brook Benton - Polygram/Mercury 830772-2 (1987)
 or: Endlessly - The Best of. - Rhino RHCD 75324 (1998) or
 The Singles Collection 1955-62 - Acrobat 2-set ADDCD 3269 (2018)
CD For Collectors: Forty Greatest Hits (2CD) – Polygram/Mercury 836755-2 (1990) and The Silky Smooth Tones of Brook Benton - Jasmine (2CD) JASCD 687 (2011)
Reading: There Goes That Song Again by Herwig Gradischnig & Hans Maitner (2009 & 2015) (with lots of photos and discography) – later in English 434 pages).



The Sandmen, Brook far right.



Brook Benton and Dinah Washington

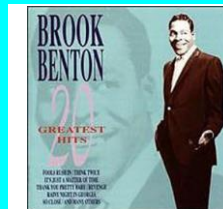
Benton's pre-Mercury singles

- Bill Landford & The Landfordaires**
 Columbia 30186 and 30203 Touch Me Jesus – You Ain't Got Faith and Run On For A Long Time – Troubled, Lord I'm Troubled 1 and 10/1950
Bill Landford Quartet (featuring Peay singing lead)
 RCA Victor 20-5351 and 5459 The Devil Is A Real Bright Boy and I Dreamed Of A City Called Heaven - 6/1953 and 10/1953
Chuck Willis & The Sandmen
 Okeh 4-7051 and 7052 Lawdy Miss Mary and I Can Tell – 2/1955 and 5/1955
Lincoln Chase & The Sandmen
 Columbia 4-40475 - That's All I Need / The Message – 3/1955
The Sandmen
 Benjamin Peay (lead), Thurmon Haynes (baritone), Walter Springer (second tenor) and Adriel McDonald (bass)
 Okeh 4-7052 - When I Grow Too Old To Dream / Somebody To Love – 4/1955 (arranger and orchestra leader Quincy Jones)
Brook Benton* & The Sandmen
 Okeh 4-7058 - Ooh / The Kentuckian Song* - 8/1955
Brook Benton
 Okeh 4-7065 - Bring Me Love / Some Of My Best Friends – 1/1956
 Epic 9177 - Love Made Me Your Fool / Give Me A Sign – 8/1956
 Epic 9199 - The Wall / All My Love Belongs To You – 2/1957
 Vik 0285 - I Wanna Do Everything For You / Come On Be Nice – 7/957
 Vik 0311 - A Million Miles From Nowhere / Devoted – 12/1957
 Vik 0325 - Because You Love Me / Crinoline Skirt – 4/1958
 Vik 0336 - Crazy In Love With You / I'm Coming Back To You – 8/1958
 RCA Victor 47-7489 - Only Your Love / If I Only Had Known – 3/1959
 Note: His first Mercury recordings from 1955/56 were issued 1/1959 and 3/1959



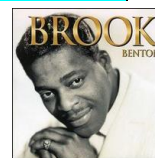
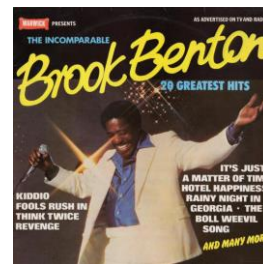
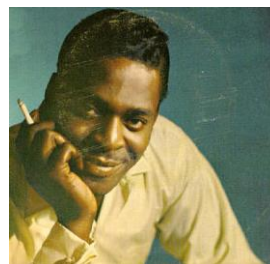
R&B Top 10 Hits: (21 of 37 Top 40)

- 1959 **It's Just A Matter Of Time** #1 for 9w, **Pop #3** (rec 8/1955)
 1959 **Endlessly** #3, P12 (rec 4/1956)
 1959 **So Close** #5 (rec 4/1956)
 1959 **Thank You Pretty Baby** #1 for 4w, P16 (rec 6/1959)
 1959 **So Many Ways** #1 for 3w, **Pop #6** (rec 4/1956)
 1960 **Baby (You've Got What It Takes)** (with Dinah Washington) #1 for 10w, **Pop #5**
 1960 **A Rockin' Good Way** (with Dinah Washington) #1 for 4w, **Pop #7**
 1960 **Kiddio** #1 for 9w, **Pop #7**
 1960 **Fools Rush In** #5, P24
 1961 **For My Baby** #2, P28
 1961 **Think Twice** #5, P11
 1961 **The Boll Weevil Song** #2, **Pop #2**
 1962 **Lie To Me** #3, P13
 1962 **Hotel Happiness** #2, **Pop #3**
 1963 **I Got What I Wanted** #4, P28
 1963 **My True Confession** #7, P22
 1964 **Going Going Gone** #5
 1964 **Another Cup Of Coffee** #4
 1964 **Too Late To Turn Back Now** #8
 1964 **A House Is Not A Home** #6
 1970 **Rainy Night In Georgia** #1 for 1w, **Pop #4**

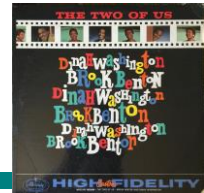


More Of His Best:

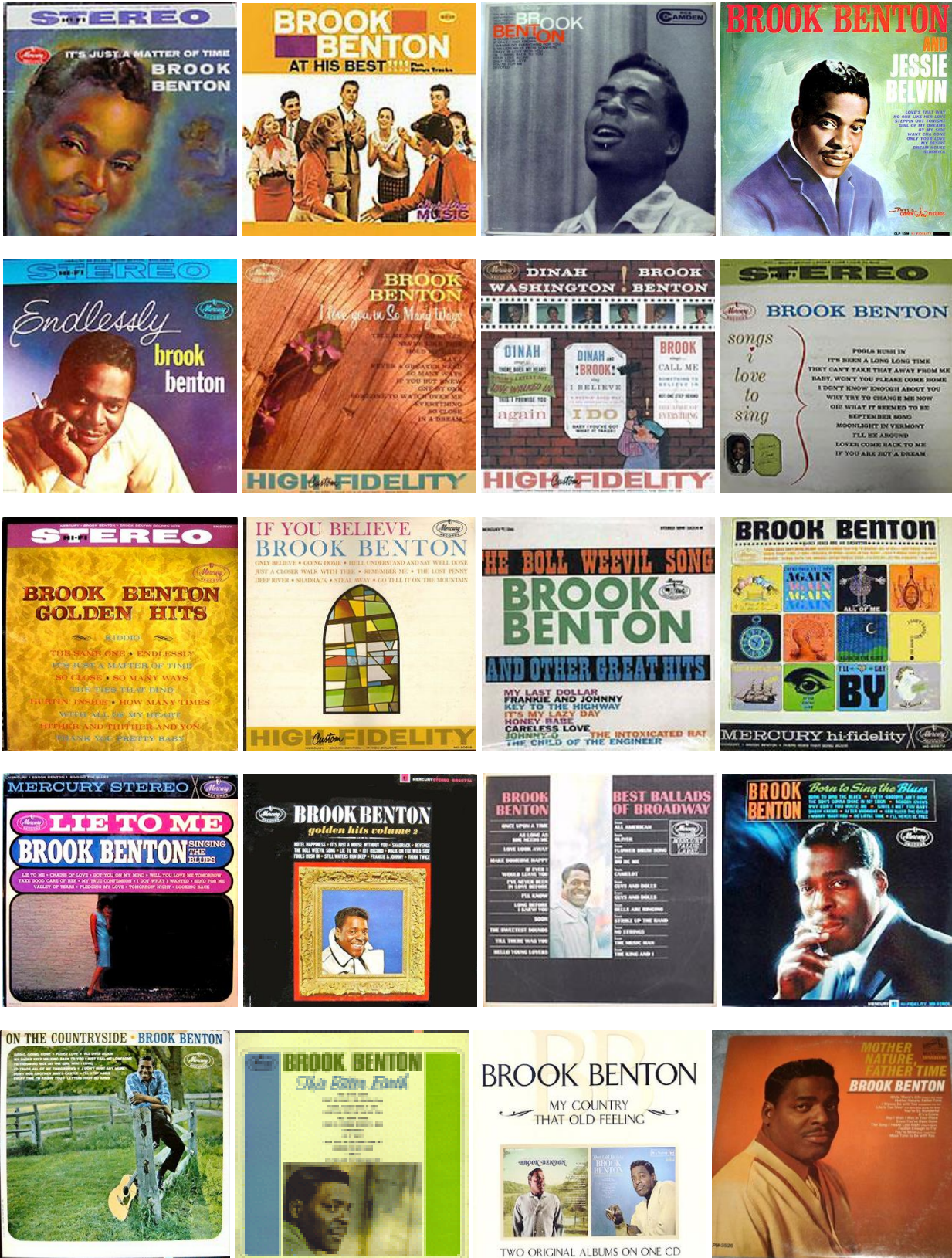
- 1957 **A Million Miles From Nowhere**
 1967 **You're The Reason I'm Living**
 1971 **Shoes** (with the Dixie Flyers) #18



BROOK BENTON's Original LPs 1959-1966



All LPs are on Mercury (the mono versions in the MG20000-series, also issued in stereo SR-60000-series) – except three on the first row – and the last three. First row: His first Mercury LP (here in stereo MG SR-60077) is followed by the Epic LP "At His Best" from 1959, released shortly after Brook's first on Mercury, followed by the RCA LP of 1960, featuring recordings done before the Mercury-contract; and the 1963 Crown LP (pre-Mercury recordings, also featuring Jessie Belvin-sic). Last row: the last two Mercury LPs of 1964, and the three RCA LPs issued in 1965 and 1966. In 1966 the "Boll Weevil" LP was reissued on the Mercury sub Wing. Above: alternate mono cover of his LP with Dinah.



The True Transition > 1960 - 1963 < Twelve Tough Top Vinyl LPs

Little Willie John: In Action – King (1960). **Jackie Wilson:** Jackie Sings The Blues – Brunswick (April 1960).
Ray Charles: Genius+Soul=Jazz – Impulse (ABC-Paramount subsidiary) (February 1961). **Sam Cooke:** My Kind Of Blues – RCA Victor (1961).
Bobby Bland: Two Steps From The Blues – Duke (1961). **Little Junior Parker:** Driving Wheel – Duke (1962).
Etta James: At Last! – Argo (1961). **Brook Benton:** Lie To Me/ Singing The Blues – Mercury (1962).
King Curtis: Soul Twist – Enjoy (1962). **James Brown and his Famous Flames:** Tour The U.S.A. - King (late 1962).
Rufus Thomas: Walking The Dog – Stax (1963). **Johnny "Guitar" Watson:** King (1963).

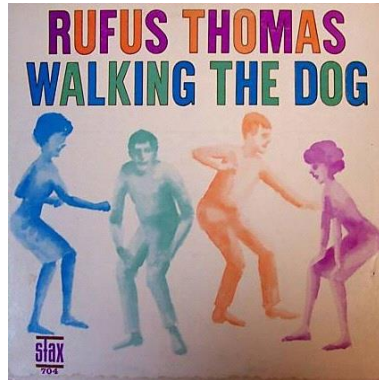
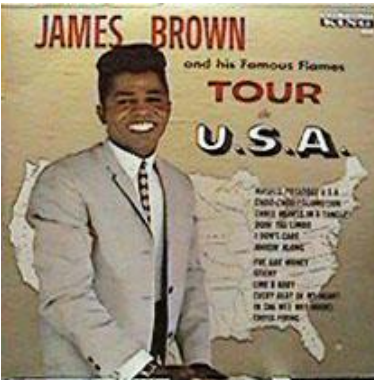
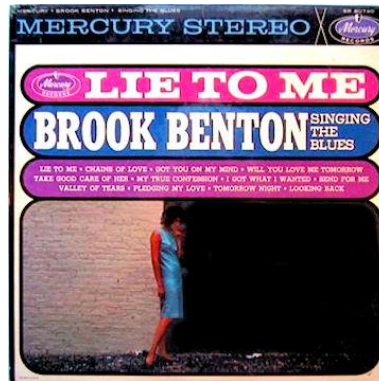
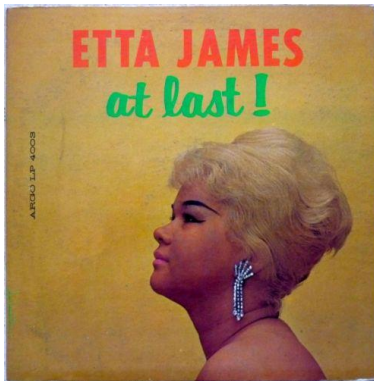
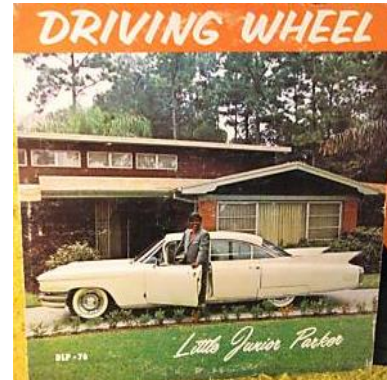
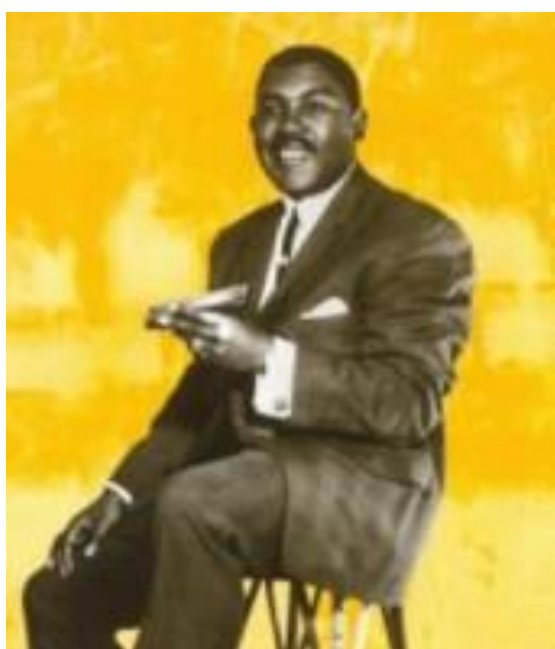
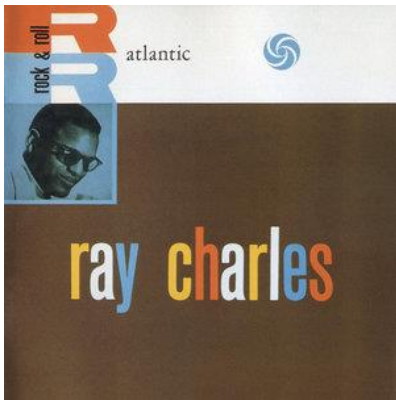


PHOTO GALLERY (in order of presentation)

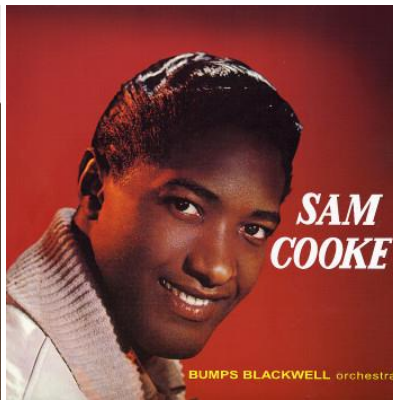




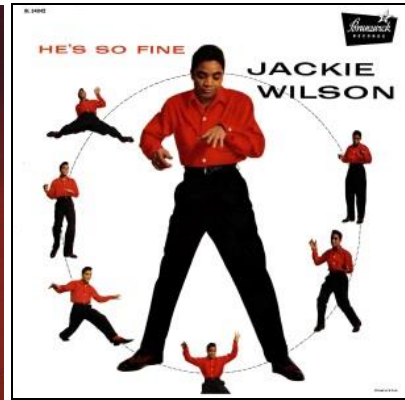
Twelve Original Soul Icons - Their very first LPs



Ray Charles; Rock & Roll – Atlantic 8006 (June 1957)



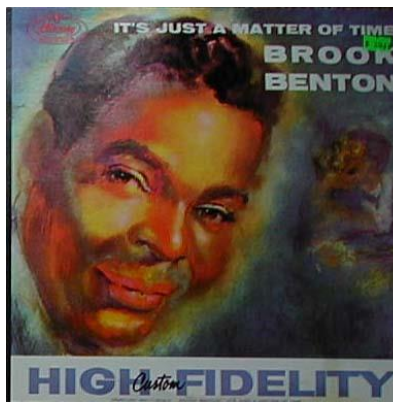
Sam Cooke – Keen LP A-2001 (1958)



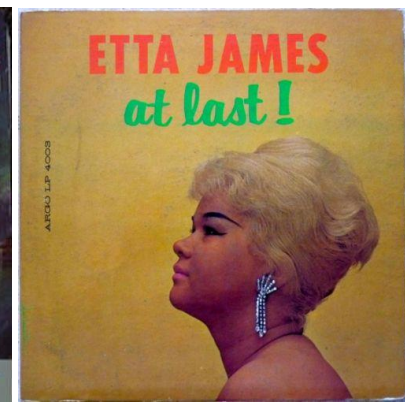
Jackie Wilson: He's So Fine – Brunswick 44042 (1958)



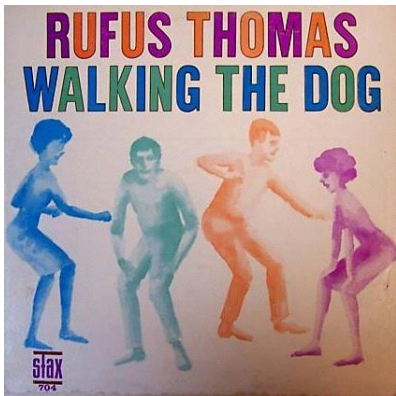
Little Willie John: Fever – King 395-564 (1956)



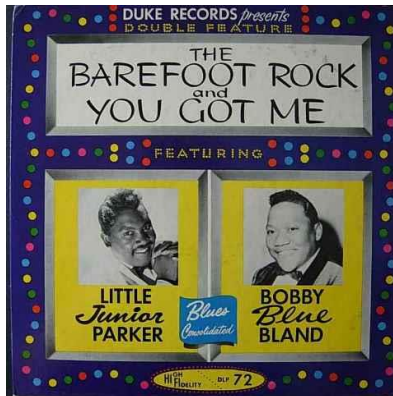
Brook Benton: It's Just A Matter Of Time – Mercury MG-20421 (1959)



Etta James: At Last! – Argo LP 4003 (1961)



Rufus Thomas: Walking The Dog – Stax ST-704 (1963)



Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland: Blues Consolidated – Duke DLP-72 (1961),

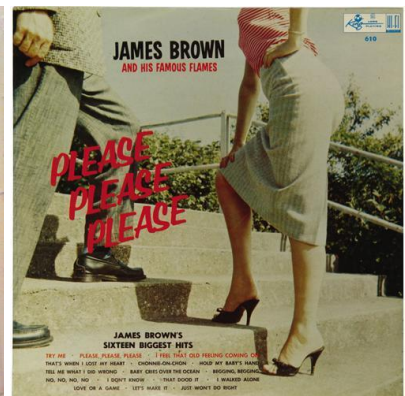
Bobby Bland: Two Steps from the Blues – Duke DLP-74 (1961), Little Junior Parker: Driving Wheel – Duke DLP-78 (1962)



Johnny "Guitar" Watson – King 857 (1963)



King Curtis: Have Tenor Sax, Will Blow – Atco 33-113 (1959)



James Brown and his Famous Flames: Please Please Please – King 610 (1958)

Preview of the True R&B Pioneers & of the Predecessors of the Soul Explosion

The four first volumes of "The R&B Pioneers" have been heavily concentrated on the 1950s – the coming two volumes will cover the very early years of Rhythm & Blues, and the 1960s.



THE WOMAN - Miss Dynamite: the Matriarch of Soul



ETTA JAMES: A True Soul Icon on 

<http://www.hip-oselect.com/>

Etta James: Heart & Soul / A Retrospective
The first complete, extensive overview of Etta's career (issued prior to her death).



Etta James in the studio in Chicago with the Chess Records co-founder Phil Chess, left, and the producer Ralph Bass in 1960.



1938 **2012**

For better than five decades, the great Etta James has been a musical force—a dynamo in concert; a major R&B hit-maker in the '50s, '60s, right into the '70s; a jazz Grammy® winner in the '90s; and an acknowledged influence on singers from Irma Thomas to Janis Joplin to Christina Aguilera. Throughout that time, James created a remarkably deep and diverse catalog of R&B, blues, soul, pop and jazz recordings, a 53-year catalog of powerful music that this 280-minute, 4-CD box set celebrates.

Being the first complete, extensive overview of Etta's career, "Heart And Soul" draws from her Modern, Argo, Chess, Warner Brothers, Fantasy, Island, Private Music and RCA Victor recordings, 1955 to 2008 – the last year represented by a previously unreleased recording of Rodney Crowell's chestnut "Ashes By Now."

The package begins with her first Top 10 hit, "The Wallflower, and traverses through the originals of her signature songs, classic album tracks and greatest hits, including "At Last," "W-O-M-A-N," "A Sunday Kind Of Love," "Something's Got A Hold On Me," "Tell Mama," and "I'd Rather Go Blind." The set includes two tracks from her Grammy® Award-winning *Mystery Lady* album, duets with B.B. King, the Moonglows' Harvey Fuqua, Sugar Pie DeSanto, and Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, as well as four previously unreleased tracks: "It's Here For You" from Chess in 1965; two tracks recorded for Island in 1989, a hot version of Stevie Wonder's "Higher Ground" and a funky "What's Wrong"; and a wonderful upbeat "Ashes By Now."

Accompanying this marvelous music is an extensive 60 page photo-filled booklet, featuring track by track credits and in-depth liner notes by noted roots music scribe Bill Dahl.



ETTA JAMES



"Miss Peaches" - "Miss Dynamite" - "The Matriarch of Soul" - singing R&B rave-ups, soul ballads, and raw blues in full energy. Was billed with The Peaches on the early Modern sides. Had frequent bouts with heroin addiction (especially after the break with Harvey Fuqua - of the Moonglows), cured in the late '70s. Worked in San Francisco, Los Angeles (from 1954), Cleveland (Ohio), Chicago (from 1960) and Los Angeles again (also recorded in Muscle Shoals, Alabama). Became a very important member of the blues scene of in the late 90s. Had at least three major careers: 1950s for the Bihari brothers, 1960s for the the Chess brothers on Argo Records (with the early hits arranged by Riley Hampton); and now as a super blues star. Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1993, and into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 2001.

Born: Jamesetta Hawkins (foster mother Lula Rogers) January 25, 1938, Los Angeles, Calif.
Died in Riverside, Calif on January 20, 2012.
First recording: L.A. November 25, 1954 Wallflower /Hold Me Squeeze Me - Modern 947 as Etta James and "the Peaches".
Records for: Modern 54-57, Kent 1958, Argo (Chess) 60-64, Cadet (Chess) 65-71, Chess 72-76, Warner 78.
First LP: At Last! – Argo LP 4003 (1961)

Essential CDs:

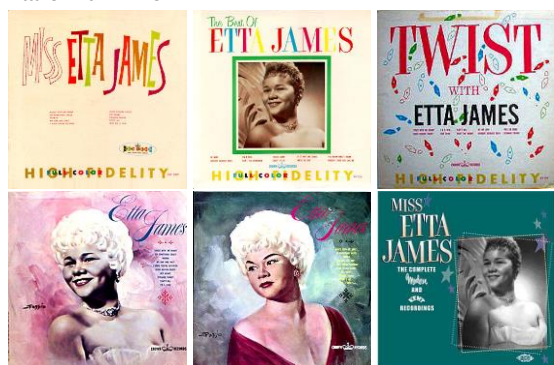
Heart & Soul: A Retrospective (4CD) – Hip-O-Select B0015545 (2011)
 R&B Dynamite - Flair/Virgin 2-91695/Ace CDCH 210 (1987)
 or: Hickory Dickory Dock - Ace CHM 680 (1998)
 and: Essential Etta James (2CD with Argo/Cadet recordings) - MCA/Chess MCD2-9341 (2010)
 or: Gold (2CD) – Hip-O Select 8127 (2007) (three Modern, 33 newer)
 or: The Chess Box 3CD - 1960-74 (2000) - MCA 088112288-2

For Collectors:

Miss Etta James: The Complete Modern and Kent Recordings (2CD) - Ace CDCHM 21085 (2005 -41 tracks) – simply terrific; The Very Best of - The Chess singles (3CD 2005) - Spectrum 9827741; Tough Woman, The Early Recordings 1955-1960 (2CD) - Jasmine 3013/4 (2011); The Complete Singles As & Bs 1955-62 (2CD) – Acrobat ADDCD3204 (2017)

Reading: Rage to Survive - The Etta James Story by Etta James and David Ritz (US, 1995)

Etta's Crown LPs:



CLP 5209 – Miss Etta James (1961)
 CLP 5234 – The Best of Etta James (1962)
 CLP-5250 – Twist with Etta James (1962)
 CLP-5360 – Etta James (1963) & stereo version CST-360

Etta's LPs on Argo:



LP 4003 – At Last! (1961)
 LP 4011 – The Second Time Around (1961)
 LP 4013 – Etta James (1962)
 LP 4018 – Etta James Sings For Lovers (1962)
 LP 4025 – Etta James Top Ten (1963)
 LP 4032 – Etta James Rocks the House (1964)
 LP 4040 – Queen of Soul (1965)
 The Argo LPs were reissued on Cadet in 1966, and the first new LPs were:
 Cadet LP 4055 - Call My Name (1967)
 Cadet LP 802 - Tell Mama (1968)



R&B Top 10 Hits: (13 of 25 Top 40)
 1955 **The Wallflower** (Roll With Me Henry) #1 for 4w
 1955 Good Rockin' Daddy #6
 1960 All I Could Do Was Cry #2, P33
 1960 **If I Can't Have You** #6, P52 (Chess label)
 (with Harvey Fuqua as Etta & Harvey)
 1960 My Dearest Darling #5, P34 (Argo label)
 1961 At Last #2, P47
 1961 Trust In Me #4, P30
 1961 **Don't Cry, Baby** #6, P39
 1962 Something's Gotta Hold On Me #4, P37
 1962 Stop The Wedding #6, P34
 1963 Pushover #7, P25
 1964 Loving You More Every Day #7
 1967 Tell Mama #10, P23



These Are Some Real Treats:

1956 **W-O-M-A-N** and **Do Something Crazy**
 1957 The Pick-Up
 1958 I Hope You're Satisfied
 (with Fuqua as Betty & Dupree)
 1960 A Sunday Kind Of Love
 1960 I Just Want To Make Love To You
 1961 Spoonful (Etta & Harvey) #12
 1967 I'd Rather Go Blind



Below: Etta James – Heart & Soul: A Retrospective – Hip O Select 4CD 76813 (issued October 2011) with her most interesting recordings 1955 onwards.



ETTA JAMES
at last!

etta JAMES
The Complete Singles
As & Bs
1955-62

Comprises all her A & B sides from the era for the Modern, Kent, Chess and Argo labels, featuring 19 Pop and R&B chart entries, including the No. 1 R&B hit 'THE WALLFLOWER' (DOLL WITH ME, 1961) and one other Top 10 hit.

ETTA JAMES
CD + DVD
Featuring
At Last
Come To Mama
I Just Wanna Make Love To You
I'd Rather Go Blind
+
Outstanding DVD
Performance From 1993

INCLUDES DVD

METROSOUND & VISION
ETTA JAMES
THE ESSENTIAL COLLECTION

Crown Prince of Dance – The Funky Man





RUFUS THOMAS

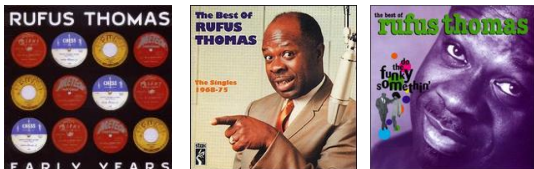


Memphis-based singer/dancer - "Crown Prince of Dance" – "The Funky Man" with roots from the Rabbit Foot Minstrels and long-time DJ experiences at WDIA in Memphis. A true Memphis Soul Man – incredibly active up to his last days - with four major career stages: 1950s for different labels, early '60s and the "dog" craze, early '70s with the "funky birds", and the revival tours of the '80s. Stationed in Memphis and in later years also worked in Los Angeles (staying loyal to Stax; with his daughter Carla being the first two on that label). Inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 2001.



Born: Rufus C. Thomas March 26, 1917, Cayce, Miss.
Died in Memphis, Tenn. December 15, 2001.
First recordings: Memphis 1950 *I'm So Worried* - Star Talent 807; May/June 1951 *Night Walkin' Blues* - Chess 1466; March 8, 1953 *Bear Cat / Walkin' In The Rain* - Sun 181.
Records for: Chess 51-52, Sun 53, Meteor 57, Satellite(Stax) 59-61, Stax/Atco 62-68, Stax 68-75.
First LP:
Walking The Dog – Stax ST-704 (1963)

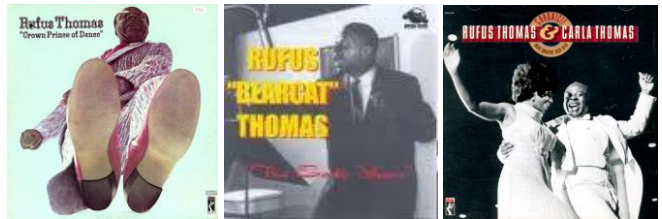
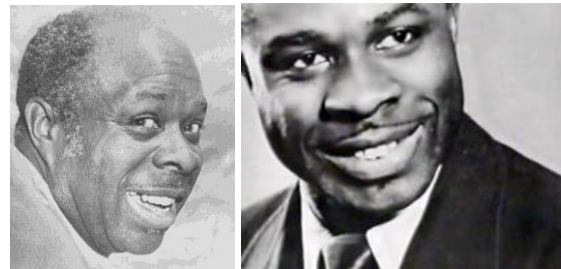
Essential CD:
Do the Funky Something-The Best of - Rhino R2 72410 (1996)
For the collector: *The Best of Rufus Thomas-The Singles 1968-75* - Stax CDSXD 094 (1997)
The Platinum Collection . Warner/Rhino 79995;(2007)
Can't Get Away From This Dog - StaxSCD-8569-2 (1991);
Before Stax - Important Artists CD 7801 (2008) 20 tracks (the complete 1950s recordings, also issued on several other public domain CDs)



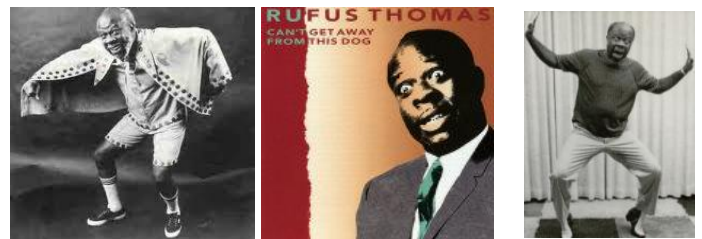
Reading: *Soulsville U.S.A.: The Story of Stax Records* - Rob Bowman (UK/US 1997)

R&B Top 10 Hits: (6 of 11 Top 40)
 1953 *Bear Cat* (as *Rufus Thomas, Jr.*) #3
 1963 *Walking The Dog* #4, **Pop #10**
 1964 *Jump Back* #6
 1970 *Do The Funky Chicken* #5, P28
 1971 **(Do The) Push And Pull** #1 for 2w, P25
 1971 *The Breakdown* #2, P31

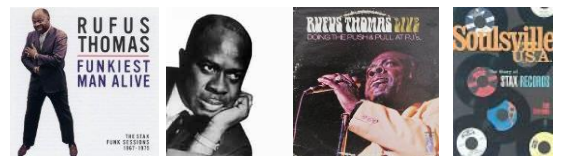
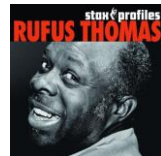
Carla Thomas was Satellite's (Stax) first star in 1960, hitting R&B #5 with *Gee Whiz (Look At His Eyes)*, issued on Atlantic in January, 1961.

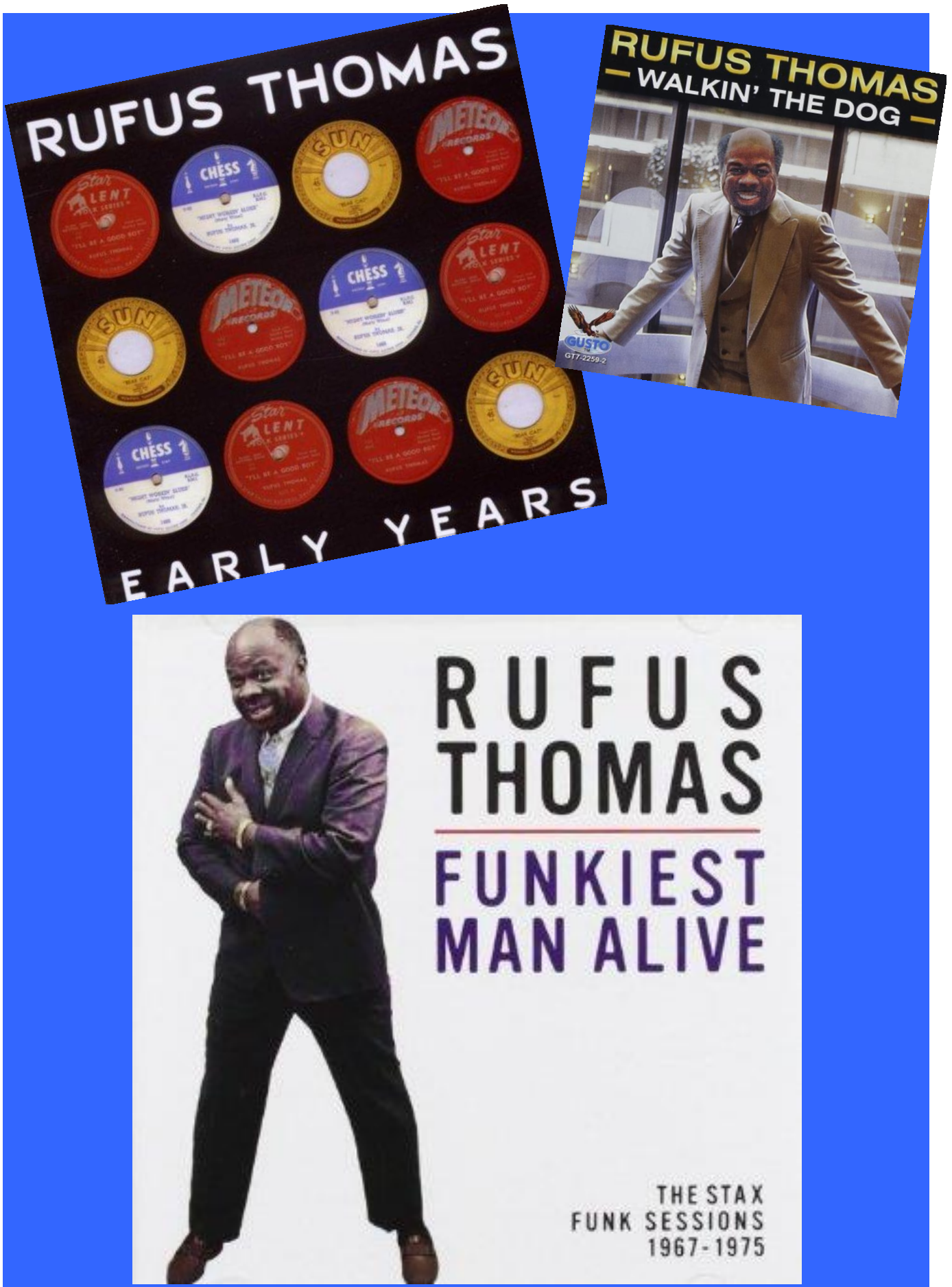


Listen to These:
 1951 *No More Doggin' Around*
 1960 *'Cause I Love You So* (by *Carla & Rufus*)
 1961 *Did You Ever Love A Woman*
 1962 *The Dog* #22, P87
 1964 *The Memphis Train*
 1968 *Funky Mississippi*
 1971 *Do The Funky Penguin* #11, P44
 1974 *Boogie Ain't Nuttin' (But Gettin' Down)*



Rufus Thomas - Great Early Stax Albums
 1963 *Walking The Dog* – Stax/Atlantic ST-704
 1970 *Do The Funky Chicken* – STS 2028
 1971 *Doing the Push And Pull at P.J.'s* – STS 2039
 1972 *Did You Heard Me* – STS 3004
 1974 *Crown Prince of Dance* – STS 3008
 1991 *Funky Chicken* – ST-031
 1991 *Can't Get Away From This Dog* – ST-038 (8569)
 1994 *Rufus Thomas Live!* – SCD 88019-25
 1996 *The Best of Rufus Thomas: Do The Funky Something* - Rhino 72410
 1997 *The Best of Rufus Thomas-The Singles 1968-75* - Stax CDSXD 094





THE MAN – The Voice

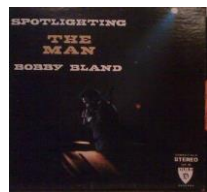




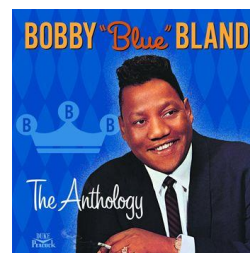
BOBBY "Blue" BLAND



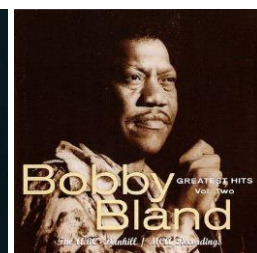
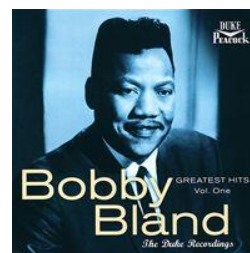
"Big Bobby Blue" - "The Man" - "The Voice" - "The 3 B Blues Boy" - "Lion of the Blues" - Down South singer and main creator of the modern soul-blues sound, mixing gospel with blues and R&B. Sang gospel in Memphis during the late '40s. Worked loosely with B.B. King (in the early '50s and on tours during the '80s) and closely with Rosco Gordon and Earl Forest. Extremely popular in Black America during the '60s and '70s. Moved from Memphis to Houston, Texas after his military service in 1955. Peacock-s boss Don Robey ("Deadric Malone") had taken over Duke Records from David Mattis in July 1952. Bland toured heavily with an orchestra led by Bill Harvey, tenorsax and shared stage with Junior Parker's Blue Flames for several years. Had Pat Hare, later Clarence Holliman, and then Wayne Bennett on guitar. Billed "Bobby Blue" and later Bobby "Blue" Bland during the '50s (Bobby Bland from December 1959 and on – sporadically again with the "Blue" tag). Recorded mostly in Houston, but also among other places several recordings in Chicago. Inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1981, and into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992.



Essential CDs: The 3B Blues Boy 1952-59 - Ace CDCHD 302 and The Voice 1959-69 - Ace CDCHD 323 (both 1991)
 or: Bobby Blue Bland - The Anthology (2CD) - MCA 112596 (2001)
 or: It's My Life, Baby - The Singles As and Bs (2CD) - Jasmine JASCD 564 (2011)
 or: Greatest Hits vol one & vol two / The Duke Recordings – MCA AAMCAD11783 and 11809 (1998)



Reading: Bobby "Blue" Bland - Soul of the man by Charles Farley (Univ. Press of Mississippi, 2011),
 Urban Blues by Charles Keil (1966, 1991)



Born: Robert Calvin Brooks (mother re-married to Leroy Bland in 1936), January 27, 1930, Rosemark (Shelby County), Tenn.
Died in Memphis June 23, 2013.
First recordings: Memphis as Robert Bland October 16, 1951 Love You 'Til The Day I Die (flip of Rosco Gordon's Chess version of Booted - Chess 1487), ca November 1951 Crying All Night Long - Modern 848; December 4, 1951 Crying - Chess 1489; for Duke in Memphis 1952: I.O.U. Blues / Lovin' Blues - Duke 105; first for Don Robey (Duke 141) Houston: February 22, 1955 It's My Life Baby. **Records for:** Duke 52, and 55-72, ABC 73-78, MCA 79-82, Malaco 1985-on.
First LP: Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland: Blues Consolidated – Duke DLP 72 (1961)

Transitions from Rhythm to Soul – Twelve Original Soul Icons

R&B Top 10 Hits: (27 of 57 Top 40)

- 1957 **Farther Up The Road** #1 for 2w
- 1958 **Little Boy Blue** #10
- 1959 I'll Take Care Of You #2
- 1960 Lead Me On #9
- 1960 Cry Cry Cry #9
- 1961 **I Pity The Fool** #1 for 1w
- 1961 Don't Cry No More #2
- 1961 Turn On Your Love Light #2, P28
- 1962 Ain't That Loving You #9
- 1962 Yield Not To Temptation #10
- 1962 Stormy Monday Blues #5
- 1963 **That's The Way Love Is** #1 for 2w, P33
- 1963 Call On Me #6, P22
- 1964 Ain't Nothing You Can Do #3, P20
- 1964 Share Your Love With Me #5
- 1964 Ain't Doing Too Bad (Part 1) #4
- 1965 These Hands (Small But Mighty) #4
- 1966 I'm Too Far Gone (To Turn Around) #8
- 1966 Good Time Charlie #6
- 1966 Poverty #9
- 1967 That Did It #6
- 1969 Chains Of Love #9
- 1970 If You've Got A Heart #10
- 1972 Do What You Set Out To Do #6
- 1973 This Time I'm Gone For Good #5
- 1974 Ain't No Love In The Heart Of The City #9
- 1975 I Wouldn't Treat A Dog #3



Parker, Presley, Bland



Bland's pre-1955 recordings

ROSCOE GORDON

Gordon, pno; with Adolph Duncan and Willie Wilkes, saxes; bs, dms; and Robert Bland, vocals – Memphis ca August or October 16, 1951 prod by Sam Phillips

Love You Til The Day I Die – Chess 1487

Note: This is the flip of Gordon's Chess-version of "Booted", credited to Gordon, who had an alternate, but similar, recording of "Booted" on RPM with "Cold Cold Winter" as flip. It was the Modern version that hit the charts. The Bihari brothers "traded" (signed) Gordon for Howlin' Wolf in the Modern vs Chess battle (caused by Sam Phillips) in 1952.

ROBERT BLAND

vocals; with saxes-1; Ike Turner, pno; Matt Murphy, gtr, bs, dms

- Memphis ca November, 1951 prod by Sam Phillips

Crying All Night Long -1 c/w Dry Up Baby - Modern 848

ROBERT BLAND WITH ROSCO GORDON'S BAND

with Roscoe Gordon, pno; Willie Sims and Willie Wilkes, saxes, John M Daley, dms

- Memphis December 4, 1951 prod by Sam Phillips

Crying – Checker 1489

Note: Flip is "A Letter From A Trench In Korea", credited to Bland, but featuring Gordon, vocals (most discographies wrongly state it is Bland singing).

Unissued – later credited Bobby Bland; and Bobby Bland - Junior Parker

Bobby Bland, vocals; Junior Parker, vocals-1/hca; Johnny Ace, pno; Matt Murphy, gtr; Earl Forest, dms - Memphis), January 1952 prod by Ike Turner/Joe Bihari

Drifting From Town To Town take 1 - Ace CHAD 265

Drifting From Town To Town take 2 - Kent LP KST 9002

Love Me Baby -1 - Kent LP KST 9002

ROBERT BLAND (Modern)

or Bobby "Blue" Bland with Ike Turner Orchestra (Kent)

Bland, vocals; with Ike Turner, pno; Matt Murphy, gtr; poss. Tuff Green, bs; L.C. Dranes, dms; tenorsax dubbed on Kent 378

- West Memphis, January 24, 1952 prod by Ike Turner/Joe Bihari

Drifting From Town To Town (Drifting - Kent) – Modern 868, Kent 378

Good Lovin' (Love You Baby I Love You Yes I Do - Kent) – as above

"BOBBY BLUE" BLAND with THE BEALE STREETERS

Vocals; with Adolph Duncan, tenorsax; Johnny Ace, pno; B.B. King, gtr-1; George Joyner, bs; Earl Forest, dms – Memphis 1952 prod by David Mattis

LO U, Blues – Duke 105

Lovin' Blues -1 - Duke 105

"BOBBY BLUE" BLAND and Orchestra

Vocals; with altosax; Johnny Board, tenorsax; Johnny Ace, org/pno; gtr-1; bs, dms; Onzie Horne, vibr – Memphis November 2, 1952 prod by David Mattis

No Blow No Show – Duke 115

Wise Man Blues - Ace(E) LP CH41

Army Blues -1 – Duke 115

Note: After this session Bobby went to the Army. When he returned to Memphis in 1955 he noted his childhood friend "Little Junior" Parker had signed with Duke in 1953, and that Don Robey had bought up that label from Mattis. From 1955 until early 1960 Bobby recorded for Duke in Houston, Texas - in the beginning with Bill Harvey's band and under musical "supervision" by trumpeter/arranger Joe Scott. His great guitarists through these years included Roy Gaines, Clarence Hollimon, Parker's long-time guitarist Pat Hare, and soon Wayne Bennett.



Some Other Favorites:

- 1955 It's My Life Baby
- 1955 **Woke Up Screaming** (simply terrific! With Bill Harvey's band; Hollimon, gtr)
- 1963 Sometimes You Gotta Cry A Little
- 1968 Drifting Blues (prob Bennett, gtr)
- 1976 Let The Good Times Roll #20 (with B.B. King)



Bland's original Duke LPs

- 1961 Blues Consolidated – DLP 72 (with Little Junior Parker)
- 1961 Two Steps From The Blues – DLP 74
- 1962 Dynamic Bobby Bland: Here's The Man!!! – DLP 75
- 1963 Call On Me: That's The Way Love Is – DLP 77
- 1964 Ain't Nothing You Can Do – DLP 78
- 1966 The Soul Of The Man – DLP 79
- 1967 The Best of Bobby Bland – DLP 84
- 1968 The Best of Bobby Bland Volume 2 – DLP 86
- 1968 Touch Of The Blues – DLP 88
- 1969 Spotlighting the Man – DLPS 89
- 1970 If Loving You Is Wrong – DLPS 90
- 1973 Bluesway Records Presents Bobby Bland: Call On Me – BLS-6065
- 1973 His California Album – ABC-Dunhill DSX-50163
- 1974 Dreamer - - ABC-Dunhill 50169
- 1974 Introspective of the Early Years – ABC-Duke DLP 92-2 (2-set)

Most of Bland's Duke LPs were reissued on ABC-Duke in 1974.



James Brown *plus* Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland: Their first LPs

Here is the very first LP of James Brown and the very first of Parker and Bland (who shared their first). Brown's singles were issued on Federal – the LP is on King.



King KLP 610 Please Please Please - December 1958
James Brown and His Famous Flames
 Reissued on King LP 909 - mid 1964

Tracks

Please Please Please / Chonnie-On-Chon / Hold My Baby's Hand / I Feel That Old Feeling Coming On / Just Won't Do Right (I Stay In The Chapel Every Night) / Baby Cries Over The Ocean / I Don't Know / Tell Me What I Did Wrong // Try Me / That Dood It / Begging / I Walked Alone / No No No / That's When I Lost My Heart / Let's Make It / Love Or A Game



Discography

(with Peak Pos on R&B Charts)

James Brown **with** The Famous Flames (Bobby Byrd, Johnny Terry, Sylvester Keels, Nashpendle Knox), vcls; Ralph Bass,prod; poss Clifford Scott,ts; Wilbert "Lee Diamond" Smith,ts; and prob Ray Felder,as; Alvin "Fats" Gonder,p; Nafloyd Scott,g; Clarence Mack,b; Edison Gore,d (no sax on-1)
Cincinnati February 4, 1956

F-1189	Please, Please, Please	-1	Federal 12258 (#5)
F-1191	I Don't Know		12264.
F-1192	I Feel That Old Feeling Coming On		12264

James Brown **with** The Famous Flames, vcls; Ray Felder and Cleveland Love,ts;s; Fats Gonder,p; Eddie Freeman or poss Bobby Byrd,p; Nafloyd Scott,g; Clarence Mack,b; Reginald Hall,d; poss Gene Redd,arr
March 27, 1956

F-531	I Walked Alone		12300
F-532	No, No, No, No		12277
F-534	Hold My Baby's Hand		12277
F-535	Chonnie-On-Chon		12290

July 24, 1956

F-1217	Just Won't Do Right		12289
F-1218	Let's Make It		2289

James Brown,vcl; unknown backing vocals; John B. Brown,as; Clarence Love,ts; Fats Gonder,p; Eddie Freeman or poss Nafloyd Scott,g; Edwyn Conley,b; Reginald Hall,d

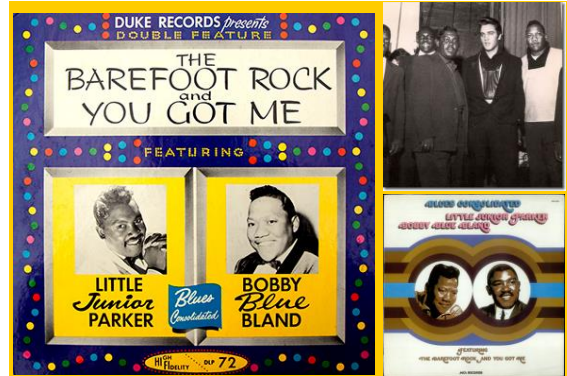
F-1256	Love Or A Game	<i>April 10, 1957</i>	12295
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James Brown **and** The Famous Flames (JW Archer, Louis Madison, Bill Hollings), vcls; poss Louis Madison,org; Fats Gonder,p; Thomas "Guitar" Gable and John Faire,gs; poss Bobby Roach,g; Edwin Conley,b; Edison Gore,d

F-1267	Begging Begging	<i>October 21, 1957</i>	12316
F-1268	Baby Cries Over The Ocean		12311
F-1269	That's When I Lost My Heart		12316
F-1270	That Dood It		12311

James Brown **and** The Famous Flames (JW Archer, Louis Madison, Bill Hollings, and prob Johnny Terry), vcls; George Dorsey,as; Clifford Scott or Hal "Cornbread" Singer,ts; Ernie Hayes,p; Kenny Burrell and Bobby Roach,gs; Carl Pruitt,b; Panama Francis,d; prob Gene Redd,arr; Andy Gibson,prod
New York City September 18, 1958

G-7256	Tell Me What I Did Wrong	12337
G-7257	Try Me	12337 (#1)



Duke LP DLP 72 Blues Consolidated – May 1958
Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland
 Reissued on ABC/Duke DLPX-72 in 1973

Tracks

JP: Next Time You See Me / Mother-in-Law Blues / Barefoot Rock / That's Alright / Wondering / Sitting and Thinking // **BB:** It's My Life, Baby / I Smell Trouble / Farther Up the Road / Sometime Tomorrow / You Got Me (Where You Want Me) / Loan A Helping Hand



Discography

(with Peak Pos on R&B Charts)

Little Junior Parker,vcl/hca with Bill Harvey's Band: Connie McBooker,p; Floyd Murphy or poss Pat Hare,g; Hamp Simmons,b; Sonny Freeman,d; add Joe Scott,tp; Bill Harvey,ts on -1

FS 3002	Mother-In-Law Blues	<i>Houston May 7, 1956</i>	Duke 157
FS 3017	Next Time You See Me	-1	<i>June 14/15, 1956</i> 164 (#7)

Little Junior Parker,vcl/hca and His Combo: Connie McBooker,p; Pat Hare,g; Otis Jackson,b; John "Jabo" Starks or Sonny Freeman,d

FR 3025	That's Alright	<i>December 11, 1956</i>	168
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Little Junior Parker,vcl/hca and His Band: similar accomp; and add horns on-1
January 1958

FR 3056	Wondering	-1	184
FR 3057	Sitting And Thinking		184
FR 3062	Barefoot Rock	-1	193



Bobby Blue Bland,vcl with Bill Harvey Orchestra: Joe Scott,tp; Pluma Davis,ts; Bill Harvey,ts; Connie McBooker,p; Roy Gaines,g; Hamp Simmons,b; Sonny Freeman,d

ACA 3098	It's My Life, Baby	<i>Houston February 22/26, 1955</i>	Duke 141
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Bobby "Blue" Bland,vcl with Bill Harvey's Orch.: Connie McBooker,p; Clarence Holliman,g; unknown,b; Sonny Freeman,d

FR 3022	I Smell Trouble	<i>January 22, 1957</i>	167
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Bobby "Blue" Bland,vcl with Bill Harvey Orchestra: Bill Harvey,ts; unknown,p; Pat Hare,g; unknown,b; Sonny Freeman,d; Joe Scott Singers,vcls-1
1957

FR 3028	Sometime Tomorrow	-1	170
FR 3039	Farther Up The Road		170 (#1)

Bobby "Blue" Bland,vcl; unknown tp and as; poss L.A. Hill,ts; unknown bs; unknown p; Clarence Holliman,g; unknown b; poss Sonny Freeman,d
1958

FR 3058	Loan A Helping Hand	185
FR 3059	You Got Me (Where You Want Me)	185

Twelve Soul Pioneers – Twelve Favorite Records

<p>RAY CHARLES and his Orchestra - 1954</p> 	<p>SAM COOKE - 1957</p> 	<p>JACKIE WILSON - 1958</p> 
<p>LITTLE WILLIE JOHN - 1955</p> 	<p>BROOK BENTON - 1957 (arr/cond by Billy Mure)</p> 	<p>ETTA JAMES and "THE PEACHES" - 1955</p> 
<p>RUFUS THOMAS - 1963</p>  <p>Flip of "Walking The Dog"</p>	<p>BOBBY "BLUE" BLAND Bill Harvey Orchestra - 1957</p> 	<p>LITTLE JUNIOR'S BLUE FLAMES - 1953</p> 
<p>JOHNNY "GUITAR" WATSON and His Orchestra - 1955</p> 	<p>KING CURTIS & his Royal Men-1958</p> 	<p>JAMES BROWN and his Orchestra - 1964</p> 

"Twelve" Soul Pioneers – Some More Favorite Records



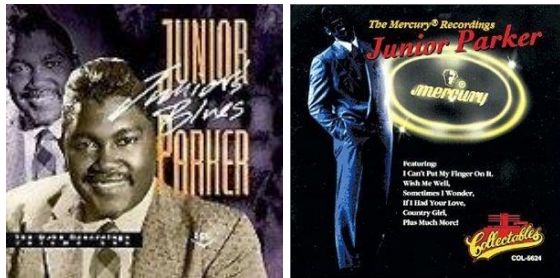


LITTLE JUNIOR PARKER



"Blue Flame" - "Junior" - Talented singer /harmonica player popularizing modern Memphis blues sounds. Worked with the Howlin' Wolf and with the Beale Streeters, also with the Johnny Ace Revue. Later toured in packages with Bobby "Blue" Bland (Blues Consolidated) with his own band, led by Bill Harvey, who had backed B. B. King in Texas (and which later became the backbone of Bobby Bland's band). Dropped his pre-fix "Little" from 1964. He moved early to West Memphis, Ark and worked mostly in Memphis, Houston (from December, 1953) and Chicago. Inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 2001.

Born: Herman Parker, Jr. March 27, 1932, Eastover Plantation near Bobo, Coahoma County, Miss
Died of brain tumor November 18, 1971, Blue Island (Chicago), Ill.
First recordings: West Memphis January 24, 1952 You're My Angel /Bad Women Bad Whiskey - Modern 864 as Little Junior Parker and the Blue Flames; Memphis June 18, 1953 Feelin' Good / Fussin' And Fightin' Blues - Sun 187 as Little Junior's Blue Flames.
Records for: Sun 53, Duke 53-66, Mercury 66-69, Capitol 1970, Groove Merchant 1971.
First LP: Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland: Blues Consolidated – Duke DLP 72 (1961)



Essential CDs: Junior's Blues: The Duke Recordings Vol 1 1954-1964 - MCA MCAD 2CD-10669 (1992)
 Ride With Me Baby – The Singles 1952-1961 (2CD) Fantastic Voyage FVD138 (2012) or
 Next Time You See Me (2CD) Jasmine JASMCD 3057 (2016)
CD for Collectors: The Mercury Recordings - Collectables COLCD 5624 (1996)
Reading: Urban Blues by Charles Keil (1966, 1991)

R&B Top 10 Hits: (5 of 13 Top 40)
 1953 **Feelin' Good** #5 (as Little Junior's Blue Flames)
 1957 **Next Time You See Me** #7
 1961 **Driving Wheel** #5
 1961 **In The Dark** #7
 1962 **Annie Get Your Yo-Yo** #6

More of the Best:
 1958 **Sweet Home Chicago** #13
 1965 **Crying For My Baby** #36
 1966 **Man Or Mouse** #27
 1969 **Worried Life Blues** #34 (issued as Little Junior Parker)
 1971 **Drowning On Dry Land**



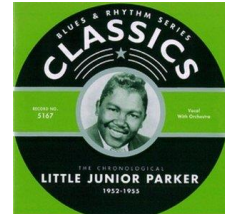
Parker's pre-Duke recordings

Unissued – later Bobby Bland and Junior Parker
 Junior Parker, vocals-1/hca; Johnny Ace, pno; Matt Murphy, gtr; Earl Forest, dms
 - Memphis, January 1952 prod by Ike Turner/Joe Bihari
Love Me Baby -1 - Kent LP KST 9002

Little Junior Parker and the Blue Flames
 Parker, vocals; with Raymond Hill, tensax-1; Ike Turner, pno; Matt Murphy, gtr; L.C. Dranes, dms (or poss. Turner, James Carr, tensax; Willie Carson, gtr; Emmet Brock, bs; Mel Davis, dms
 - West Memphis, prob January 24, 1952
You're My Angel -1 - Modern 864
Bad Women, Bad Whiskey - Modern 864

Little Junior's Blue Flames
 Parker, vocals; with James Wheeler, tensax-1; Bill Johnson, pno-1; Matt Murphy, gtr; Kenneth Banks, bs; John Bowers, dms
 - Memphis, June 18, 1953
Feelin' Good - Sun 187
Fussin' And Fightin' Blues - Sun 187
 with similar accomp – Memphis, ca October 1953
Love My Baby - Sun 192
Love My Baby (alt) - Sun(E) LP 1061
Mystery Train -1 - Sun 192
Feel So Bad (aka Feelin' Bad) - Charly(E) LP 30135

Note: In December 1953, when Don Robey had taken over Duke Records, Parker signed with the label, took Bill Johnson, and Pat Hare (gtr) with him to Houston and recorded as Little Junior Parker for the label, recordings made in Houston, and also several sessions in Chicago with his band, still known as the Blue Flames (featuring Hare, Sonny Freeman, dms and Roy Gaines, gtr). Bobby Bland soon took over most of Parker's sidemen. Parker also recorded three more, unissued songs, in Memphis with his Blue Flames (later on Charly CR 30135), poss March 2, 1954.



Little Junior Parker – his first singles for Duke

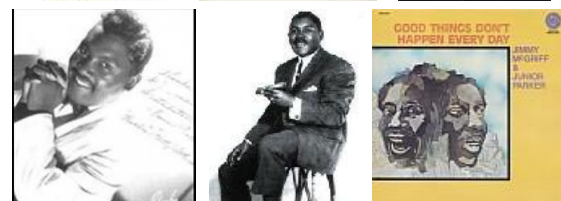
Recording date followed by Duke single.
with Bill Johnson's Blue Flames
 12/53 Duke 120 Dirty Friend Blues – Can't Understand
 12/53 Duke 127 Please Baby Blues / Sittin' Drinkin' And Thinkin' and The Blue Flames
 6/54 Duke 137 I Wanna Ramble / Back Tracking
and his Orchestra
 2/55 Duke 147 Driving Me Mad / There Better Be No Feet
with Bill Harvey's Band
 (Joe Scott, tp; Pluma Davis, tb; Bill Harvey, tensax; Connie Mack Booker, pno; Floyd Murphy, gtr; Hamp Simmons, bs; Sonny Freeman, dms)
 5/56 Duke 157 Mother-In-Law Blues / That's My Baby
 6/56 Duke 164 Next Time You See Me / My Dolly Bee

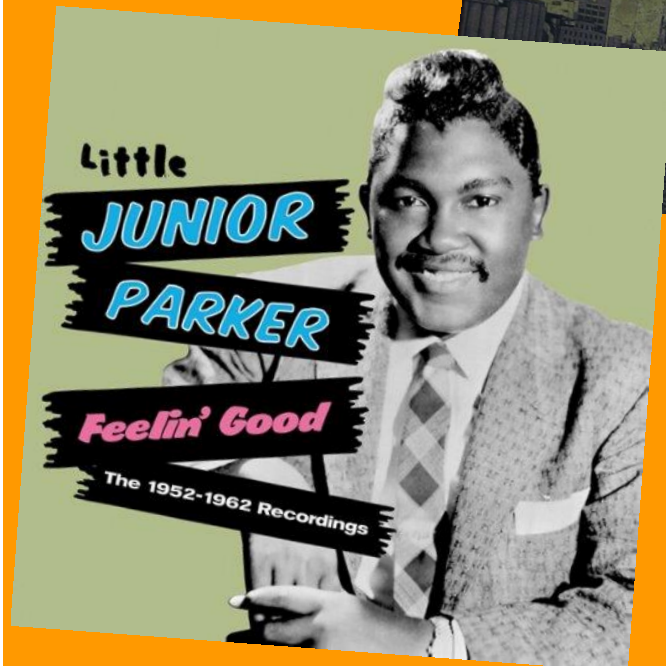
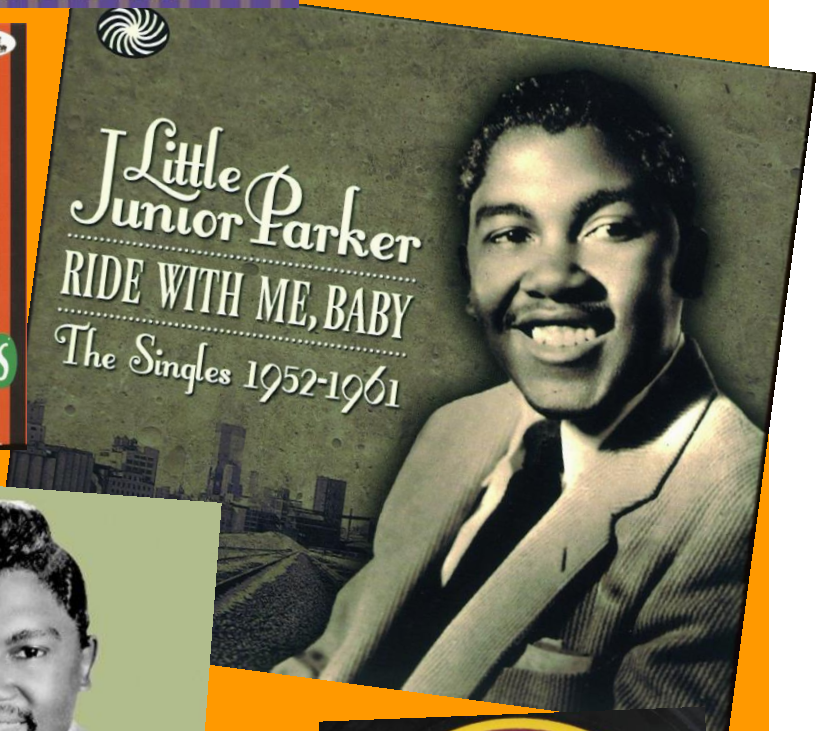
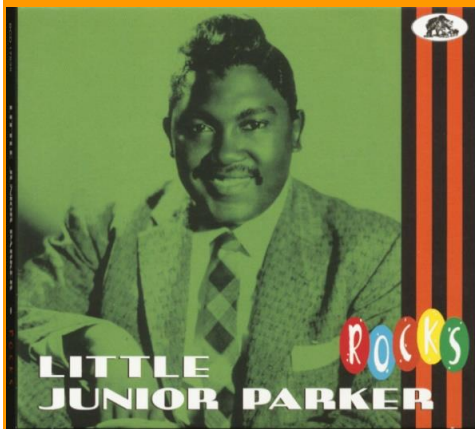
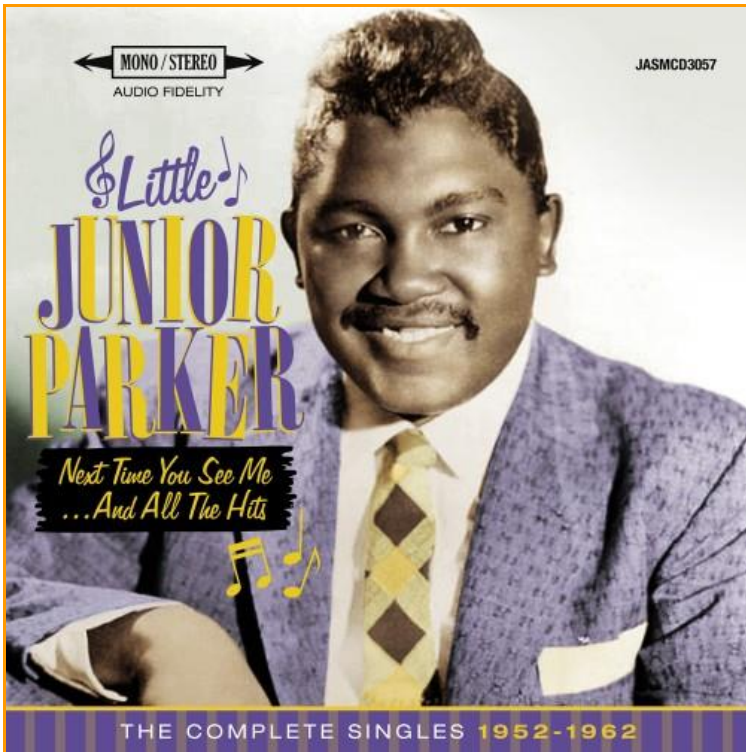


Two different covers of Duke LP-76; and Duke LP-83

Junior's Early LPs

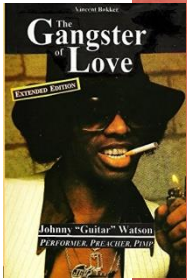
1961 Duke DLP-72 - Little Junior Parker & Bobby Blue Bland: Blues Consolidated
 1962 Duke DLP-76 - Driving Wheel
 1967 Duke DLP-83 - The Best of Junior Parker
 1967 Mercury MG-2201 - Like It Is
 1969 Blue Rock SRB-64004 - Honey-Dripper Blues
 1970 Minit LP 24024 - Blues Man



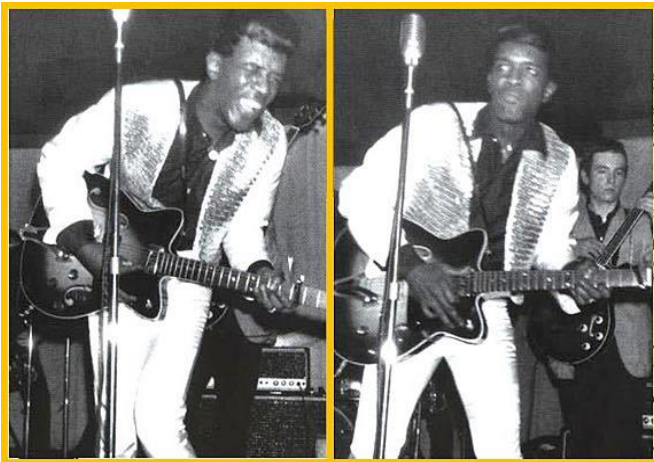




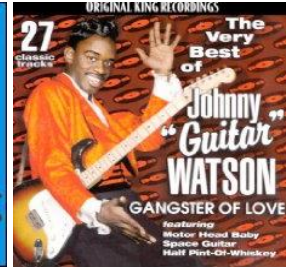
JOHNNY "Guitar" WATSON



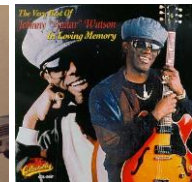
"The Guitar Gangster" - flamboyant showman, guitar picker – and piano player, who turned into a disco/funk "underground" superstar in the 1970s. Moved to Los Angeles in 1950, which became his mainstay. Billed as Young John Watson during his first years for Federal (and sang with several L.A. vocal groups on recordings – working with a.o. Jesse Belvin and The Shields). Changed billing to Johnny "Guitar" Watson for Modern's RPM subsidiary (and to simply Johnny Watson during a short spell in the mid-'60s, when he worked with Larry Williams, Little Richard, Don & Dewey, and Adolph Jacobs). Transformed himself from the southern blues singer into the urban soul singer with pimp hat. Inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 2008.



Born: John Jacob Watson, Jr. February 2 (not 3), 1935 in Houston, Texas. **Died** of heart-attack on stage May 17, 1996 in Yokohama, Japan. His body was brought to Glendale, California.
First recordings: Los Angeles early 1952, credited to *Chuck Higgins and His Mellotones* Motor Head Baby – Combo 12 (Watson played piano on the A-side); Los Angeles January 23, 1953 Highway 60 / No I Can't – Federal 12120 as Young John Watson (playing gtr on one side and piano on the other; singing on both; and rerecording Motor Head Baby – Federal 12131).
Records for: Federal 53-54, RPM 55-56, Keen 57-58, Class 1959, King 61-63, Chess 64-65, Okeh 1966-67, Fantasy 74-75, DJM 76-81, A&M 1981-.
First LP:
 Johnny Guitar Watson – King LP 857 (1963)

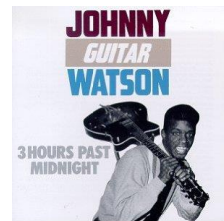


Essential CD:
 Blues Masters: The very Best of ... - Rhino R2 75202 (1999)
Editor's Choice:
 Hot Just Like TNT – The Best of His Early Years – Ace /UK
CD for Collectors:
 Gangster Of Love – The Very Best of – Collectables COL-CD-2894 (2008) - King Recordings;
 Space Guitar – Varèse Sarabande (Vintage) 302066611-2 (2004) - the King sessions;
 CDCHD 621 (1006) - The Modern/RPM recordings plus Keen;
 The Original Gangster Of Love – V.S.O.P. 117 (2006) - Keen sessions 1957-58.



Reading: The Gangster of Love - Johnny "Guitar" Watson - Performer, Preacher, Pimp (by Vincent Bakker - US 2009).

R&B Top 10 Hits: (3 of 11 Top 40)
 1955 **Those Lonely, Lonely Nights** #10
 1962 **Cuttin' In** #6
 1977 **A Real Mother For Ya** #5, P31



Here are some more Great Ones:
 1954 Space Guitar (instr)
 1955 Hot Little Mama
 1955 Three Hours Past Midnight
 1957 Gangster Of Love (Keen)
 1957 Dee's Boogie (unissued Keen, featuring Devonia Williams, vcl/pno)
 1963 That's The Chance You've Got To Take
 1967 Mercy, Mercy, Mercy #23 (as Larry Williams and Johnny Watson)
 1976 Ain't That A Bitch
 1976 Superman Lover
 1978 Gangster Of Love (DJM)





KING CURTIS



The most productive honker of the '60s and the one with most of the innovative ideas. Roots via stints with Lionel Hampton. Recorded as King Curtis & His Royal Men for Atco in 1958, and soon got his own band - the Noble Knights (later also billed as the Kingpins), featuring Paul Griffin, pno; Ernie Hayes, organ; Duane Allman, Al Casey and later Billy Butler, gtrs; Jimmy Lewis and later Jerry Jermott, bass; Ray Lucas, dms. During his last years Cornell Dupree and Hugh McCracken played guitar in his band with Richard Tee, pno; Billy Preston, sometimes organ, Chuck Rainey, bass, and often Pretty Purdie, dms. Productive session man (famous for his solo on the Coasters' "Yakety Yak") and did a huge amount of recordings as a tenor- and alto saxophonist and sometimes guitarist/singer. Also worked as a producer at Atlantic by the end of his career, especially for Aretha Franklin. There were more than 30 LPs released on ten different labels before King's untimely death plus the great Montreux LP in 1973. "King" Curtis Ousley was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2000.

Essential CDs: Hot Sax, Cool Licks - Ace CDCHD 757 (2000) and Enjoy: The Best of King Curtis - Collectables COL 5687 (1996) or: Instant Soul: The Legendary King Curtis - Razor & Tue RE 2054 (1994): and Instant Groove - Edsel EDCD 315 (1997)
For Collectors: Live at the Fillmore West - Atlantic CD 77632 (2006) Blow Man Blow! (3CD) - Bear Family BCD 15670 C1 (Complete Capitol recordings, 1992)
 Wail Man Wail! / The Best of King Curtis 1952-1961 – Fantastic Voyage (3CD, 2012) featuring his early recordings plus as session man



Reading:
 The Sound of the City by Charlie Gillett (UK 1970, revised edition 1983)
 King Curtis – A Discography by Roy Simonds (UK1984)

R&B Top 10 Hits: (3 of 6 Top 40)
 1962 **Soul Twist (& the Noble Knights)** #1 for 2w, P17
 1967 **Memphis Soul Stew (vocal)** #6, P33
 1967 **Ode To Billie Joe (as The Kingpins)** #6, P28



King Curtis & Champion Jack Dupree on Atlantic LP SD-1637 (1973)



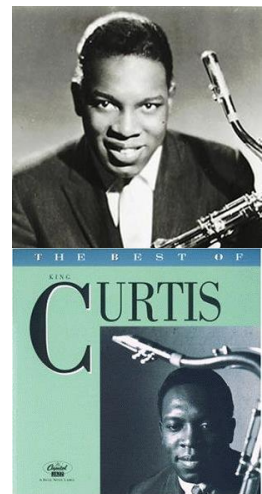
Performers King Curtis has played with on Record

(most, but prob not all - In chronological order 1952-1971 - the artists listed are credited as the main artist on the records)
 Doc Pomus, Bob Kent, Melvin Daniels, Teddy Mr. Bear McRae, Roy Gaines, Washboard Bill, Sonny Thompson, Mickey & Sylvia, Sammy Price, Cornell Drew, The Avons, The Velours, Sammy Lowe, Nat "King" Cole, Titus Turner, Count Hastings, Walter Spriggs, Joe Turner, Chuck Willis, The Bobettes, The Coasters, Hutch Dave, Ruth Brown, The Miller Sisters, Buddy Holly, LaVern Baker, Sandy Stewart, Paul Evans, Bobby Darin, Neil Sedaka, Clyde McPhatter, The Drifters, Mickey & Kitty, Sammy Turner, Noble "Thin Man" Watts, Ann Cole, Lonnie Donegan, The Hollywood Flames, Nappy Brown, Ben E. King, Al Smith, Jimmy Forrest, Roosevelt Sykes, Sunnyland Slim, Nat Adderley, Arbee Stidham, The Isley Brothers, Lionel Hampton, The Olympics, The Shirelles, Little Anthony & The Imperials, Bobby Lewis, The Top Notes, The Shells, Ernestine Allen, Jack McDuff, Eddie Kirkland, Johnny Darrow (that's Johnny Moore), Wilbert Harrison, Solomon Burke, Panama Francis, Chuck Jackson, Sam Cooke, Jim Tyler, Hugo Montenegro, Nina Simone, Ted Taylor, Ray Sharpe, Herbie Mann, Don Covay, Esther Phillips, Lonnie Smith, George Benson, Aretha Franklin, Eddie Harris, The Sweet Inspirations, Wilson Pickett, Alvin Robinson, Billy Vera and Judy Clay, Fats Domino, Freddie King, Dusty Springfield, Toby Lark, Shirley Scott, Donny Hathaway, Sweet Savin' Chain, Roberta Flack, Delaney & Bonnie, Sam Moore (of Sam & Dave), Champion Jack Dupree (the great live album of June 17, 1971 in Montreux, Switzerland).

Session details on the original "Soul Twist" King Curtis & The Noble Knights
 (original pressings prob released as simply "The Noble Knights" in December 1961)
 King Curtis, tenorsax; Ernie Hayes, organ; George Stubbs, piano; Billy Butler, guitar; Jimmy Lewis, bassgtr; Ray Lucas, dms.
 Produced by Bobby and Danny Robinson.
 Recorded in New York, ca December, 1961
Soul Twist (aka **Soul Time**) - Enjoy 1000, Enjoy LP 2001, Everlast 5030, Trip LP 8017, UpFront LP 157 – Please note that the original single on Enjoy is titled "Soul Time" on the LPs
Soul Twist (alternate take) - Trip 83 (reverse by Dave "Baby" Cortez), LP 60-3, LP 8017, UpFront LP 157
Twisting Time – Enjoy 1000, Everlast 5030, Enjoy LP 2001

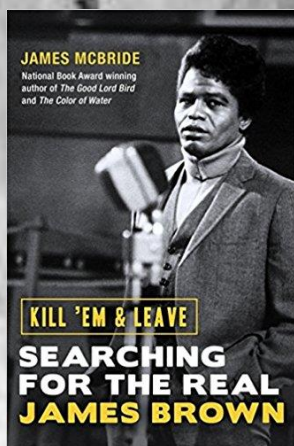
For Your Listening Pleasure:

- 1956 King's Rock
- 1957 Wicky Wacky
- 1958 The King (as The King's Henchmen)
- 1958 **Jest Smoochin'**
- 1958 Ific
- 1958 Chili
- 1959 Peter Gunn
- 1959 Lil Brother
- 1959 The Groove
- 1960 Soul Meeting (with Nat Adderley)
- 1961 Jivin' Time
- 1961 But That's All Right (vocal)
- 1961 Honky Tonk
- 1961 Jay Walk
- 1962 Groovin' With The King
- 1962 Beach Party
- 1963 **Do The Monkey**
- 1963 Soul Serenade #20 (Capitol)
- 1964 Night Train
- 1965 Send Me Some Lovin'
- 1965 **Boss** (Long Tall Sally)
- 1966 Quicksand
- 1968 This Is Soul
- 1968 Soul Serenade (Atco) /live version/
- 1969 Instant Groove #35
- 1969 Soulin'
- 1971 **Get With It** (by King Curtis and Champion Jack Dupree)



Born: Curtis Montgomery (adopted by Ousley) February 7 (not July 2), 1934 in Forth Worth, Texas. **Died** August 13, 1971 (stubbed to death outside his home) in New York City.
 Worked in Texas, where he met Lionel Hampton and later came to Los Angeles, but became stationed in New York in 1956.
First recordings: Houston, January 10, 1952 *Bad Luck Baby* (unissued Hummingbird); with vocalist/pianist Melvin Daniels for RPM Forth Worth, Texas 1953 *Boogie In The Moonlight / I'll Be There* - RPM 383; first as King Curtis ca August 1953: *Tenor In The Sky* Gem 208; New York, March 1, 1956 *Movin On Groovin* 0160; first for Atco February 5, 1958 *Birth Of The Blues / Jest Smoochin'* - Atco 6114. **Records for:** DeLuxe/King 56, RCA 57, Atco 58-59, Prestige /New Jazz/TruSound 60-62, Enjoy 61-62, Capitol 62-65, Atlantic 1965 - up to his death.
First LP:
 Have Tenor Sax, Will Blow – Atco 33-113 (1959)

The Godfather - MR. DYNAMITE – Soul Brother # 1

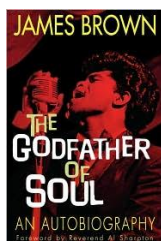




JAMES BROWN



"Hardest Working Man In Show-Biz" - Singer, drummer and organist - "Mr. Dynamite" - "Soul Brother No. 1" - "The Godfather of Soul" - JB is the most successful black act of the 1960s and 70s. Brown was Stationed in Augusta, Toccoa and Macon (all Georgia) during 1952-1955. Started his musical career in Toccoa, Georgia in 1954 with the Flames (no recordings - except for the demo of "Please, Please, Please" on November 1, 1955 at the studio of WIBB in Macon, Georgia, featuring several of the Flames). The original Flames were pianist and singer Bobby Byrd (born in Toccoa, Georgia August 15, 1934 - died in Loganville, Georgia September 12, 2007), with Doyle Oglesby (soon replaced by Brown's friend Johnny Terry), Fred Pulliam, dms (replaced by Nash Knox, vcls and James Brown, dms and vocals) Sylvester Keels, vcls; Baby Roy (Baroy) Scott, bass, and Nafloyd Scott, gtr. On the first recording the Flames changed name to the Famous Flames (with Brown, Byrd, Terry, Keels, Nash and Nafloyd completed with Little Richards' ex-road manager Alvin (Lucas) "Fats" Gonder, pno. Soon the original Flames quit - and James back-up vocal group consisted of Little Richards' ex-backing vocal group The Dominions, featuring J.W. Archer, Bill Hollings, Louis Madison (who also played pno), plus Willie Johnson and often also still Johnny Terry. Brown was billed with his vocal group The Famous Flames on records up to 1968 - the backing vocals in the early 60s included Johnny Terry, Bobby Byrd, Bobby Bennett, and Baby Lloyd Stallworth. Bobby Byrd played piano and Brown organ on several hits. Vice-president of the Brown business during many years: Johnny Terry (from the Flames). Long-time friend: Charles Bobbit (his manager of later years). Polydor bought Brown's masters from King/Starday when JB was contracted to that label in 1971. Syd Nathan had sold King to Starday earlier (with Hal Neely moving from Cincinnati to Nashville). James Brown's super career was based in New York and "the Apollo", but James moved to South Carolina and later settled back in Augusta, Georgia. Charter member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986. His back-up singers The Famous Flames (Byrd, Bennett, Stallworth, Terry) were inducted in 2012. ([Famous Flames at Wikipedia](#))



Born: James Joseph Brown, Jr May 3, 1933 in Barnwell, South Carolina (not May 5, 1938 in Macon, Georgia – and not in 1928, Tennessee - as stated in some files). Raised in Augusta, Georgia. **Died** in Atlanta, Georgia hospital December 25, 2006 of pneumonia.

First recording: Cincinnati, Ohio February 4, 1956 Please Please Please / Why Do You Do Me - Federal 12258.

Records for: Federal 56-60, King 60-71, Smash 64-67, People 71-76 (mostly as the J.B.'s and also credits to the bandmembers), Polydor 1971-80, Scotti Bros 85-.

First LP: Please Please Please - King LP 610 (December 1958) (issued as **James Brown and his Famous Flames**, just like almost all James Brown records (singles, LPs) up to mid 1968).



Essential CD:

The 50th Anniversary Collection (2CD) - Polydor 60725 (2003) 50 tracks or: The Godfather - The Very Best of James Brown (20 tracks) - Universal 589841-2 (2008) or: Out Of Sight - The Very Best of JB - Polydor 589279-2 (2002) and Foundations of Funk - A Brand New Bag (1964-1969) - Polydor/Universal (2CD) 73145311652 (1996, reissued 2007) featuring extended original mixes

For Collectors:

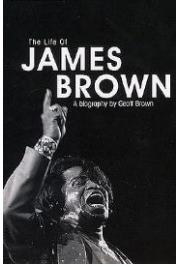
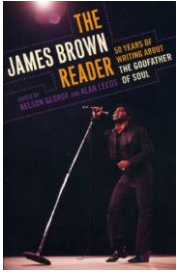
Star Time - The Godfather of Soul (4CD) - Polydor 849109/112-2 (1991, reissued in different cover 2007)
Live At The Apollo (in 1962) - Polydor 843 479-2 (1990)
Live - DeLuxe Edition (2CD) (at the Apollo in 1967) - Polydor 549-884-2 (2001)
Roots of A Revolution (2CD) - Polydor 817304-2 (1989)
Soul Pride - The Instrumentals 1960-1969 (2CD) - Polydor 517845-2 (1993)
The J.B.'s - Funky Good Time: The Anthology (2CD) - Polydor 527094-2 (featuring the 12 minute original of Doing It To Death) (1995)
Messing with the Blues – Polydor (2CD) 847257-2 (1990) - featuring "Don't Cry Baby" without audience overdub.



Center image: The early Flames - Keels, Knox, Pulliam, Brown (drums), Nafloyd, Byrd, and Roy (Terry not yet in).

Reading:

The One – The Life and Music of James Brown by R.J. Smith (US 2012)
Black and Proud -The Life of James Brown (re-edited from 1996) by Geoff Brown (UK 2007) - **simply great!!!!**
The James Brown Reader - 50 years of writing about The Godfather of Soul edited by Nelson George and Alan Leeds (Plumer, US 2008)
James Brown - The Godfather of Soul by James Brown with Bruce Tucker (US, 1986 & with epilogue by Dave Marsh 1997)
I Feel Good - A Memoir of a Life of Soul by James Brown with Marc Eliot (US 2005)
Say It Loud - My Memories of James Brown, Soul Brother No. 1 by Don Rhodes (US 2008); The Hardest Working Man by James Sullivan (US 2008)
Kill 'Em And Leave -. Searching for the Real James Brown by James McBride (US 2016)



R&B # 1 Hits (17 of 60 Top 10) from a total of 100 Top 40 hits:

Note: **plus one** by Fred Wesley and the J.B.s, who had several more Top 40 R&B hits

- 1959 Try Me 1w, P48
- 1965 Papa's Got A Brand New Bag 8w, **Pop #8**
- 1965 I Got You (I Feel Good) 6w, **Pop #3**
- 1966 It's A Man's Man's Man's World 2w, **Pop #8**
- 1967 Cold Sweat 3w, Pop #7
- 1968 I Got The Feelin' 2w, Pop #6
- 1968 Say It Loud - I'm Black And I'm Proud 6w, **Pop #10**
- 1969 Give It Up Or Turnit A Loose 2w, P15
- 1969 Mother Popcorn (You Got To Have A Mother For Me) 2w, P11
- 1970 Super Bad 2w, P13
- 1971 Hot Pants 1w, P15
- 1971 Make It Funky 2w, P22
- 1972 Talking Loud And Saying Nothing 1w, P27
- 1972 Get On The Good Foot 1w, P18
- 1973 Doing It To Death 2w, P22 (Fred Wesley & the J.B.'s)
- 1974 The Payback 2w, P26
- 1974 My Thang 2w, P29
- 1974 Papa Don't Take No Mess 1w, P31



Other Important Songs & Hits:

- 1956 Please, Please, Please #5
- 1957 Just Won't Do Right (subcredit: Vocal by James Brown and Bobby Byrd)
- 1957 That Dood It
- 1957 Why Does Everything Happen To Me
- 1959 Good Good Lovin'
- 1960 Think #7, P33
- 1961 I Don't Mind #4
- 1961 Baby You're Right #2
- 1961 Lost Someone #2
- 1962 Night Train #5, P35
- 1963 Prisoner Of Love #6, P16
- 1964 Oh Baby Don't You Weep #4, P23
- 1964 Don't Cry Baby (Smash)
- 1964 Out Of Sight #5, P24
- 1964 Grits (instr)
- 1965 With Every Beat Of My Heart (instr)
- 1966 Ain't That A Groove #6
- 1966 Is It Yes Or Is It No?
- 1966 Don't Be A Drop-Out #4
- 1967 Bring It Up #7, P29
- 1970 Get Up (I Feel Like Beeing Like A) Sex Machine #2, P15
- 1971 Escape-Ism (People Records as James Brown) #6
- 1976 Body Heat #13
- 1976 Everybody Wanna Get Funky One More Time
- 1985 Living In America #10, **Pop #4**
- 1988 I'm Real #2

Note: Most recordings up to mid 1968 on Federal King issued as by **James Brown and the Famous Flames**.

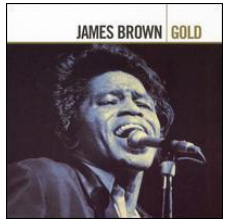
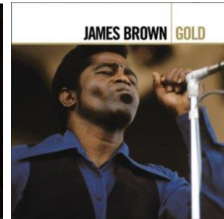
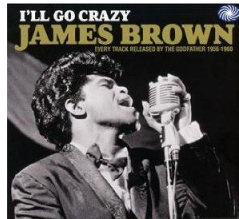


The James Brown Revue



during the late 1960s and early 1970s included Soul Sisters - Bea Ford, Yvonne Fair, Vicki Anderson, Anna King, Tammy Montgomery, Marva Whitney, and Lynn Collins; Soul Brothers - Bobby Byrd, James Crawford, Hank Ballard, and Lee Austin. Long time business associate: booking manager Ben Bart. Brown changed from vocal group backing to heavy "funk" instrumental backing during 1964 when he and Bart formed Fair Deal, which resulted in recordings for Mercury's Smash Records (with veteran arranger Sam Lowe doing a

superb job with studio musicians - and with Nat Jones leading the Brown touring band). The trend setting hit on Smash was "Out Of Sight". Some of Brown's early band members: Lucas "Fats" Gonder, pno and road manager; Wilbert "Lee Diamond" Smith, tenorsax; J.C. Davis, tenorsax (and original band leader, who later left for Etta James); Nafloyd Scott and Bobby Roach, guitars; Nat Kendrick and later Clayton Fillyau, dms; Bernard Odum; bass. From the '60s: St. Clair Pinckney, sax (who stayed loyal); Les Buie, gtr; Al "Brisco" Clark, sax (new band leader); soon replaced by Nat Jones; alto sax (and skilled orchestral arranger) and the innovative band leader during the first successful years of "the new bag" with Maceo Parker, multiple saxophones; Eldee Williams, tenor sax (who left for Joe Tex); Melvin Parker, dms; former Johnny Otis guitarist Jimmy Nolen; Alfred "PeeWee" Ellis, tenor sax and Jones' successor as arranger in 1967; Jabo Starks and later also Clyde Stubblefield, dms (J.B. sometimes had up to five or six drummers alternating), supplemented by Fred Wesley, trombone and band leader from late 1969 - introducing the instrumentalists as The J.B.'s during 1971-1976.



James Brown - I'll Go Crazy, Every track released by the Godfather of Soul 1956-1960 2CD on Fantastic Voyage (public domain) - 50 tracks Two different versions (not all the same tracks) of **Gold** on Universal - 2005 (0832585) and in 2007 (8913)

JAMES BROWN, vocals "LUCKY-SEVEN"

1. James Brown with The Famous Flames

Bobby Byrd, Johnny Terry, Sylvester Keels, Nash Knox, vcls and Nafloyd Scott, gtr; featuring Fats Gonder, pno - Cincinnati, February 4, 1956: 12258 **Please, Please, Please** - King 12258 (#5, 19w)

2. James Brown and The Famous Flames

Johnny Terry, Bill Hollings, J.W. Archer, Louis Madison, vcls; featuring Clifford Scott, sax, Ernie Hayes, pno, Panama Francis, dms - New York, September 18, 1958: 12337 **Try Me (I Need You)** - King 12337 (#1, 22w)

3. James Brown Presents His Band

Featuring J.C. Davis, sax, Les Buie, gtr, James Brown, dms - Cincinnati, February 9, 1961: 5614 **Night Train** - King 5614 (#5, 17w 1962)

4. James Brown & His Orchestra

The James Brown Band featuring Nat Jones, Eldee Williams, St.Clair Pinckney, Al Clark and Maceo Parker, saxes, Bobby Byrd or Fats Gonder, pno, Les Buie, gtr - New York (prob), late May 1964: note: *The Famous Flames at this time were: Bobby Byrd, Bobby Bennett and Lloyd Stallworth.* 1919 **Out Of Sight** - Smash 1919 (#5, 11w)

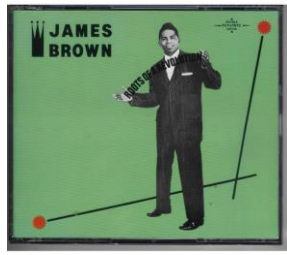
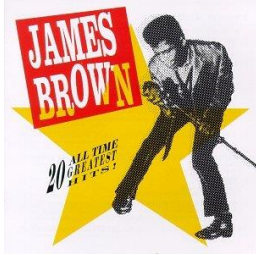
5. James Brown and The Famous Flames

With the James Brown Band featuring Maceo Parker and Nat Jones, saxes, Jimmy Nolen, gtr - Charlotte, N.C. February 1965: 5999 **Papa's Got A Brand New Bag (Parts 1,2,3)** - King 5999 (#1, 17w)

6. Featuring Nat Jones and Maceo Parker, saxes, Jimmy Nolen, gtr) - Miami, May 31, 1965: 6015 **I Got You (I Feel Good)** - King 6015 (#1, 16w)

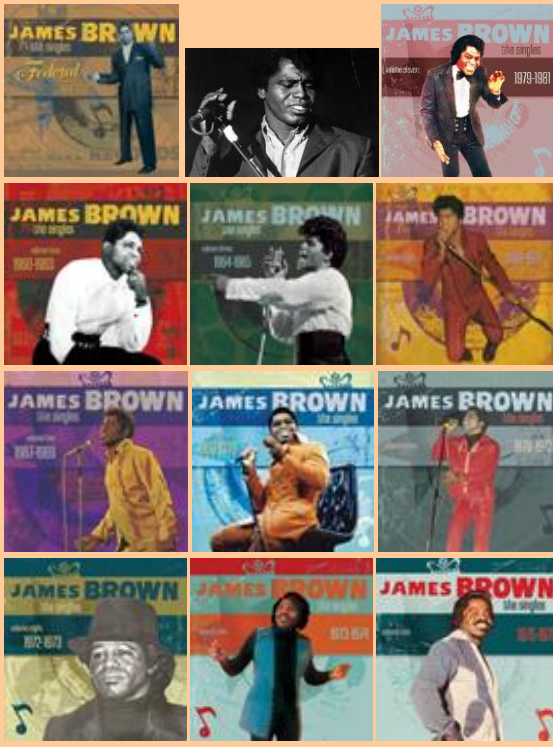
7. With the James Brown Orchestra featuring Alfred Ellis, sax, Jimmy Nolen, gtr, Clyde Stubblefield, dms - Cincinnati, May 1967: 6110 **Cold Sweat (Parts 1 & 2)** - King 6110 (#1, 16w)





Hip-O Select's terrific limited editions

with great liner information incl definitive session discographies by Alan Leeds - issued between September 2006 and September 2011:
 The Singles Volume One / The Federal Years 1956-60 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-00057
 The Singles Volume Two: 1960-1963 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-23645
 The Singles Volume Three: 1964-1965 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-30782
 The Singles Volume Four: 1966-1967 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-40772
 The Singles Volume Five: 1967-1969 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-53671
 The Singles Volume Six: 1969-1970 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2517-87359
 The Singles Volume Seven: 1970-1972 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2527-00161
 The Singles Volume Eight: 1972-1973 (2CD) - Hip-O Select 2627-16333
 The Singles Volume Nine: 1973-1975 (2CD) Hip-O Select 2527-38020
 The Singles Volume Ten; 1975-1979 (2CD) Hip-O Select 2627-62240
 The Singles Volume Eleven: 1979-1981 (2CD) Hip-O Select 2527-81410



The James Brown Band / Orchestra

Below you will find session details of the first recordings of each of the James Brown Band leaders 1956-1964, and Orchestra leaders late 1964-1975.

- 1956 Please, Please, Please** - James Brown with The Famous Flames (Federal), recorded in Cincinnati, OH February 4
- Al Lucas "Fats" Gonder**, bandleader/pno; Bobby Byrd, Johnny Terry, Sylvester Keels, Nash Knox,vcls; Nafloyd Scott,gtr; (Ray Felder,as and Wilbert "Lee Diamond" Smith, ts present on session); Clarence Mack,b; Edison Gore,dm; James Brown,lead vcl.
- 1958 Try Me (I Need You)** - James Brown and The Famous Flames (Federal), recorded in New York, N.Y. September 18
 Andy Gibson, arr/dir/prod with studio musicians; Bill Hollings, J.W. Archer, Louis Madison, and prob Johnny Terry,vcls; James Brown,lead vcl.
- 1958 I Want You So Bad** - James Brown and The Famous Flames (Federal), recorded in Los Angeles, CA December 18
James C Davis, bandleader/ts; Louis Madison,pno; unknown,second ts (poss George Dorsey); Bobby Roach,gtr; Bernard Odum,b; Nat Kendrick,dm; James Brown,lead vcl (the new Famous Flames vocal group on session but no background vocals on this recording: Bill Hollings, J.W. Archer, Johnny Terry, Louis Madison).
- 1961 Just Won't Do Right** version II (*I Stay In The Chapel Every Night*) - James Brown and The Famous Flames (King - issued 1964), recorded in Miami, Florida June 9
Al "Brisco" Clark, bandleader/ts; Bobby Byrd,co-vcl; Roosevelt Brown,tp; St. Clair Pinckney,ts; Alvin "Fats" Gonder,org; Les Buie,gtr, Hubert Lee Perry,b; Nat Kendrick,dm; James Brown,lead vcl (and prob pno, although James played organ on the instrumental "**Cross Firing**" from this session - issued 1961 as James Brown Presents his Band).
- 1962 Prisoner Of Love** - James Brown and the Famous Flames (King), recorded in New York, N.Y. December 17
 Sammy Lowe, arr/dir with studio musicians; James Brown,vcl. (Lowe also conducted several of the more funky recordings for Smash in 1964).
- 1963 Oh Baby Don't You Weep** - James Brown and the Famous Flames (King), recorded in Cincinnati, OH October 4
 St. Clair Pinckney, temp. bandleader/ts; Bobby Byrd, Eugene "Baby Lloyd" Stallworth, Bobby Bennett,vcls (the third set of Famous Flames); Les Buie,gtr; Sam Thomas,b; Sam Lathan,dm; James Brown,lead vcl/pno.
- 1964 Out Of Sight** - James Brown and his Orchestra -1 (Smash), prob recorded in New York late May
 and **Grits** - The James Brown Band -2 (Smash LP "Grits & Soul") recorded in Chicago, Illinois June 6, edited in August
Nat Jones, bandleader/alts; Mack Johnson, Teddy Washington -1, Robert Knight -2, Ron Tooley, Joe Dupars,tp; Wilmer Milton,tb; St. Clair Pinckney, Eldee Williams, Al "Brisco" Clark,ts; Maceo Parker,bars; poss Bobby Byrd,org-1, Al Lucas "Fats" Gonder,pno/org. Les Buie,gtr; Sam Thomas and Bernard Odum,b; Melvin Parker, Obie Williams, and Nat Kendrick,dms; James Brown,vcl-1/org-2 (the Famous Flames vocal group were still on some recordings in 1964).
- 1966 The King** - James Brown at the Organ (Smash LP "Handful Of Soul"), recorded Charlotte, GA August 16
 Nat Jones,bandleader/alts; James Brown,org; Joe Dupars, Waymon Reed, Ron Harper,tp; Levi Rasbury,tb; Alfred "Pee Wee" Ellis, Eldee Williams,ts; St. Clair Pinckney,bars; Jimmy Nolen & Alfonso Kellum,gtr; Bernard Odum,b; John "Jabo" Starks,dm (Nat Jones's last one before his one-time return)
- 1967 Let Yourself Go** - James Brown and The Famous Flames (King), recorded in Cherry Hill, NJ January 15
Alfred "Pee Wee" Ellis, bandleader/alts; Joe Dupars, Waymon Reed,tp; Levi Rasbury,tb; Garnett Brown,tb; Eldee Williams,ts; St. Clair Pinckney,bars; Jimmy Nolen,gtr; Alfonso Kellum or Bernard Odum,b; John "Jabo" Starks,dm; Ron Celico,bgo; James Brown,vcl.
- 1969 Bewildered** version II - James Brown (King), recorded in Cincinnati, OH April 12 or 22/23
 David Matthews, arr/cond; with studio musicians, James Brown,vcl. (Matthews also arranged and produced several other Brown songs 1969).
- 1969 It's A New Day** James Brown (King), recorded in Cincinnati, OH September 3
 Maceo Parker, "unofficial bandleader"/ts; Fred Wesley, "co-bandleader"/tb; Bobby Byrd and various band members,vcl; Richard "Kush" Griffith, Joe Davis,tp; Eldee Williams,ts; St. Clair Pinckney,bars; Jimmy Nolen,gtr; Charles Sherrell,b; Melvin Parker,dm; James Brown,lead vcl.
- 1969 Spinning Wheel** - James Brown (King LP "Sex Machine") recorded live Augusta, GA October 1
 Fred Wesley, arranger/tb; James Brown,org; Richard "Kush" Griffith, Joe Davis,tp; Maceo Parker, Eldee Williams,ts; St. Clair Pinckney, bars; Jimmy Nolen,gtr; Alfonso Kellum,b; Clyde Stubblefield or Melvin Parker,dm.
- 1970 Get Up I Feel Like Being Like A Sex Machine** - James Brown (King), recorded in Nashville, TN April 25
James Brown, bandleader/vcl/pno; Bobby Byrd,vcl/org; Clayton "Chicken" Gunnels, Darryl "Hasaan" Jamison,tp; Robert McCullough,ts; Phelps "Catfish" Collins,gtr; Williams "Bootsy" Collins,b; John "Jabo" Starks,dm.
- 1971 Soul Power** - James Brown (King), recorded in Washington, D.C. January 26
 James Brown, arranger/lead vcl; Fred Wesley,bandleader/co-arranger/tb; Bobby Byrd,co-vcl/org; Clayton "Chicken" Gunnels, Darryl "Hasaan" Jamison,tp; St Clair Pinckney,ts; Phelps "Catfish" Collins, Bobby Roach,gtr; Williams "Bootsy" Collins,bs; John "Jabo" Starks,dm; Johnny Griggs,cga.
- And here the great reunion:*
1973 Doing It To Death ("Gonna Have A Funky Good Time") - Fred Wesley & The J.B.'s (People), recorded in Augusta,GA January 29
Fred Wesley,bandleader/tb/vcl; Ike Oakley, Darryl "Hasaan" Jamison & Jerome "Jasaan" Sanford,tp; Maceo Parker, alts/flute; St. Clair Pinckney & Eldee Williams,ts; Jimmy Nolen & Hearlon "Cheese" Martin,gtr; Fred Thomas,b; John "Jabo" Starks,dm; Danny Ray,intro; James Brown,lead vcl.

James Brown's super-great LPs on the Mercury subsidiary Smash – and the first four new post-1964 on King

After a bout with King Records' owner Syd Nathan, Brown started recording for Smash Records in early 1964. The change turned out to become the most innovative period in Brown's career. He returned to King already in 1965 (waxing a vocal version of "Papa's Got A Brand New Bag" with his band, plus new versions of "I Got You" and soon "It's A Man's World" – all three originally recorded for Smash). He continued doing instrumentals for Smash into 1967.

The James Brown Band (and Show) during the Smash years

Collective personnel:



The James Brown Show circa 1964-1967

Charts "Ted Wright"/organ/piano/drums: James BROWN
Saxophone/arranger/conductor/director: Nat JONES (pictured left)
Guitars: Les BUIE, Jimmy "Chank" NOLEN, Bobby ROACH
Guitar/bass: Alphonso "Country" KELLUM
Saxophone alto, tenor & baritone/flute: Maceo PARKER (partly off for military services)
Saxophone alto & tenor/Organ: Alfred "Pee Wee" ELLIS (also director from 1967)
Tenor & baritone saxophone: St.Clair PINCKNEY
Saxophones: Al "Brisco" CLARK, Charles CARR, Eidee WILLIAMS, Clifford "Ace King" MacMILLAN
Trumpets: Lewis HAMLIN, Teddy WASHINGTON, Roscoe PATRICK, Roosevelt BROWN, Joseph DUPARS, Ron TOOLEY, Mack JOHNSON,
Robert KNIGHT, Ron HARPER, Waymon REED, Richard "Kush" GRIFFITHS (later)
Trombones: Levi RASBURY (also road manager and MC), Clarence "Jay" JOHNSON, Wilmer MILTON, Fred WESLEY, Garnett BROWN (both later)
Piano/organ: Bobby BYRD, Al "Fats" GONDER
Bass/guitars: Bernard ODUM, Hubert PERRY, Sam THOMAS,
"Sweet Charles" SHERRELL (later)
Drums: Sam LATHAN, Melvin PARKER, John "Jabo" STARKS, Nat KENDRICK, Clyde STUBBLEFIELD, O.B. WILLIAMS, Jimmy ROBINSON, Nate JONES
Bongo/Drums: Ronald (John) SELICO, Congas: Johnny GRIGGS (later)
Vocals: The FAMOUS FLAMES (Bobby Byrd, Bobby Bennett, and sometimes "Baby" Lloyd Stallworth); also JOHNNY AND BILL (Johnny Terry & Bill Hollings); and the girl group the JEWELS (Martha Harvin, Grace Ruffin, and Sandra Bears).
Solo vocalists: Bobby BYRD, James CRAWFORD, Bea FORD, Vicki ANDERSON, Yvonne FAIR, Anna KING, Eisie "TV Mama" MAE, Hank BALLARD
The J.B. Dancers: The BROWNIES (in 1967 Ann, Cookie & Joann)
Violins (1967): Vivian Robinson, Richard Jones, Marilyn Jones
MC and "valet": Danny RAY, Stylist: Bobby BENNETT

Note: the Band could muster up to 18 pieces on the live shows.

Showtime MGS-27054 (April 1964, 12 tracks)
Brown, vocals and studio orchestra & chorus (poss. The Famous Flames) under the direction of Sammy Lowe

Grits & Soul MGS-27057 - The Instrumental Sounds of the James Brown Band (compiled August 1964, issued ca March 1965 or late 1964) 10 instrumental tracks

Stereo version SRS-67057 (7 tracks)
(MGS-27000=mono; SRS-67000=stereo)

Out of Sight MGS-27058 (September 1964)
Studio orchestra – and the James Brown Band
12 vocal tracks – LP withdrawn shortly after issue

James Brown plays James Brown Today & Yesterday - featuring James Brown at the organ (& his orchestra) MGS-27072 (October 1965, 11 tracks)

James Brown Plays New Breed (The Boo-Ga-Lo) – MGS-27080 (March 1966) 10 tracks

Handful of Soul: James Brown at The Organ – MGS-27084 (October 1966) 10 tracks (featuring "The King", Nat Jones' masterpiece)

The James Brown Show MGS-27087 (February 1967) featuring the performers of the James Brown's Revue 10 tracks (nine vocals)

James Brown plays The Real Thing - MGS-27093 (issued May 1967, recorded in New York April 4-6, 1967) 8 tracks

James Brown Sings Out of Sight - SRS-67109 (1968 first version, reissue of Smash 27058 excluding "Mona Lisa" – 11 total tracks)

back cover of 67109 – and top right: James Brown Sings and Plays 22 Giant Hits – SRS 67109 (1969)

Smash reissued James Brown Sings Out of Sight as a two-LP set by inserting leftover copies of James Brown Plays James Brown Yesterday and Today in the Unipak cover and pasting a large sticker over the album title. The sticker shown at left had red print, but stickers with blue print were also used.

Disc 1 (SRS-67109):
Out of Sight /Come Rain Or Come Shine /Good Rockin' Tonight /Till Then /Nature Boy /I Wanna Be Around //I Got You /Maybe The Last Time //I Love You, Porgy /Only You /Somethin' Else;

Disc 2 (SRS-67072):
Instrumentals): Papa's Got Brand New Bag, Part 1 /Papa's Got A Brand New Bag, Part 2 /Oh Baby Don't You Weep /Try Me /Sidewinder /Out Of Sight /Maybe The Last Time /Every Beat Of My Heart /Hold It /A Song For My Father, Part 1 /A Song For My Father Part 2.

Papa's Got A Brand New Bag – King 938 (August 1965 and the early 1970s) 12 tracks





I Got You (I Feel Good) – King 946 (January 1966 and the early 1970s) 12 tracks

Mighty Instrumentals – King 961 (May 1966) 12 tracks

Soul Brother #1: It's A Man's Man's Man's World – King 985 (August 1966) 12 tracks

Note: In 1966 King reissued (with new covers) nine of Brown's twelve pre-1964 LPs (there were actually only ten, since his two first ones had already been reissued once before, under new titles, in 1964). The "Night Train. James Brown presents his Band and 5 More Great Artists" LP aka "Twist Around" and as "Jump Around" was not reissued again (although the six tracks featuring Brown's Band would be found on various reissues).

James Brown & his Famous Flames: Original LPs on King 1959 - 1967

 <p>Please Please Please – King 610 (December 1958) - Issued as ... and his Famous Flames</p>	 <p>Try Me – King 635 (late 1959) - and the Famous Flames</p>	 <p>Think – King 683 (late 1960) - and the Famous Flames</p>	 <p>Reissue of King 683 (1966) - and his Famous Flames</p>
 <p>The Amazing James Brown – King 743 (mid 1961) - and the Famous Flames</p>	 <p>The Always Amazing James Brown - reissue of King 743 (1966 and the early 1870s)</p>	 <p>Night Train: James Brown presents his Band and 5 More Great Artists – King 771 (late 1961)</p>	 <p>Twist Around (1962), and Jump Around (1963) - reissues of King 771</p>
 <p>Shout and Shimmy – King 780 (February 1962) - and his Famous Flames</p>	 <p>Good, Good, Twistin': James Brown and his Famous Flames – reissue of King 780 (1962) also reissued as "Mr. Dynamite" James Brown: Excitement (1963 and 1966)</p>	 <p>James Brown and his Famous Flames Tour the U.S.A. – King 804 (late 1962, reissued in 1966)</p>	 <p>The Apollo Theater Presents. In Person. The James Brown Show aka James Brown Live at the Apollo – King 826 (January 1963, reissued in 1966)</p>
 <p>Prisoner of Love – King 851 (July 1963, reissued in 1966)</p>	 <p>Pure Dynamite! (aka Live at the Royal) – King 883 All but two tracks recorded live at the Royal (February 1964, reissued in 1966)</p>	 <p>Please Please Please – King 909 (mid 1964 - this is a reissue of King 610) - and his Famous Flames</p>	 <p>The Unbeatable 16 Hits – King 919 (late 1964 - this is a reissue of King 635) - and the Famous Flames</p>
 <p>James Brown sings Christmas Songs – King 1010 (November 1966, reissued 1967) - issued with three different, but similar front covers</p>	 <p>James Brown Sings Raw Soul – King 1016 (April 1967 and in the 1870s)</p>	 <p>James Brown Live At The Garden King 1018 (June 1967) - and the Famous Flames</p>	 <p>Cold Sweat – King 1020 (July 1967) - and his Famous Flames</p>

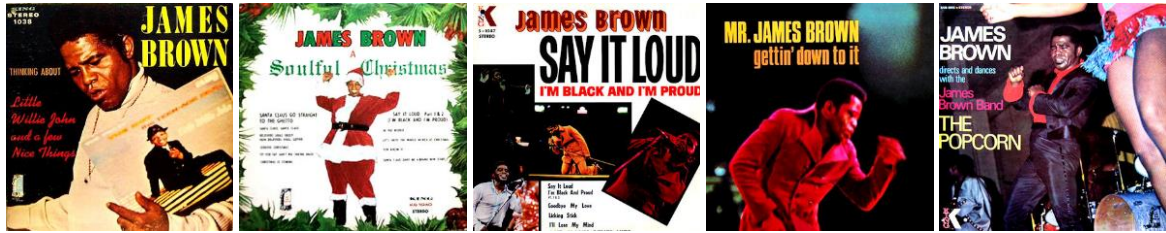
Please note the first post-1964 King albums on previous page, all four issued before the four last here. The original pressings featured "crownless" King logos, on later pressings a crown was added above the label name.

JAMES BROWN: The Original LPs on King 1968 – 1971 (after the Cold Sweat LP 1967) + 2 first on Polydor

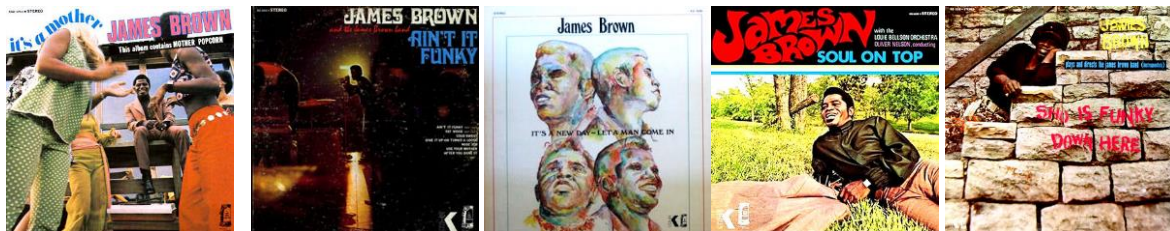
Note that the "and the Famous Flames" subcredit is gone. After the two King LPs in 1971, which were recorded in 1970, James was contracted by Polydor.



1022 (August 1968, 2-set), 1024 (February), 1030 (March), 1031 (May 1968), 1034 (August)



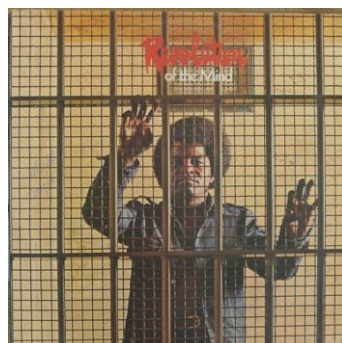
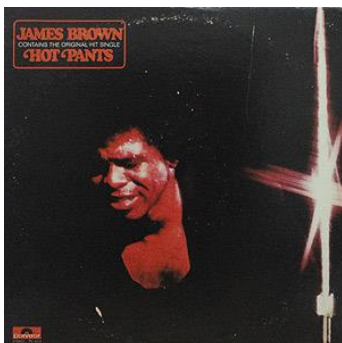
1038 (December), 1040 (November 1968), 5-1047 (April 1969), 5-1051 (May), KSD 1055 (August 1969)



KSD 1063 (September), KS 1092 (January 1970), KS 1095 (June), KS 1100 (May), KS 1110 (March 1971)



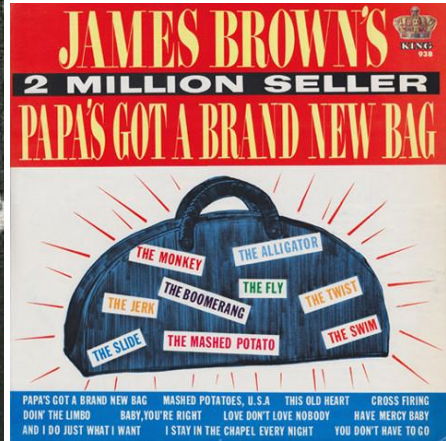
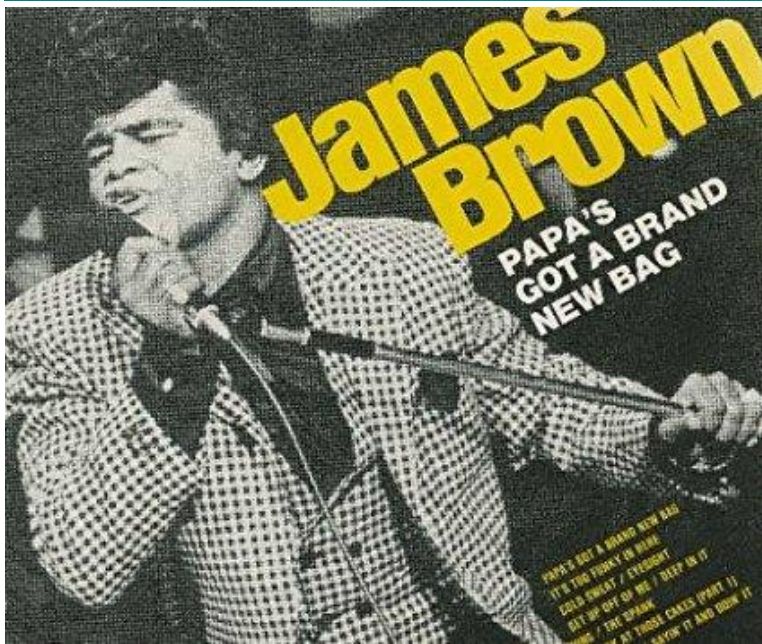
KS 7-1115 (September 1970, 2-set – 2 images), KS 1124 (December 1970), KS 1127 (January 1971),
Image right: Brown in the 1970's? Image below right: James Brown in Germany 1973. Bottom image: Circa 1986.



Polydor PD 4054 (August 1971, Hot Pants), PD 3003 (December 1971, 2-set "Live at the Apollo vol 3" – Revolution of the Mind). Brown continued recording for Polydor up to 1989, and later issued some albums on Scotti Brothers.



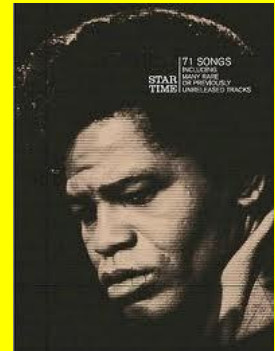
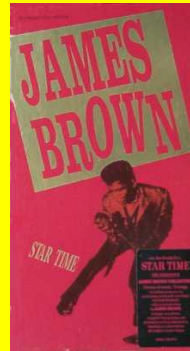
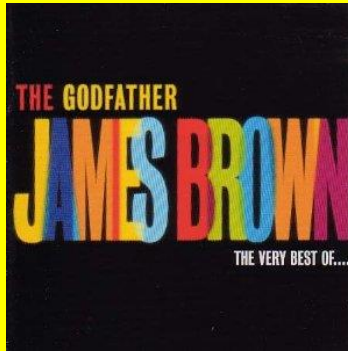
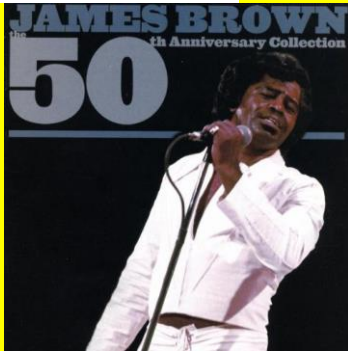
The interesting studio versions of “Papa’s Got A Brand New Bag”



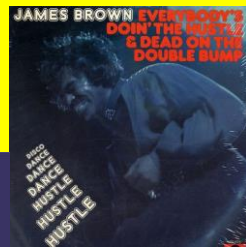
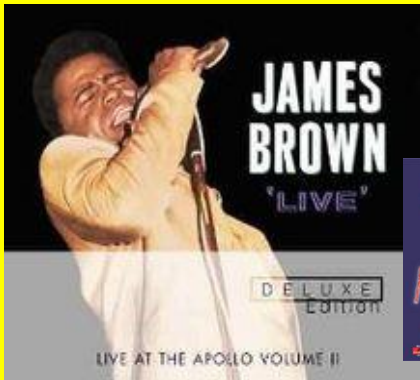
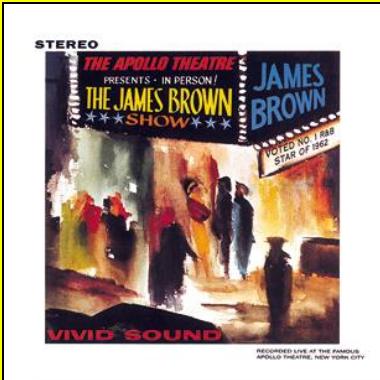
Version	Recording date and location	Original issue and track time	Personnel
The Original (Pts 1, 2 & 3) Original unedited long version	May 31, 1965 Arthur Smith Studios, Charlotte, NC	Polydor 4CD 849109/112-2 (1991) - 6:56 -	Brown, vcls; Joe Dupars, Ron Tooley, Levi Rasbury, tpts; Wilmer Milton, tb; Nat Jones, (altsax), organ and arr; Maceo Parker, ten & barsax; St.Clair Pinckney, Eldee Williams, Al "Brisco" Clark, tensaxes, Jimmy Nolan, Alphonso Kellum, gtrs; Charles Carr, bs; Melvin Parker, dms
Pts 1 and 2 Edited (speeded up) single version	As above (although Polydor list it as recorded February 1965)	King single 5399, LP 938 + LP 961 - 2:11 + 2:12 -	As above (although Polydor and Hip-O-Select list Sam Thomas or Bernard Odum, bs)
Pts 1 & 2 Instrumental Unedited	September 10 1965 Prob Criteria Studios, Miami, Florida	Smash LP MGS 27072 "Plays Today & Yesterday" - 3:54 + 4:27 -	James Brown, organ; Dupars, Tooley, Rasbury; Teddy Washington, tp; unknown tb; Nat Jones, altsax and arr; Parker, Clark, Pinckney, Williams, saxes, Carr, Nolan, Kellum; Mevin Parker, Obie Williams or Clyde Stubblefield, dms
Instrumental Edited single version	As above	Smash single 2008 - 2:14 -	As above
Vocal (see below for audio/video)	November 11, 1969 Los Angeles, California	King LP 1100 "Soul On Top" - 4:38 -	with The Louis Bellson Band Brown, vcls; Bill Tole, tb; Ernie Watts, Joe Romano, altsaxes, Maceo Parker, Buddy Collette, Peter Christlieb, tenorsaxes; Jim Mulidore, barsax; Frank Vincent, pno; Bioll Pittman, Louis Shelton, gtrs; Ray Brown, bs; Louis Bellson, dms; Jack Arnold, perc; Oliver Nelson, arr.
Instrumental with Brown, vcl plus backing band vocals 65, 1969, and 75 versions	Prob early June, 1975 Sound Ideas Studio C, New York City	Polydor LP 6054 "Everybody's Doin' the Hustle & Dead on the Double Bump" - 5:34 -	James Brown and the Hustle Rats James Brown, vcls / arr; (and poss keyboard); Fred Wesley, tb and bandleader; Maceo Parker, altsax; Leon Pendarvis, clarinet; Joe Beck, gtr; plus unknown band members (probably including Jimmy Parker and St.Clair Pinckney, saxes; Nolan and Hearlon Martin, gtrs; Charles Sherrell, bs; John Morgan, dms, and Johnny Griggs, perc – although most of these left the J.B.'s around this time - again).



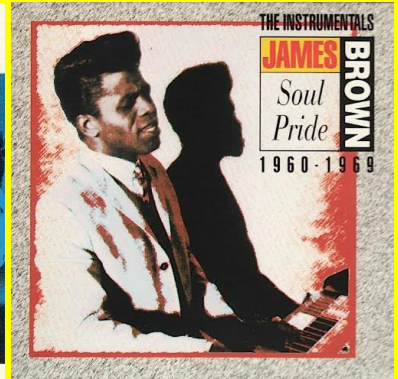
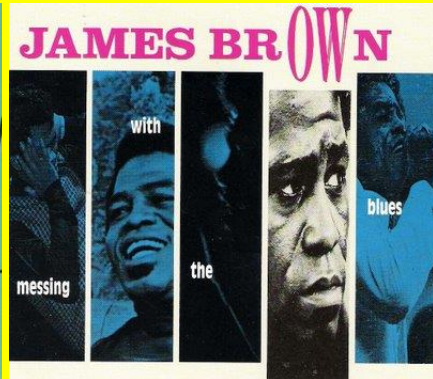
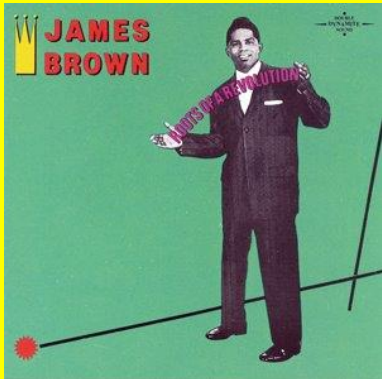
THE ULTIMATE JAMES BROWN ALBUM COLLECTION



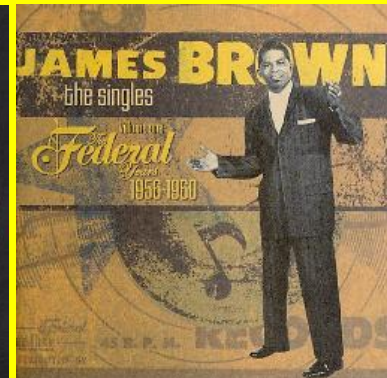
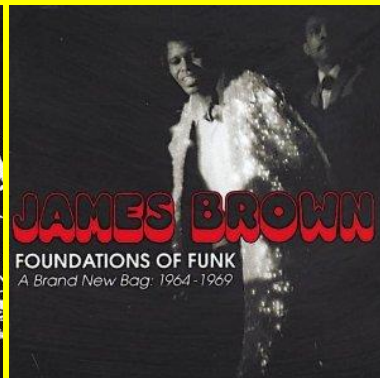
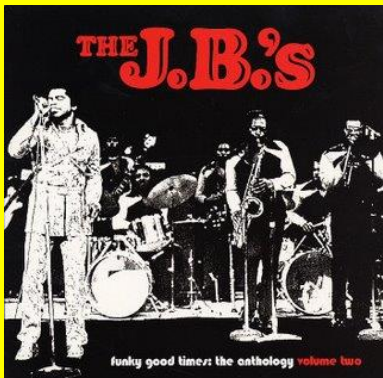
50th Anniversary Collection – Polydor 2CD 60725 (2003) 50 tracks; The Godfather – The Very Best of James Brown – CD 589641 (2008) 20 tracks.
Star Time: The Godfather of Soul – Polydor (super 4CD anthology) 849109/112 (1991 – reissued 2007 with diff cover) 71 tracks.



James Brown Live at the Apollo (The Apollo Theatre Presents in Person: The James Brown Show) – Polydor CD 843479 (LP 1963/CD 2000);
James Brown "Live" (The James Brown Show recorded live at the Apollo Theatre June 24-25, 1967) - aka Live At The Apollo vol II
- Polydor 2CD DeLuxe Edition 549774 (2004) 23 tracks; Sex Machine Today PD1-6042 (LP 1975/CD 2004) and Everybody's Doin' The Hustle & Dead On The Double Bump PD1-6054 (LP 1975)



Roots of a Revolution – Polydor (great 2CD anthology 1956-1963) 817304 (1989) 43 tracks. Messing With The Blues – Polydor (fine 2CD) 847257 (1990) 30 tracks;
Soul Pride: The Instrumentals 1960-1969 – Polydor 2CD 617845 (1993) 36 tracks



The J.B.'s: Funky Good Time: The Anthology (2CD) - Polydor 527094 (featuring the 12 minute original of Doing It To Death) (1995) 30 tracks;;
Foundations of Funk: A Brand New Bag 1964-1969 - Polydor/Universal (2CD) 73145311652 (1996, reissued 2007) featuring extended original mixes, 27 tracks;
James Brown The Singles – the Federal Years 1956-1960 (the first volume of the great singles series) - Hip-O-Select/Polydor/Universal (2CD) 800070 (2007) 41 tracks.



JAMES BROWN: ONE PER YEAR 1956 – 1976

One representative single side per year - plus a 1964 and a 1965 bonus (shown above); and bonuses from 1961 and 1970. Nothing 1975 plus one bonus of 1985.



1956



1957



1958



1959



1960



1961



1962



1963



1964



1965



1966



1967



1968



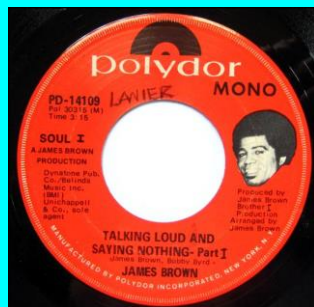
1969



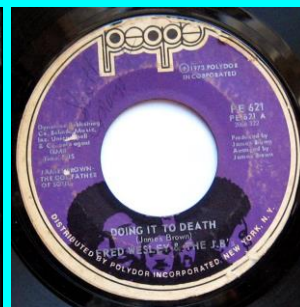
1970



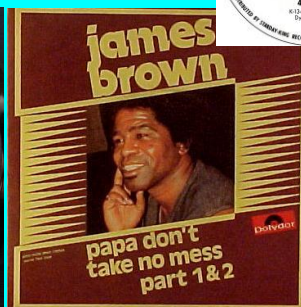
1971



1972



1973



1974



1976



THE TOP TWO



ON THE WEB (as of October 1, 2011)

	<p> http://raycharles.com/ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Charles http://www.allmusic.com/artist/ray-charles-p3876 http://www.swingmusic.net/Ray_Charles_Biography.html http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/musician.php?id=5648 http://www.soulfulkindmusic.net/rcharles.htm http://afgen.com/ray_charles.html http://www.bluesdatabase.com/modules.php?name=Discographies&look=albums-1898 http://seattletimes.nwsouce.com/html/entertainment/2001953016_raycharles11.html http://www.facebook.com/RayCharles </p> <p> http://www.seguerecords.com/rufusthomas/ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rufus_Thomas http://www.allmusic.com/artist/rufus-thomas-p5640 http://www.soulfulkindmusic.net/rthomas.htm http://www.soulwalking.co.uk/rufus%20thomas.html http://staxrecords.free.fr/rufus.htm </p>	
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	<p> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Willie_John http://www.allmusic.com/artist/little-willie-john-p24464 http://www.soulfulkindmusic.net/lwjohn.htm http://www.bluesdatabase.com/modules.php?name=Discographies&look=albums-1500 http://www.tsimon.com/lwjohn.htm http://redkelly.blogspot.com/2008/05/little-willie-john-you-hurt-me-king.html http://www.artistdirect.com/artist/little-willie-john/449587 http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=322 http://www.rockabillyhall.com/JohnnyWatson1.html http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johnny_%22Guitar%22_Watson http://www.allmusic.com/artist/johnny-guitar-watson-p136438 http://www.soulfulkindmusic.net/jgwatson.htm http://www.soulbluesmusic.com/johnnyguitarwatson.htm http://www.soulwalking.co.uk/Johnny%20Guitar%20Watson.html http://www.artistdirect.com/artist/johnny-guitar-watson/507842 </p>	
	<p> http://www.shewins.com/brook.htm http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brook_Benton http://www.allmusic.com/artist/brook-benton-p3662 http://www.soulfulkindmusic.net/bbenton.htm http://www.tsimon.com/benton.htm http://www.soulwalking.co.uk/brook%20benton.html </p> <p> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_Curtis http://www.allmusic.com/artist/king-curtis-p6357 http://www.bluesdatabase.com/modules.php?name=Discographies&look=albums-1359 http://tsimon.com/curtis.htm http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/musician.php?id=8391 http://rockhall.com/inductees/king-curtis/ http://www.johnnyferreira.com/king-curtis.php http://www.texasheritagemusic.org/special_stories/Texas_Stories/King%20Curtis.pdf </p>	
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