## Putumayo Presents Zydeco (2000)



1. Creole Farmers Stomp - The Creole Zydeco Farmers 2. Co Fa - Keith Frank & The Soileau Zydeco Band 3. You're No Good For Me - Rosie Ledet 4. What You Gonna Do? - Beau Jocque 5. I'm In Love - Nathan And The Zydeco Cha Chas 6. Burnin' Flames Special - Jude Taylor & His Burning Flames play 7. Lula Lula Don't You Go To Bingo - Boozoo Chavis 8. My Girl Josephine - Queen Ida & Her Zydeco Band 9. Calinda - Clifton Chenier play

10. I'm On The Wonder - Buckwheat Zydeco 11. Bye-Bye Mon Neg - Geno Delafose And French Rockin' Boogie 12. Hoochie Coochie - Joe K K And Zydeco Force 13. Stay In Or Stay Out - Pass The Dutchie - Chris Ardoin & Double Clutchin'

Performers include: The Creole Zydeco Farmers, Keith Frank & The Soileau Zydeco Band, Rosie Ledet, Beau Jocque,

Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Chas, Jude Taylor & His Burning Flames, Boozoo Chavis, Queen Ida & Her Zydeco Band, Clifton Chenier, Buckwheat Zydeco, Geno Delafose & French Rockin' Boogie, Joe K K & Zydeco Force, Chris Ardoin & Double Clutchin'.

From the get-go, Putumayo Presents Zydeco is the down-and-dirtiest most-rockin' Saturday night at a sweaty bayou dance hall or juke joint a non-native can experience. Born of the Creole community in Louisiana's backwaters and moving outward to Texas and California, Zydeco bumps, grinds, and is a wang dang doodle of a big time. Youngblood Keith Frank & the Soileau Zydeco Band rip through "Co Fa" with their trademark double-kick beat, the low-end-amped-up sound making heartbreak sound like a raunchy roll in the hay. Rosie Ledet's "You're No Good for Me" is a wailer for all lovers scorned, featuring thudding bass, wiry guitar lines, and sax in a one-upmanship dance with her accordion. Beau Jocque growls, Jude Taylor trades accordion licks with his band's organist, and Queen Ida reigns supreme on "My Girl Josephine." As the Creole Farmers sing on the opening cut, "We gonna party 'til the cows come home!" ----Paige La Grone, Editorial Reviews

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The feel and energy of a zydeco performance doesn't necessarily come across in the studio, and few of today's performers are particularly impressive songwriters. Fortunately, Putumayo has sought out some of the better recent zydeco recordings, and this compilation is as solid a selection as any. From well-known performers who have passed on, such as Clifton Chenier and Beau Jocque, to current stars such as Keith Frank and Boozoo Chavis, the music is remarkably consistent, with tracks by Rosie Ledet and Buckwheat Zydeco that are as good as zydeco gets. ---Rhythm Magazine

Zydeco is the favored social and dance music of Louisiana's Creole population, who are the descendants of African and Afro-Caribbean slaves and free people of color. The related Cajun style occupies a similar place in the lives of a nearby white community, whose ancestors were a colony of French settlers called Acadians. Creoles are proud of their language, customs, and cuisine, and guard them fiercely. However, as time passes, zydeco has inevitably become heavily influenced by soul, R&B, funk, and gospel, although the time-honored squeezeboxes and metal washboards are usually still somewhere in evidence among the woodwinds, brass, and electric guitars. Among this lineup, the more traditional tunes tend to be the winners. Boozoo Chavis' "Lula Lula Don't You Go to Bingo" is a hilarious cautionary tale about the evils of gambling, while the riff underpinning Clifton Chenier's "Calinda" has been unceremoniously lifted by several rock bands, including the Rolling Stones in "Under-Assistant West Coast Promo Man." Joe KK and Zydeco Force contribute "Hootchie Cootchie," a roistering floor-filler full of fortune telling and macho bravado. The rhythms tend as much toward the straight-ahead stomp of Chicago blues as the more usual chug-chug preferred by the old timers, but even the more diluted tunes have a certain earthy, swinging something that screams zydeco from a mile away. ---Christina Roden, All Music Guide

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