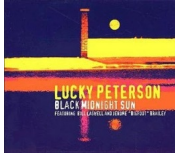


Lucky Peterson - Black Midnight Sun (2003)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 14 July 2010 20:15 - Last Updated Thursday, 22 April 2021 19:14

Lucky Peterson - Black Midnight Sun (2003)



- 01 - Herbert Harper's Free Press News
- 02 - Lucky In Love
- 03 - Is It Because I'm Black
- 04 - Jody's Got Your Girl And Gone
- 05 - Smokestack Lightning
- 06 - Black Midnight Sun
- 07 - She's A Burglar
- 08 - Truly Your Friend
- 09 - Talkin' Loud And Saying Nothing
- 10 - Changes Your Ways
- 11 - Thank You For Talkin' To Me Africa

Lucky Peterson, guitar, organ, electric piano, synthesizer, vocal
Bill Laswell, bass
Jerome "Bigfoot" Brailey, drums
Alex J. Harding, baritone saxophone
Graham Haynes, cornet
Jesse Dulman, tuba
Henry Threadgill, flute
horns arranged by Henry Threadgill

Guitarist-organist-singer Peterson shatters the boundaries of blues to make his finest album. First, there's the sound: crystalline, enveloping, and beat-conscious thanks to producer and bassist Bill Laswell. Then there are the stories, which range from Peterson's take on the two-timing "Jody" yarns that run through southern blues to the hard-edged contemplation of prejudice "Is It Because I'm Black." His taste in covers is great, too, from a New Orleans funk version of the overlooked Muddy Waters anti-war gem "Herbert Harper's Free Press News" to obscure soul demigod Howard Tate's "She's a Burglar" to Sly Stone's "Thank You for Talkin' to

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Me Africa." And jazz genius Henry Threadgill's flute helps Peterson transform Howlin' Wolf's "Smokestack Lightnin'" into an ethereal psychedelic trip. Best of all, though, is the sheer visceral quality of Peterson's performances. His singing is strong, confident, and low-pitched, and his guitar is especially artful and gritty, finally matching the power of his organ virtuosity. Put this one on 2003's "best-of" list. ---Ted Drozdowski, Editorial Reviews

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