

Lowell Fulson – Tramp (1967)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 26 June 2012 18:37 - Last Updated Thursday, 15 April 2021 16:17

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1 *Tramp* 3:06 2 *I'm Sinkin'* 4:04 3 *Get Your Game Up Tight* 2:39 4 *Back Door Key* 3:28 5 *Two Way Wishing* 2:45 6 *Lonely Day* 3:25 7 *Black Nights* 3:34 8 *Year of 29* 3:50 9 *No Hard Feeling* 3:23 10 *Hustler's Game* 3:25 11 *Goin' Home* 3:06 12 *Pico [Instrumental]* 2:58 13 *Year of 29 [Alternate Take]* 4:19 14 *Tramp [Take 1]* 3:58 Musicians: Lowell Fulson - Guitar, Vocals Arthur Adams - Guitar Rene Hall – Guitar Maxwell Street Jimmy Davis - Arranger, Piano Jackie Kelso - Sax (Baritone) Chuck Thomas - Drums Curtis Tillman - Bass

Lowell Fulson's comfortably laid-back but groovin' soul-blues workout "Tramp" quickly became one of his biggest hits (and fared even better in a cover version by Otis Redding and Carla Thomas), and this album (released to tie in with the single's success) finds Fulson following a similar stylistic path. While most of Tramp's tunes lean more heavily on traditional blues structures than the title tune, Fulson was obviously aiming for a funky ambience rather than the heavy emotional crush of the deep blues, and his clean, uncluttered guitar solos are warmer and more approachable than the typical Chicago-style axe work of the day. There's a sly playfulness to this material that's winning, and even the most down-and-out songs here display a light touch and creative intelligence that sets Fulson apart. Hardly a masterpiece, Tramp is still the sort of album to please fans and new admirers alike. --- Mark Deming, AllMusic Review

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