

Tramp – Tramp (1969)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 18 September 2011 09:12 - Last Updated Monday, 15 July 2013 21:23

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01. *Own Up (Cotton/Hall/Brunning)* - 2:50 02. *Same Old Thing (Cotton/Hall/Brunning)* - 2:05
03. *What You Gonna Do When The Road Comes Through (Cotton/Hall/Brunning)* - 2:49 04.
Somebody Watching Me (Cotton/Hall/Brunning) - 2:55 05. *Too Late Now*
(Cotton/Hall/Brunning) - 2:39 06. *Baby What You Want Me To Do (Reed)* - 4:00 07. *Street*
Walking Blues (Cotton/Hall/Brunning) - 3:15 [play](#) 08. *On The Scene (Cotton/Hall/Brunning)* -
2:43 09. *Month Of Sundays (Cotton/Hall/Brunning)* - 3:39 10. *Hard Work (Kirwan)* - 4:19 11.
Another Day (Cotton/Hall/Brunning) - 2:07

[play](#)

Personnel: - Danny Kirwan - guitar - Bob Hall - piano - Bob Brunning - bass - Mick Fleetwood
- drums - Dave Kelly (Little Brother Dave) - vocals - Jo-Ann Kelly (Memphis Lil) - female vocals

We decided to use the name "Tramp" for the group of musicians on this album because we wanted to devise a name which suggested the concept of a fluid musical framework in which we could utilise the skills of any musicians who felt interested and excited enough to join Bob Hall and myself in playing material which appealed to us all. Thus the personnel on this album consists of people with whom we enjoy working, and we trust that they got something out of the session as well.

I first met Bob when we worked together in the Savoy Brown Blues Band, and prior to that I played bass in Fleetwood Mac, when I was associated with the drummer on this l.p. - Mick Fleetwood. Mick is a fine drummer, simple yet effective. Neither Bob nor I had worked with Danny Kirwan before, although of course we had heard his work with Fleetwood Mac, and he added a great deal to the session. The voice of "Memphis Lil" and her "Little Brother Dave" will be familiar to blues enthusiasts and I feel sure that you will enjoy their powerful contribution.

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Bob Hall and myself are very pleased with the result of this meeting of musical "Tramps", and we sincerely hope you are too. ---Bob Brunning, Liner Notes

This was a great assembly of Fleetwood Mac alumni Bob Brunning on bass, Danny Kirwan on guitar and Mick Fleetwood on drums and they are rounded out nicely by Brunning's long time partner in crime Bob Hall on piano and Dave & Jo Ann Kelly on vocals (though under fake names due to legal reasons). Inspired playing and material set this platter alight. The rocking galloper "Own up" gets us started on perfect footing with Dave and Jo Ann dueling it out on lead vocals while Kirwan's rough guitar keeps the energy going along with great drum fills by Fleetwood and Bruns holds up his end well, a real highlight. Other rocking moments are Danny's guitar instrumental spotlight called "Hard work" which is a fierce shuffle and Bob Hall has some of his most meaningful ivory licks added to this one.

This is probably the longest Kirwan has soloed on his own on record to date though the slow "Street walking blues" often gets overlooked in this regard as Kirwan solos for well over a full minute towards the end of the track here and it's a gut wrencher that keeps you begging for more. If I have any complaint about this record, it's just that the late great Jo Ann Kelly is perhaps under used here as though she does a great job as mentioned on the opening cut, it sounds like she's really only on two other tracks here which are the great mopey classic blueser "Baby what you want me to do" handled perfectly here by all concerned and the catchy slight chunky funk of "On the scene" though again, accompanied by "little brother Dave". This turns out to be a minor quibble though as Dave lays down some great vocals on the rest of the tracks.

The light plinky shuffle of "Same old thing", the effective stroll of "What you gonna do when the road comes through", the piano led boogie of "Somebody watching me", a piano and vocal only moaner called "Too late now", another piano led ballad called "Month of Sundays" (though it also includes a finger snapping jazz feel with Danny's delicate guitar strums keeping it successfully in this vein) and the well put together closing sing a long "Another day". These explanations I have attempted to give here hardly do justice to the great sound this group have put out for us here as I find it a mix of blues and rock that is not bettered in many other albums if any. Also impressive is that Brunning is credited with co writing all tracks here except the Kirwan guitar work out discussed above and the great straight ahead blues highlight here "Baby what you want me to do" and I would say this album would rank as a highlight in the respective discography of all 3 Mac members here to date. Be warned though that it does sound as though the CD editions of this album (both on it's own and as on the "2 on 1" set called "British blues giants") has/have been mastered from vinyl though it is less obvious on some tracks and it

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shouldn't detract from the playing enjoyment you will get out of these recordings. --- John Fitzgerald, fleetwoodmac.net.

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