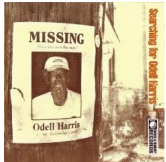


Odell Harris - Searching For Odell Harris (2006)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 21 September 2012 16:32 - Last Updated Saturday, 08 June 2013 21:06

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01. *Train I Ride* (3:57) 02. *Before You Accuse Me* (3:52) 03. *Daylight Romp (instrumental)* (3:51) 04. *.44 Blues* (2:25) 05. *On Your Way Fishing* (2:54) 06. *Can't Stand To See You Go* (1:52) 07. *All Night Long* (4:17) 08. *Someday Baby* (3:30) 09. *Sitting On The Top Of The World* (2:26) 10. *Early One Morning* (3:11) 11. *Hill Funk (instrumental)* (5:24) 12. *Laughing To Keep From Crying* (2:29) Musicians: Odell Harris - guitar, vocals; Bill Abel - guitar; Lightnin' Malcolm - bass, drums.

Harris is a 66-year-old singer and electric blues guitarist from the hills of North Mississippi. His music shares much in common with that of his late friends, R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough. But he also was influenced as a young man by the blues of his uncle-by-marriage Albert King and his cousin William Bell, who went on to become a soul legend at Stax Records in the 1960s and 1970s. Harris' sound manages to marry the primal hill-funk of the Burnside/Kimbrough nexus and the greasy strut of a century of coarse Memphis blues.

The 12 tracks that make up *Searching for Odell Harris* range from gripping solo performances of blues standards like ".44 Blues," "Laughing To Keep From Crying" and "Sitting on Top of the World," to raucous band performances featuring support from Mississippi native Bill Abel on guitar and Steve Lightnin' Malcolm on drums and bass. Abel has backed everyone from David "Honeyboy" Edwards and Henry Townsend to Sam Carr and Big George Brock. Malcolm has worked extensively with Jimbo Mathus, the Burnside Exploration and such elder statesmen of the blues as T Model Ford, Cedell Davis, Robert Belfour and Jimmy "Duck" Holmes.

Searching for Odell Harris was recorded during a single all-night recording session on the gulf coast of Mississippi. The name of the disc alludes to Harris' legendary elusiveness. He rarely performs in spaces more public than a friend's living room or front porch.

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The CD is the first for Harris and the second for the label, which made waves earlier this year with the release of Back to Bentonia by Jimmy "Duck" Holmes. ---cdbaby.com

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