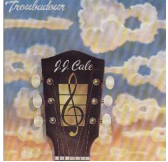


J.J. Cale – Troubadour (1976)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 10 November 2012 17:17 - Last Updated Tuesday, 23 February 2021 08:30

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01. *Hey Baby* (3:13) 02. *Travelin' Light* (2:51) 03. *You Got Something* (4:01) 04. *Ride Me High* (3:35) 05. *Hold On* (1:59) 06. *Cocaine* (2:50) 07. *I'm A Gypsy Man* (2:43) 08. *The Woman That Got Away* (2:53) 09. *Super Blue* (2:42) 10. *Let Me Do It To You* (3:00) 11. *Cherry* (3:22) 12. *You Got Me On So Bad* (3:18) J.J. Cale - Guitar, Piano, Vocals Billy Puett - Saxophone Dennis Good - Trombone Buddy Emmons - Steel Guitar Gordon Payne - Guitar Reggie Young - Guitar Bill Boazman - Guitar Harold Bradley - Guitar Chuck Browning - Guitar, Drums Bill Pursell - Keyboards Don Tweedy - Keyboards Bobby Wood - Keyboards Tommy Cogbill - Bass Joe Osborne - Bass Bill Raffenspeger - Bass Charles Dungey - Bass Kenny Buttrey - Drums Farrell Morris - Drums, Vocals Buddy Harmon - Drums Karl Himmel - Drums Jim Karstein - Drums Kenny Malone - Drums Jerry Allison - Percussion Audie Ashworth - Percussion Gary S. "Flip" Paxton – Vocals

An understated, rich, rewarding gem that no one's ever heard. Unfortunately, since few blues fans venture outside the tried-and-true territory of old black men rocking the house Chicago style or young guns with a Hendrix complex serving up monster Texas floods, Cale's druggy brand of rhythmic, spooky storytelling falls far outside of easy characterization.

It's too bad, because Cale's rambling snapshots of love and life on the road are unconventionally addicting. While at times it gets so loose it threatens to fall apart, Cale's sparse style is oddly satisfying -- never has less been more.

All of the songs on *Troubadour* are outstanding. The now warhorse "Cocaine" is far more intriguing in its original version, more menacing and worldworn than Clapton's driving take. The uncharacteristically energetic "Travelin' Light" is a whispered invitation to road, half intrigue, half warning. The album's highlight, "Cheri," Cale's tender, perhaps futile plea for love, is hauntingly gorgeous.

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Cale, much like Nick Drake and Alex Chilton, is an artist whose genius and influence far outweighs his popularity. Sit back and sink in to this simply wonderful disc. ---James Burke, amazon.com

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