

Doctor Clayton & His Buddy - Pearl Harbour Blues (1970)

Written by bluesever

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A1 My Own Blues A2 Moonshine Women Blues A3 Pearl Harbor Blues A4 Ain't No Business We Can Do A5 I Need My Baby A6 Ain't Gonna Drink No More A7 Root Doctor Blues A8 Copper Colored Mam B1 Farwell Little Girl B2 Broke And Hungry B3 Illinois Central B4 Nappy Head Woman B5 Across The Hall Blues B6 Walking With The Blues B7 Sweet Lucy Blues B8 No Whiskey Blues Doctor Clayton, Sunnyland Slim – vocals Big Bill Broonzy, Willie Lacey – guitar Alfred Elkins – bass Blind John Davis – piano Ransom Knowling – tuba Judge Riley – drums

Doctor Clayton was an American blues singer and songwriter who performed barefoot, wearing comically large, round glasses.

Peter Joe Clayton was born in Georgia on April 19, 1898 (although he later claimed he had been born in Africa), and moved to St. Louis as a child with his family. He had four children of his own and worked in a factory in St. Louis, while starting his career as a singer. He could also play piano and ukelele, although he never did so on record.

Doctor Clayton recorded six sides for Bluebird Records in 1935, but only two of those were ever issued. His family all died in a house fire in 1937, after which Clayton became an alcoholic and began wearing oversized hats and glasses. Moving to Chicago with Robert Lockwood, Jr., he received attention from Decca Records, but ultimately returned to Bluebird, recording with them again in 1941-42. He also recorded for Okeh Records at this time.

Among the songs Clayton wrote were "Cheating And Lying Blues," frequently covered by other blues artists, "Pearl Harbor Blues," written after the Pearl Harbor bombing of 1941, and

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"Moonshine Woman Blues," which became a chart hit for B.B. King as "The Woman I Love" in 1968. In 1946, he recorded the tunes "Hold That Train Conductor" and "I Need My Baby," which were also both covered by King. Most of his later recordings featured Blind John Davis on piano. He was a regional sales success and played regularly in Chicago nightclubs with Lockwood and Sunnyland Slim.

Doctor Clayton died of tuberculosis on January 7, 1947, shortly after his second recording session. Big Bill Broonzy and Tampa Red attended his funeral. ---
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