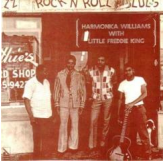


Harmonica Williams - With Little Freddie King (1970)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 06 January 2015 16:58 - Last Updated Friday, 05 February 2021 12:30

Harmonica Williams - With Little Freddie King (1970)



1 - *Baby Don't You Know* 2 - *Juke Boy* 3 - *Sideways* 4 - *Declaration Day* 5 - *Born Dead* 6 - *The King's Special* 7 - *Williams' Special* 8 - *Highway 82* 9 - *Williams' Goodbye* Harmonica Williams – harmonica, vocals Little Freddie King – guitar Newton S. Greer – vocals (5) A. B. Bruer – bass Rudy Taylor – drums

Little Freddie's real name is Fread E. Martin and he was born in McComb, Mississippi, July 19, 1940 down the road from Bo Diddley place. At the age of 17, Freddie moved from the farm to New Orleans to stay with his sister. There he met such upcoming stars as Buddy Guy and Slim Harpo.

It was in the early 1960's that Freddie was hung with the "Little Freddie King" appellation as he'd been using his real name on gigs up to that point. "Freddy King was really hot then with songs like Hideaway and San-Ho-Zay" said Freddie. People kept telling me I sounded just like Freddy King, so they started calling me "Little Freddie King".

"Big Freddy lived in New Orleans in the Desire Projects for a couple of years. I lived not too far away. I went on a lot of gigs with him. He didn't mind me being called Little Freddie King. He wanted me to go to Texas with him but I couldn't because of my job."

Generally the 1960's were busy years for Freddie, as he played with the likes of Polka Dot Slim, Guitar Grady, Guitar Ray, Snooks Eaglin, Billy Tate, Harmonica Williams, Boogie Bill Webb, Rev. Charles Jacobs (his cousin) and Eddie Lang.

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"I pretty much stayed lit up all the time back then," said Freddie. I played a lot around New Orleans area with Harmonica Williams, and then after the job we'd go to Logtown or Bayou Liberty and play. Then we'd come back to New Orleans around one or two in the morning and play the Dew Drop Inn. I'd go get a pint of corn liquor. Then I'd wake up and we'd do it all over again.'

Little Freddie King became a charter member an annual attraction at the New Orleans Jazz Festival and toured Europe with Bo Diddley, Texas Alexander and John Lee Hooker in 1976. His most amazing gig though occurred in 1981, when he embarked on a six-month tour of the Western States when he hosted workshops on the Blues. His 1970 recording titled "Harmonica Williams and Little Freddie King" is believed to be the first electric blues album recorded in New Orleans. --- jambase.com

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