

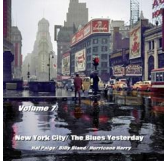
## New York City - The Blues Yesterday Vol.7

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 18 March 2018 12:17 - Last Updated Sunday, 18 March 2018 12:22

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01. *Break of day* 02. *Drive it home* Hal Paige - vocals, piano Mikey Baker - guitar + band  
New York City, 9 March 1953 03. *Big foot May* 04. *Please say you do* Hal  
Paige - vocals, piano + band New York City, 20 December 1953
05. *My angel child* 06. *Rock this joint this morning* 07. *Guitar shuffle* 08. *Guitar blues*  
Hal Paige - vocals, piano Jimmy Spruill - guitar + band New York City, 1955
09. *Pour the corn* 10. *Don't have to cry no more*  
Hal Paige - vocals, piano Herbert Wright - guitar, saxophones Bob Harris - bass Kenneth  
McDonald - drums New York City, January 1957
11. *Sugar babe* 12. *Thunderbird*  
Hal Paige - vocals, piano Jimmy Spruill - guitar + band New York City, September 1957
13. *Going back to my home town* 14. *After hours blues*  
Hal Paige - vocals, piano Jimmy Spruill - guitar + band New York City, 1959
15. *Chicken in the basket* 16. *The fat man* 17. *Oh you for me* 18. *Chicken hop* 19. *Flo, open  
the door*  
Billy Bland - vocals Buddy Lucas - tenor saxophone Bob Gaddy - piano Sonny Terry -  
harmonica Brownie Mc Ghee - guitar, bass, drums New York City, September 1955
20. *If I can be your man* 21. *I had a dream*  
Billy Bland - vocals + band New York City, 1957
22. *Do the bug with me* 23. *Uncle Bud*  
Billy Bland - vocals Mickey Baker - guitar + band New York City, 1961
24. *Grandma gave a party* 25. *Mama stole the chicken* 26. *What's that?* 27. *Doing the mule*  
Billy Bland - vocals + band New York City, 1963
28. *The last meal* 29. *Pennsylvania blues*  
Hurricane Harry - vocals + band New York City, December 1956

Let's open this 7th opus of our New York City Blues Yesterday series with pianist, singer and bandleader Hal Paige. Despite a somewhat large discography (here entirely gathered), almost nothing is known about him and he didn't appear, to my knowledge, on any specialist blues magazine! He led during the 1950's his band The Wailers (sometimes The Whalers!) before

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vanishing at the end of the decade!

On the other hand, Billy Bland (born 5 April 1932 at Wilmington, NC) has enjoyed a great Hit with the pop dance number Let the little girl dance. A New Yorker since an early age, Bland has started a singing career as a member of the doo wop ensemble The Bees (with whom he recorded for Imperial) before launching his own personal act, recording quite a lot of singles for several New York based labels, alternating pop numbers with Rock'n'roll and blues. Unfortunately he never got another Hit and let down the music for good during the late 60's, managing his own chain restaurants in Harlem. Billy Bland died in New York City 22 March 2017. We have here gathered his most blues and bluesy tracks, particularly those recorded with Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee.

At last, the mysterious (and very good) 45s by a certain Hurricane Harry is no one else than novelist, Hollywood scriptwriter, songwriter and occasionally recording singer Earl Solomon Burroughs (1925-2016) more widely known under his pen name Jack Hammer. He composed some of the greatest Rock'n'roll Hits of the 50's and 60's, namely Fujiyama mama and Great balls of fire (a smash hit for Jerry Lee Lewis) ---Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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