

Chicago - The Blues - Today! (CD3) [1996]

Written by bluesever
Friday, 22 May 2015 15:47 -

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A1 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *One More Time* 2:26 A2 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *Kid Man Blues* 3:00 A3 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *My Black Mare* 3:41 A4 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *Stealin' Back* 3:17 A5 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *I Got Mine In Time* 4:17 A6 –Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band *Tighten Up On It* 3:11 Johnny Young - Guitar, Mandolin, Vocals Hayes Ware – Bass Elga Edmonds - Drums B1 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The Dynaflo Blues* 2:35 B2 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The Black Spider Blues* 3:12 B3 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The Layin' Down My Shoes And Clothes* 2:24 B4 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The If I Get Lucky* 3:23 B5 –Big Walter Horton's Blues Harp Band *Rockin' My Boogie* 3:26 B6 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The Mr. Boweevil* 3:11 B7 –Johnny Shines Blues Band, *The Hey, Hey* 2:23 Johnny Shines – Guitar, Vocals Floyd Jones – Bass Walter Horton – Harmonica Memphis Charlie Musselwhite – Harmonica (B5) Frank Kirkland – Drums

A definitive album! It features songs by Johnny Shines and Johnny Young, both backed by Big Walter Horton (who takes center stage once, with Charlie Musselwhite on second harp, to blow the instrumental *Rockin' My Boogie*). These are some of the best recordings you'll find by any of these artists. Horton is absolutely magnificent. There is no harp-man that gets a tone quite as full as Horton's, and he is at his best on this album. One listen will prove why this lesser-known bluesman is considered one of the Chicago harp masters along-side Little Walter and Sonny Boy. The first three notes he blows on *Black Spider Blues* will pierce your heart. You will also be hard-pressed to find Johnny Shines sounding any better than he does here. It is not an exaggeration to say that Shines has a more capable voice than the majority of bluesmen and it is displayed in full power on this disc. Shines' *Dynaflo Blues* (an alteration of Robert Johnson's *Terraplane Blues*) is absolutely breathtaking. Johnny Young is also in top form. His band on this album gets a very complete sound not found on most of his recordings. *One More Time* just plain rocks and Young's work with the mandolin on *Stealin' Back* is incredible. Don't be fooled if you've never heard of these guys. These are bluesmen of the first order and they all perform to the best of their capabilities. This is the best album in the series (which is made up of two other excellent albums) and I'd say one of the best blues albums out there. Among my 100 blues

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albums this is one of my two or three favorites. ---amazon.com

When blues historian Samuel Charters released his three-volume collection of Chicago blues in 1966, it had an impact on the rock and roll world similar to that of Harry Smith's Anthology of American Folk Music, exposing a new, predominantly white generation to the sounds of the urban blues Mecca. Each artist came in and recorded 4-6 songs specifically for the project; many of these tunes have become staples in blues and rock repertoires. Includes Messin' with the Kid Junior Wells Chicago Blues Band; I Can't Quit You Baby Otis Rush Blues Band; Dust My Broom Homesick James & the Dusters; Hey, Hey Johnny Shines Blues Band; The Blues Keep Falling Jimmy Cotton Blues Quartet; Sometimes I Wonder Otis Spann's South Side Piano, and more. ---Editorial Reviews, amazon.com

This is one of the all-time great blues series ever recorded. Aside from the classic Chess albums (Muddy Waters, Little Walter, Howlin' Wolf, etc.), there is no better introduction to Chicago-style blues than this three-volume set. Each one is incredible. This third album contains the Johnny Shines Blues Band, Johnny Young's South Side Blues Band, and Big Walter Horton's Blues Harp Band with Memphis Charlie Musselwhite. Here are the original Chicago artists who have grown up and played together for most of their lives, so the musical time is spacious -- wide open. This is South Side Chicago blues with a trace of country at its best. Big Walter Horton plays some of the best harmonica of his career on this album. Listening to Horton on backup and solo harp is an education. This album is definitive. ---Michael Erlewine, Rovi

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