

## Chicago - The Blues Yesterday Vol.8

Written by bluesever  
Sunday, 07 June 2015 15:51 -

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01. *Got a feelin'* 02. *I'm gonna leave you baby* Jesse Anderson – vocals Eddie Caddell – tenor saxophone Gordon Sims – organ Herbie Welch – guitar Carl Wright – bass Willie Wright – drums Chicago, 27 May 1960 03. *How long has it been?* 04. *You better think twice* Jesse Anderson – vocals Bobby King – guitar Sonny Thompson – piano + band Cincinnati, 22 May 1962
05. *True Love Express* 06. *Swing too high* 07. *Get loose when you get loose* 08. *You're only a woman* Jesse Anderson – vocals, guitar + band Chicago, 1966-67
09. *Mighty mighty* 10. *I got a problem* 11. *Readings in Astrology* Jesse Anderson – vocals, guitar + band New York City, 1970
12. *Teach me how n°1* 13. *Teach me how n°2* Johnny Twist (Johnnie Lee Williams) - vocals, guitar + band Belleville, Ill. 1962
14. *Nona baby* 15. *Look out pretty baby* Johnny Twist - vocals, guitar + band Chicago, 1964
16. *Go Go baby* Johnny Twist - vocals, guitar Willie Dixon – bass, vocals + band Chicago, 5 April 1966
17. *Christmas time blues* 18. *Thinking blues* Boll Weevil (Willie Mc Neal) – vocals, guitar Chicago, 1948
19. *Things ain't what they used to be* 20. *Streamline woman* Willie Mc Neal – vocals, guitar, piano, bass, drums Chicago, 1956
21. *Rough dried woman I & II* Big Mac (Willie Mc Neal) – vocals Johnny Jones – piano Hubert Sumlin – guitar Eddie Taylor – guitar Willie Williams - drums Chicago, 1963-66
22. *That's the way you treat your woman* 23. *Bad affair* Big Mac – vocals + band Chicago, 1967
24. *Come to me* Big Mac – vocals + band Chicago, 1969

Jesse Anderson (born in Paris, Ak. on August, 21st, 1940) has lived in Oklahoma and Wichita

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(Kansas) - where he led the Blues Toppers - before going to Chicago during the early 60's. A forceful and impassionate singer, Jesse became part of a group of young innovative bluesmen like Fenton Robinson (with whom he co-wrote Somebody loan me a dime), Earl Hooker, Otis Rush, Syl and Jimmy Johnson. He recorded a handful of great 45s during the 1960's for several labels (Federal, Cadet, Thomas, Outta Cyte) in which he mixes perfectly the sounds of the then uprising Soul Music with the gritty, harsh and gutsy feeling of the Chicago blues. Despite the very high quality of his music (I got a problem is a small hit), it was too down home for the new black public of the 70's and too "Soul" for the mostly white and international public of the blues revival! And Jesse didn't do too much musically after the early 70's. But this fine singer is still around, willing to perform and record the first rate blues album that he is certainly able to make.

Johnny Twist (Johnnie Lee Williams) is a singer-guitarist from Mississippi (born in the 1930's) who was a very familiar figure of Maxwell Street Market and the Chicago blues clubs. He has substantially been in the studios during this decade, recording behind several big names (Koko Taylor) and a handful of 45's under his own name. He is also still around, keeping a shop (and museum), "Old Dusty's Records" which gained him recently an article in the South Side Weekly. It should be nice if Johnny could be interviewed in depth and record the complete blues album he certainly deserves to make.

Willie Mc Neal (or should I say Willie Mc Neals?) is quite a mysterious artist. Although several specialists think that it's the same man who recorded under the names of Boll Weevil, Willie Mc Neal and Big Mac, it is hard to be affirmative when comparing the voices. If Rough dried woman is well known and is in fact Big Mac putting his vocal over an older instrumental track by Willie Williams (see an article about this bluesman in this blog), his other 45 is harder to find. There are other people that recorded under the Big Mac's moniker, namely a Milwaukee blues singer. Who is who? You can make your choice. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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