

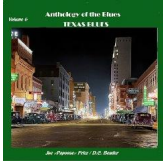
## Texas Blues - Volume 6

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 22 August 2018 12:59 -

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## Texas Blues - Volume 6



01. *Wrong doing woman* 02. *If I be lucky* 03. *Better wake up baby* 04. *Real fine girl* Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone + band. Houston, Tx. March 1950
05. *Please get me off your mind* 06. *I love you my darling* 07. *I'm so sorry* 08. *Bad bad women blues* 09. *I've tried not to love you* 10. *Lady Bear boogie*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone Willie Johnson - piano Goree Carter - guitar  
Don Cooks - bass Ben Turner - drums. Houston, Tx. September 1950
11. *Please my darling* 12. *They were right*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone Goree Carter - guitar Connie Mc Booker - piano  
Bill Harvey - tenor saxophone + band. Houston, Tx. December 1950
13. *Make her see things my way*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone Bill Harvey - tenor saxophone Goree Carter -  
guitar + band. Houston, Tx. January 1951
14. *Summer's coming on* 15. *I'm not suspicious but*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone + band. Houston, Tx. February 1951
16. *Honey honey* 17. *The woman I love*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone Geno Washington - piano James Von Streeter -  
tenor saxophone Devonia Williams - piano Pete Lewis - guitar Albert Winston - bass Leard  
Bell - drums. Houston, Tx. October 1953
18. *Good doctor, sweet soul* 19. *Aww she's a stepper* 20. *I'm a stepper*  
Joe "Papoose" Fritz - vocals, alto saxophone + band. Houston, Tx. 1966
21. *Rebop boogie* 22. *Happy home blues*  
D.C. Bender - vocals, guitar. Houston, Tx. 10 June 1949
23. *I'm going upstairs* 24. *Cold blues*  
D.C. Bender - vocals, guitar Big Son Tillis - guitar. Los Angeles, Ca. 1953
25. *Boogie Children* 26. *Woke up this morning*  
D.C. Bender - vocals, guitar Earl Gilliam - organ Big H. Williams - guitar Ivory Lee Semien -  
drums Houston, Tx. June 1967
27. *D.C.'s freeze up*  
D.C. Bender - guitar Big H. Williams - bass Ivory Lee Semien - drums Houston, Tx. 16 July  
1967

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This 6th opus of our Texas blues series brings two artists representing two very different styles of Texas blues.

Joe Fritz, nicknamed "Papoose" probably for some Native American origins (?) was born in Houston 13th November 1924 and made quite a long career playing the saxophone and sometimes singing in front of his own band, very typical of the then very popular Texas R&B. His whereabouts and life are little known although he had followed on the road and in studios big Texas blues names like Junior Parker, Huey Smith and Albert Collins. Fritz has also recorded more than twenty tracks under his own name for Modern, Sittin' In With, Peacock or Jet Stream from 1950 to the late 1960's. To my knowledge, he unfortunately has never been interviewed and we know the place and the date of his death (12 June 1983 in Houston) thanks to him being a WWII veteran! Whatever, we have tried to gather all his recordings but, despite our efforts, a few are still missing.

On the other hand, D.C. Bender (in fact Dick C. Bendy) is deeply rooted in the down home Texas blues tradition harking back to the 1920's and Blind Lemon, Texas Alexander or Little Hat Jones. Born at Urbana 19th June 1924 from a sharecropping family, D.C. learned guitar thanks to a neighbor bluesman Hardy Gibson. At a very young age, he left the farm and made a living playing in the Texas/Louisiana juke joints or in the streets of cities like Houston, meeting and playing with other local bluesmen like Luther Stoneham, Smokey Hogg, Wright Holmes or, chiefly, with his cousin Sam Lightnin' Hopkins. This is Hopkins who brought D.C. to producer Bill Quinn who recorded him as a solo artist in 1949 under the moniker of D.C. Washington! The following years, Bender teamed with another deep local bluesman Big Son Tillis and the two tried their luck as far as Los Angeles where they recorded a first rate session for J.R. Fullbright's Elko label in 1953. Unfortunately, those records went nowhere and D.C. came back to Houston, joining drummer Ivory Lee Semien's band with whom he waxed a last session in 1967. D.C. Bender died in Houston 11th August 1982. ---Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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