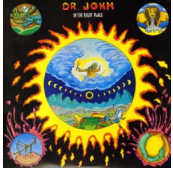


Dr. John – In The Right Place (1973)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 14 October 2011 20:03 - Last Updated Friday, 25 December 2020 10:48

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01. *Right Place Wrong Time* – 2:50 02. *Same Old Same Old* – 2:39 03. *Just The Same* – 2:49 04. *Qualified* (Jesse Hill, Mac Rebennack) – 4:46 05. *Traveling Mood* (James Waynes) – 2:47 [play](#) 06. *Peace Brother Peace* – 2:46 07. *Life* (Allen Toussaint) – 2:28 [play](#) 08. *Such A Night* - 2:54 09. *Shoo Fly Marches On* - 3:13 10. *I Been Hoodood* - 3:12 11. *Cold Cold Cold* (Alvin Robinson, Jesse Hill, Mac Rebennack) - 2:37

- Dr. John (Mac Rebennack) - vocals, piano (04), organ (06), percussion (10) - Allen Toussaint - piano, electric piano, acoustic guitar, conga drums, tambourine, backing vocals, vocal arrangements, arranger, conductor - Ralph MacDonald - percussion (08-10) - David Spinozza - guitar solo (01) - Gary Brown - electric and acoustic saxophones - Robbie Montgomery, Jessie Smith - backing vocals - The Bonaroo Horn Section - horns The Meters: - Leo "Breeze" Nocentelli - lead guitar - Arthur "Red" Neville - organ - George "Freak Man" Porter - bass - Joseph "Zigaboo" Modeliste – drums

Dr. John finally struck paydirt here and was certainly In the Right Place. With the hit single "Right Place Wrong Time" bounding up the charts, this fine collection saw many unaware listeners being initiated into New Orleans-style rock. Also including Allen Toussaint's "Life," and a funky little number entitled "Traveling Mood," which shows off the good doctor's fine piano styling, and with able help from the Meters as backup group, In the Right Place is still a fine collection to own. --- James Chrispell, allmusic.com

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This is a straight reissue of the 1973 album release. A scant 34 minutes and no bonus tracks. Not even any liner notes -- which might just be the way the disc was originally issued.

Backed by the Meters (Leo Nocentelli, Arthur Neville, George Porter and Joseph Modeliste), augmented by the multi-instrumentalism and production of Allen Toussaint, Dr. John stretches out in more funky and soulful directions than the previous year's reading of New Orleans classics, "Gumbo." Dr. John wrote or co-wrote 8 of the 11 tracks here, with three more Crescent City treats (James Waynes' "Traveling Mood", Allen Toussaint's "Life" and Alvin Robinson's "Cold Cold Cold").

The disc leads off with Dr. John's only top-40 hit, "Right Place Wrong Time" (#9 in June of '73). This is one of those great productions that at the time just slipped right into the stream of things, but looking back at it now it's a wonder to think it actually made it into the popular conscious. It's a similar feeling to realizing that Johnny Nash's "Hold Me Tight" or Desmond Dekker's "Israelites" brought ska and reggae sounds to the American top-40 without ever really saying so. There's a soulfulness to this, an r'n'b sound in the horns, organ and background vocals, that just defies the sort of prefabricated pieces that usually make the charts.

The rest of the disc continues in the soulful vein, feeling much like the Neville Brothers work at points. It moves from the upbeat and funky (the title track, "Qualified") through gospel-tinged pieces ("Peace Brother Peace") to quiet, more soulful ballads ("Just the Same") There's some interesting interplay between Dr. John's piano and Art Neville's organ. Nice horn playing throughout from the Bonaroo horn section.

Overall a great piece of funky early 70's New Orleans soul, all filtered through Dr. John's nighttripper persona. --- hyperbolium, amazon.com

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