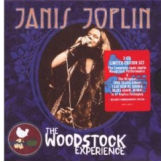


Janis Joplin - The Woodstock Experience 1969 [2009]

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 30 January 2010 20:42 - Last Updated Sunday, 12 July 2020 20:02

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CD1 - I Got Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again Mama! 1 *Try (Ragovoy, Taylor)* 3:57 2 *Maybe (Barrett)* 3:41 3 *One Good Man (Joplin)* 4:12 4 *As Good as You've Been to This World (Gravenites)* 5:27 5 *To Love Somebody (Gibb, Gibb)* 5:14 6 *Kozmic Blues (Joplin, Mekler)* 4:24 7 *Little Girl Blues (Hart, Rodgers)* 3:51 8 *Work Me, Lord (Gravenites)* 6:36

CD2 - Woodstock 69 Live Set

9 *Raise Your Hand (Cropper, Floyd, Isbell)* 5:31 10 *As Good as You've Been to This World (Gravenites)* 6:25 11 *To Love Somebody (Gibb, Gibb)* 5:16 12 *Summertime (Gershwin, Heyward)* 5:05 13 *Try (Just a Little Bit Harder) (Ragovoy, Taylor)* 5:13 14 *Kozmic Blues (Joplin, Mekler)* 4:56 15 *Can't Turn You Loose (Redding)* 4:25 16 *Work Me, Lord (Gravenites)* 8:42 17 *Piece of My Heart (Berns, Ragovoy)* 4:57 18 *Ball and Chain (Thornton)* 7:42

Personnel: Sam Andrew - Guitar, Vocals (bckgr) Maury Baker - Drums Steven Berkowitz - A&R Brad Campbell - Bass Lonnie Castille - Drums Cornelius "Snookey" Flowers - Sax (Baritone), Vocals (bckgr) Luis Gasca - Trumpet Richard Kermode - Organ Eddie Kramer - Engineer, Mixing, Supervisor Gabriel Mekler - Organ, Producer

Already a tremendous star, 1969 was a year of change for Janis Joplin. Her legendary performance at Woodstock came just weeks before the release of *I Got Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again Mama*, and both pointed to the new, exciting direction Joplin's music would take. The emotionally captivating performances, both live and in the studio, defined a moment and a legacy. ---Editorial Reviews

Janis Joplin was very unhappy with her performance at Woodstock. So much so, that she refused to have her performance included in the movie of the festival that was released the following year. She actually starts the set out very strong with a spirited *Raise Your Hand*. The next song, *As Good As You've Been To This World*, showcases the band, which plays very well here. Janis' vocal is much more impassioned than on the studio version of the song from her first solo album, "*I Got Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again, Mama!*" It has been said that this band, which was formed after she left *Big Brother & The Holding Company*, never gelled completely,

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but they did improve markedly after Sam Andrew left the group in August 1969, a few weeks before Woodstock. It appears that Janis was striving for a sound similar to Sly And The Family Stone, but her musicians were not on that level. Janis' cover of the Bee Gees, "To Love Somebody" gets a better treatment than the studio version, and she gives near definitive versions of "Summertime," "Try" and "Kozmic Blues." Oddly enough, even though it is said that this disc contains the complete Woodstock performance, her vocal is edited out on "Can't Turn You Loose." Janis' voice gives out on her a few times in the remainder of the concert, most noticeably in "Work Me, Lord," even so, it is an absolutely amazing vocal, and quite unlike any other version she sang before or since. Her final encore, "Ball And Chain" starts off brilliantly, but Janis is so wasted by the end of the concert, that she seems to be struggling to keep it together at the end. This performance shows what a brilliant talent she possessed. She isn't operating at full capacity here, but still infuses her performance with more passion than anyone else on the bill. Janis was a true original. It would serve her memory well if Sony would release her performances from the Festival Express in their entirety. --- David Penn "Jazz Maven" (NYC)

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