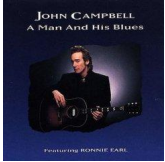


John Campbell – A Man And His Blues (1994)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 28 October 2009 17:15 - Last Updated Sunday, 07 March 2021 22:52

John Campbell – A Man And His Blues (1994)



01 Going To Dallas 02 Bad Night Blues 03 Judgement Day 04 Bluebird 05 Deep River Rag 06 Texas Country Boy 07 Sittin' Here Thinkin' 08 Sunnyland Train 09 White Lightnin'
John Campbell (vocals, guitar, acoustic guitar); Darrell Nulisch (vocals); Ronnie Earl (guitar, acoustic guitar, electric guitar); Jerry Portnoy (harmonica); Per Hanson (drums).

Produced by Ronnie Earl. Recorded in Cambridge, Massachusetts. This is John Campbell's first internationally distributed album. Campbell was an incredibly talented blues guitar player, vocalist, and songwriter, born in Louisiana. He died only five years after this album was recorded.

Prior to 'A Man And His Blues', Campbell had made several recordings. Most remained unissued at that time and were only known amongst a handful of hard-core fans in the South. In 1987, John Campbell left his Southern home and moved to New York City. One day, he opened for Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters at Manny's Car Wash in NYC. After Ronnie's show, John and Ronnie met backstage, trading guitar licks on the stairs. Ronnie was very impressed by John's picking, and his personality. On the spot, he offered him to produce an album with the support of members from the Broadcasters.

Backed by the nucleus of Ronnie's band (bass player Michael 'Mudcat' Ward was not available), John and Ronnie went into a small recording studio in the Northeast. Nine tracks were recorded, directly mixed-down to a two-track stereo master tape. Blues, deeply rooted in the Louisiana, and Texas traditions, influenced by Lightnin' Hopkins. The support of Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters on a couple of tracks adds some extra spice to John's blues, gritty, down-to-earth electric style blues featuring Ronnie's elegant and soulful playing.

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These blues are moving, intense, leaving a long lasting impression. A milestone recording session. John Campbell died of heart failure before his time in June 1993, only moments after his career took off like a rocket. Dennis Walker had produced two extraordinary albums on him for Elektra Records. --- crosscut.de

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