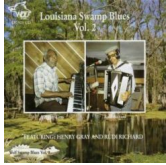


Louisiana Swamp Blues Vol.2 - Henry Gray & Rudi Richard (1990)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 28 October 2009 22:40 - Last Updated Monday, 05 April 2021 10:36

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01. *Big Mamou* (2:26) 02. *Blues Won't Let Me Rest* (4:01) 03. *King Bee* (5:30) 04. *Gold Chills* (4:13) 05. *Talkin' About You* (2:51) 06. *Bad Luck & Trouble* (4:38) 07. *Tee Ni Nee Na Nu* (3:14) 08. *When My First Wife* (4:29) 09. *Come On Here* (2:41) 10. *Good For The Goose* (3:09) 11. *HonkyTonk* (3:57) Andrea Curbelo Guitar, Vocals (Background) Pick Delmore Drums Henry Gray Piano, Vocals Rudi Richard Vocals Anthony Hardesty Bass Harmonica Red Harp David Hill Bass Jess Kenchin Drums T-Bone Singleton Guitar

Dedicated to Slim Harpo, this brief album, recorded in Baton Rouge, LA, in 1990, is a split affair, with blues pianist Henry Gray alternating tracks with guitarist (and accordion player) Rudi Richard in a nifty little swamp blues collection. Although one wishes the two musicians had done some of these songs together, their approach to the blues (different as they are) complement each other well, and the sequence doesn't suffer for this split format. Gray, in particular, has an intriguing sound, adding a certain intangible bayou sensibility to his Chicago piano style, and his rough, everyman vocals on sides like "Talkin' About You" and the self-penned "Gold Chills" carry a degree of authenticity, particularly with Slim Harpo's drummer, Jess Kenchin, pounding away. Richard is less distinctive as a vocalist, but as Harpo's longtime guitarist (he put the guitar sting in "I'm a Kingbee," and if you've heard the song, you know about the sting), he, too, has an authentic claim to this material, and while his version of the bayou chestnut "Tee Ni Nee Na Nu" essentially seems to be by the numbers, his sleek, angular version of "Good for the Goose" is a solid delight. Again, it would have been nice if Gray, Richard, and Kenchin had all worked together on a few of these tracks, but even without that, this set still functions pretty well as a simple and unassuming introduction to Louisiana swamp blues. ---Steve Legget, allmusic.com

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Rudi Richard was Slim Harpos guitar player for many years.. and this is from sessions recorded in Baton Rouge after his solo album, with Short fuse.This will delight lovers of Swamp Blues.he was influenced by BB King but had his own unique style, which can be appreciated on this rocking version of Honky Tonk.. he also delivers some solid accordion on the zydeco Good for the Goose.

Henry Gray was Howling Wolfs piano player for fourteen years, and his main influence is Big Maceo, he also played and recorded with Jimmy Rogers and Jimmy Reed.Henry has a superb voice , and if you love Chicago Blues from the fifties or are a Slim Harpo fan this is a must.
---sidetrack31, discogs.com

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