

Rick Derringer – Blues Deluxe (1998)

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1 - *Let The Good Times Roll* 2 - *Runnin' Blue* 3 - *Blues Power* 4 - *Key to the Highway* 5 - *Blues Deluxe* 6 - *Hide Away 1962* 7 - *Killing Floor* 8 - *Funky Music* 9 - *Something Inside of Me* 10 - *Still Alive and Well* 11 - *Bright Lights, Big City* 12 - *Checking Up On My Baby*

Personnel: Rick Derringer (guitar, vocals); Stuart Blank (keyboards); Segovia Bader (bass); Brad Kaiser (drums).

A great choice of covers and awesome versions by a great guitarist that sounds as if he understands the blues. DERRINGER doesn't mess with the basic formula, instead he lets his outstanding guitar work do the talking. DERRINGER plays with total control and almost flawless technique. He could have spoiled it by including pyrotechnics alien to the blues (I am sure he could be as showy as the next axe slinger), but refrains and keeps everything tasteful and fairly true to the best of the originals. (not many can play as well as he can). It must be said that his vocals are OK, but no more than that. His choice of material is mostly brilliant, but a couple of tracks are questionable (RUNNIN BLUE / FUNKY MUSIC / STILL ALIVE AND WELL). However KEY TO THE HIGHWAY / BLUES DELUXE / KILLING FLOOR and HIDE AWAY 1962 are worth the price alone. This is on par with the best blues offerings from GARY MOORE and should be added to your collection of outstanding electric blues masters. ---Hans D Marms, amazon.com

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