

Chet Atkins & Les Paul – Chester & Lester (1976)

Written by bluesever

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01. *It's Been A Long Time* - 3:27 02. *Medley: Moonglow* - 4:38 03. *Caravan* - 3:15 04. *It Had To Be You* - 3:28 05. *Out Of Nowhere* - 3:09 06. *Avalon* - 6:27 07. *Birth Of The Blues* - 3:01 08. *Someday Sweetheart* - 3:17 09. *Deed I Do* - 2:27 10. *Lover Come Back To Me* - 2:39
Bonuses (previously unissued):

11. *The World Is Waiting For The Sunrise* - 2:20 12. *You Brought A New Kind Of Love To Me* - 2:44 13. *Caravan (alternate version)* - 3:12 14. *Medley: Moonglow (rehearsal version)* - 5:20
Personnel: - Chet Atkins (Chester Burton Atkins) - guitar, producer - Les Paul (Lester William Polsfuss) - guitar - Bobby Thompson, Paul Yandell, Ray Edenton - rhythm guitar - Bob Moore, Henry Strzelecki - bass - Larry Londin - drums - Randy Goodrum – piano

Chester & Lester is a beautiful and fun album by two masters. It was recorded in the mid-'70s when Chet Atkins was in his fifties and Les Paul was in his sixties. The latter had been in retirement for a decade before the recording of this album. Nashville studio musicians, including Randy Goodrum on piano and Larrie Londin on drums, back up the master guitarists, but this is by no means a country album. In fact, this album swings on classics such as "Birth of the Blues," "Avalon," and "Caravan." Other classic songs, including "It's Been a Long Time" and "It Had to Be You," are beautifully rendered, featuring Les Paul's instantly recognizable ringing bell tone and Chet Atkins' fluid, slightly twangy sound. The recording has an informal feel, with between-song banter (and even some joking in the middle of songs) included on the record, which adds to the enjoyment and warmth of this album. The listener knows that the musicians are having a great time. According to the liner notes, only two songs have any overdubs, so, "You hear the music just as it came down." And it all "came down" beautifully. ---Tim Griggs, Rovi

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