John Scofield – Hand Jive (1994)



01. I'll Take Les 7:04 02. Dark Blue 7:46 03. Do Like Eddie 8:10 04. She's So Lucky 5:57 05. Checkered Past 5:31 play 06. 7th Floor 4:51 play 07. Golden Gaze 7:39 08. Don't Shoot the Messenger 6:14 09. Wip the Mule 5:43 10. Out of the City 5:19 Musicians: John Scofield - guitar Eddie Harris - tenor saxophone Larry Goldings - piano, organ Dennis Irwin - bass Bill Stewart - drums Don Alias – percussion

Guitarist John Scofield joins forces with the funky-toned tenor saxophonist Eddie Harris for HAND JIVE, a tasty collection of slick, funky grooves that display Scofield at his swaggering best. The guitarist's signature twang gets the full treatment here as intricately rhythmic jaunts like "Dark Blue" find Scofield winding his solos up to frenzied assaults that grind deeper into the grooves with each passing chorus. Harris' featured spots include the tribute track "Do Like Eddie" which finds he and Scofield in perfect alignment with plenty of mutual admiration and spunk. Nowhere is the down-home New Orleans groove felt more dominantly that on the super funky "She's so Lucky," a track that couldn't be more gumbo-drenched if it had been blessed by Dr. John himself. Making significant contributions to the session are Scofield's regular sidemen Larry Goldings, Bill Stewart, and Dennis Irwin, each of who propel the thick grooves with as much authentic spice as they can muster. Organist Goldings, in particular, shines on the rolling "Golden Daze," which finds him in a distinctly Jimmy Smith-like mode with comping and soloing throughout. Other disc highlights include the romping "Whip the Mule" and the groovy swinger "Don't Shoot the Messenger." --- cduniverse.com

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