Squirrel Nut Zippers - Hot (1996)

Written by bluesever Friday, 06 October 2017 12:26 -

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1. Got My Own Thing Now 2:31 2. Put A Lid On It 2:39 3. Memphis Exorcism 2:24 4. Twilight 3:34 5. It Ain't You 3:10 6. Prince Nez 2:53 7. Hell 3:12 8. Meant To Be 3:12 9. Bad Businessman 3:48 10. Flight Of The Passing Fancy 3:52 11. Blue Angel 4:37 12. The Interlocutor 2:48 Cornet [Featuring] – Duke Heitger Double Bass [String Bass], Gong – Don Raleigh Drums [Trap Kit], Percussion, Other [Announcement] – Chris Phillips Guitar, Saxophone [Alto & Baritone], Ukulele [Baritone], Vocals – Ken Mosher Violin [Featuring] – Andrew Bird Vocals, Banjo, Ukulele [Baritone] – Katharine Whalen Vocals, Guitar, Banjo [Tenor], Piano – Jim Mathus Vocals, Guitar, Baritone Saxophone, Clarinet, Resonator, Chandelier – Tom Maxwell

Squirrel Nut Zippers' second album, Hot, was one of the most surprising success stories of 1997. Like the group's debut, The Inevitable, Hot is comprised entirely of good-natured, if slightly tongue-in-cheek, postmodern big-band music. The band has nailed the sound of jump blues and swinging jazz, and if the Zippers don't have the chops of real big bands, they do have enthusiasm and a sense of humor. Of course, for purists of the genre, that collegiate sense of humor might make Hot a little unbearable, especially those instances when Katharine Whalen sounds uncannily like Billie Holiday, only without the substance. For those willing to overlook such things, they'll find Hot to be a good time, filled with songs nearly as infectious as the group's breakthrough hit, "Hell." ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, AllMusic Review

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