Long John Baldry - Evening Conversation (2000)

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- 1. Good Morning Blues 5:29
- 2. Who Back Buck 2:40
- 3. Back Water Blues 7:47
- 4. Morning Dew 4:14
- 5. Black Girl 3:22
- 6. It Ain't Easy 4:17
- 7. Burn Down The Cornfield 5:58
- 8. Moon Dance In Tajikistan 4:15
- 9. Walk On 5:54
- 10. Can't Keep From Crying Sometimes 2:22
- 11. Maggie Bell 3:34
- 12. Blue Valentine 5:55
- 13. Midnight In New Orleans 4:32
- 14. Flying 6:09

Long John Baldry - Guitar (12 String), Vocals Matt Taylor - Guitar (Acoustic & Electric) Butch Coulter - Harmonica, Guitar (Acoustic)

The 14 tracks here were recorded in September 1999, in front of an appreciative audience in Hamburg - a place that Long John Baldry first visited in 1962. He was accompanied at the Downtown Blues Club by bluesharp player Butch Coulter (whose song 'Moon Dance In Tajikstan' is featured) and young English guitarist Matt Taylor. Baldry himself played 12-string guitar and his distinctive raw vocal shines throughout this set of largely acoustic blues.

The recording, Baldry's fourth for Hypertension, begins with 'Good Morning Blues', the first of

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five traditional songs arranged for this show. Another, 'Black Girl', features Christina Lux guesting on vocals. There are a number of cover versions including Randy Newman's 'Burn Down The Cornfield' and Tim Rose's 'Morning Dew'. Matt Taylor takes over with soulful lead vocals on a rendition of Terry/McGhee's 'Walk On' and Tom Waits' 'Blue Valentine'.

Two more covers and a Baldry original 'Maggie Bell' are followed by the closer 'Flying', a song co-penned by Rod Stewart from the Faces album "First Step". Stewart and Baldry were associates in the `60s in The Hoochie Coochie Men and Steampacket, and Baldry toured with The Faces in 1973. 'Flying' rounds off a memorable set and the package is completed with a booklet which contains a full career biography. ---Jimbo Starr, amazon.com

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