Colwell-Winfield Blues Band - Cold Wind Blues (2006)

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Colwell-Winfield Blues Band - Cold Wind Blues (1968)

01 - Free Will Fantasy 04:23 02 - Got A Mind 06:57 03 - Dead End Street 08:03 04 - Cold Wind Blues 04:52 05 - Whole Lot Of Lovin 03:36 06 - Going Down Slow 04:47 07 - Govinda 07:04 08 - Wind Is Singing 04:13 09 - Cold Wind Blues (Version 2) 04:03 10 - Whole Lot Of Lovin" (Version 2) 03:49 Bill Colwell - Guitar Chuck Purro - Drums Jack Shroer - Saxophone Moose Sorrento - Vocals Collin Tilton - Wind Michael Winfield - Bass

One of the forgotten classics of the late-'60s American blues scene, the Colwell-Winfield Blues Band once opened for Led Zeppelin, and that would appear to be their greatest claim to fame -- until you play the group's debut album, a hulking slab of blistered fusion that packs some of the most intriguing arrangements of the age. It features some of the most surreal imagery as well: "Paper bags hold degenerate dreams, fill my world with unnatural scenes," bellows the aptly named Moose Sorrento during the opening "Free Will Fantasy." And so the Colwell-Winfield Blues Band get on with proving what a lot of people had been saying all year long -- that the best jazz-rock-blues band of 1968 was only getting better. The finest moments are those when the band really stretches out -- seven minutes apiece for the 12-bar "Got a Mind" and the showcase "Govinda," and eight for "Dead End Street," a slowly percolating rhythm that is only gently layered by the rest of the band. The briefer cuts burn fiercely, though, while the Akarma reissue in 2001 appends a bonus track that is actually one of the finest things in sight, the frantic semi-psychedelic experimentation of "Wind Is Singing." --- Dave Thompson, allmusic.com

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