## Down Home Blues Chicago 1946-1954 CD1 Blow Wind Blow (2005)



01. Money Taking Woman - Johnny Young 02. Falling Rain Blues - Little Willie Foster 03. Dim Lights - J.B. & His Hawks 04. Dark Road - Floyd Jones 05. Blow Wind Blow - Muddy Waters 06. Bobby Town Boogie - Lee Brown 07. Wine O Woman - Tony Hollins 08. Floyd's Blue - Floyd Jones 09. I Had A Dream - Lazy Bill Lucas 10. Just Can't Stay - Willie Nix 11. Round About Boogie - Jimmy Rogers 12. Homesick - Homesick James 13. Carrie Lee - J.B. Lenoir 14. Pet Rabbit - Leroy Foster 15. Now She's Gone - J.B. & His Hawks 16. Schooldays On My Mind - Floyd Jones 17. It'll Plumb Get It - Morris Pejoe 18. Nervous Wreck - Willie Nix 19. You Can't Live Long - Floyd Jones 20. I Won't Let Her Do It - Tampa Red 21. Going Back To Memphis - Sunnyland Slim 22. I'll Get a Break - Tony Hollins 23. Loving You - J.B. & His Hawks 24. On The Road Again - Floyd Jones 25. Please Mr Doctor - Jimmy Eager

Four discs-72,70,72,72 minutes in length approximately. The sound is good,to fair on some of the older,rarer tracks. The booklet is informative-giving a short overview of Chicago blues during this (1946-1954) era. There is a complete listing of tracks,with who plays and sings on what,and when. Each disc is housed in a cardboard sleeve with graphics and photos from the era-a nice touch. The outer box is very substantial,which also has great visual appeal.

I know this set is rapidly going out of print. That's to bad, for on these four discs is some of the best, and rarest, blues from Chicago during the years stated above. From Grace Brim, John Brim, to J.B. Hutto, Floyd Jones, to Little Walter and Muddy Waters, to Snooky Prior, to Johnny Shines, to many others relatively unknown, this set is one of the finest compilations of it's kind.

All the sets from this label are disappearing, which is a shame. The box sets and the 2 CD sets are all worthwhile, with a lot of great, sometimes rare, music, all with great graphics. Purchase this box set, and any other sets that are still in circulation before they're all gone. Music this good should be more widely known, no matter if you're a long time blues listener, or are just getting

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into this wonderful music. These sets will have a spot in any blues listeners collection. --- Stuart Jefferson, amazon.com

Disc one's 25 gems are many with a fair portion of cuts not overly familiar on CD. A pair from Tony Hollins (a major influence on John Lee Hooker) are both solid (Wine O Woman/I'll Get A Break), three J.B. Hutto classics (Dim Lights/Now She's Gone/Loving You), Lee Brown's Bobby Town Boogie and its flip-side Round About Boogie, which was Jimmy Rogers' first recording and the only one showcasing him playing firm and forceful Chicago harp (refer to Scott Dirks' informative article in the archives section for more on this pairing). Other highlights are the little-known and seldom heard It'll Plumb Get It from Morris Pejoe with slicing guitar work well to the fore, I Had A Dream from Lazy Bill Lucas with humorous lyrics about being prodded by Lucifer's pitchfork before being roasted in an oven for dinner. Two diamonds from Willie Nix; Nervous Wreck and his masterful Just Can't Stay, both featuring Snooky Pryor's gruff harp and Eddie Taylor's guitar providing riveting and repetitive figures based on the more well-known Catfish theme. Add Little Wille Foster, Tampa Red (as Jimmy Eager), Sunnyland Slim, Johnny Young, J.B. Lenoir and others to the mix and it gives you a better idea of what follows. --- bigroadblues.com

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