

Chicago - The Blues Yesterday Vol. 16

Wpisany przez bluesever
Sobota, 06 Luty 2016 17:14 -

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01. *Teenage hop* Tall Paul Hankins – piano Eddie C. Campbell – guitar A.C. Reed – tenor saxophone Jack Myers – bass Odie Payne – drums Chicago, Ill. 1959
02. *Joe's House Party I & II* 03. *Red Lips* 04. *It's you I'm going to miss*
Tall Paul Hankins - organ Willie Hudson – guitar, vocals (4) Bobby Hudson - bass Joe Hudson - drums Chicago, Ill. 1964
05. *The Turnpike* 06. *Saint James Infirmary* 07. *A touch of the blues* 08. *Hot Spot*
Tall Paul Hankins - organ The Hot Peppers (band) Chicago, Ill. 1965
09. *My Boogaloo*
Tall Paul Hankins - organ + band Chicago, Ill. 1966
10. *Do the monkey with James* 11. *James out of sight* 12. *Goldfinger's got the blues* 13. *The James Bond Theme* 14. *James goes to Soulville*
Perry & The Harmonics: Clarence Perry – tenor saxophone Ed Townsend - vocals, piano Paul Pratt - guitar Richard Mc Crea - organ Maurice Wells – drums Chicago, Ill. 1965
15. *R&B Time I & II* 16. *Soul Heaven*
E. Rodney Jones – vocals +band Chicago, Ill. 1965
17. *Chicken on down* 18. *Football* 19. *Right on right on*
E. Rodney Jones – vocals Larry Blasingaine - guitar The Hippies (band) Chicago, Ill. 1970
20. *The whole thing* 21. *Loose Booty*
E. Rodney Jones – vocals Willie Henderson – vocals + band Chicago, Ill. june 1972
22. *Enough for everybody* 23. *Gimme some of yours*
Larry Blasingaine – guitar The Hippies (band) Chicago, Ill. 1968

With this 16th opus of our Chicago/ The Blues Yesterday series, we are drifting a little bit outside the hardcore blues for those (still very bluesy) organ-piano-guitar-saxophone instrumentals between jazz, blues, Soul and early Funk which were so popular among the African-Americans during the 1960's.

"Tall" Paul Hankins (born 20th of March 1937 in Mobile, Alabama) is the keyboardist of

numerous sessions, particularly behind Earl Hooker, Bobby Saxton, Lillian Offit, Freddy Robinson, etc... He also recorded a dozen titles under his name in a vein similar to Jimmy Smith or Mc Griff who were enjoying a lot of success at that time. Backing him on lead guitar, Willie Hudson is also featuring here singing a good blues. I still try to gather more infos on Hankins.

Perry & The Harmonics was a band formed by sax player Clarence Perry (who recorded with Roosevelt Sykes or Ella Fitzgerald) and singer/pianist Ed Townsend (1929-2003) better known as a producer, composer and A&R man at Mercury, Vee Jay, Capitol, Scepter for big names like Marvin Gaye, Etta James, Big Maybelle or Dee Dee Warwick. Their only album (a true "collector" never reissued) Intrigue with Soul from 1965 is entirely made of titles inspired by the James Bond films of the era (with Sean Connery) with the driving irresistible Do the Monkey with James. If we are featuring here the bluesiest tracks for this compilation, all the album is first rate and should please everyone with a taste for Jazz Soul.

E. Rodney Jones (1927-2004) was an actor (Mahogany, Three the hard way) and co-owner with Pervis Spann of the legendary Chicago club, The Burning Spear. Moreover he was a famous Chicago DJ on WVON radio station whose warm baritone voice, listeners' requests and his musical choices attracted strong audiences during more than a decade during the 1960's and 70's. Rodney Jones has also recorded a handful of singles under his name, gathering for the occasion some of the best young Chicago musicians, particularly the remarkable lead guitarist Larry Blasingaine who would record and tour with the Jackson Five, Jackie Wilson or The Emotions. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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