Chicago - The Blues Yesterday Volume 21



01. I believe I'll go back home 02. Lil's Caldonia boogie Lil Palmore - vocals, piano Leonard Caston - guitar Willie Dixon - bass. Chicago, III. 1948

03. Benny's bounce

Claude Mc Lin - tenor saxophone Rudy Mason - guitar Eddie Baker - piano Walter Sprately - bass James King - drums. Chicago, III. 21 july 1950

04. Tennessee waltz 05. Pop goes the Weasel

Claude Mc Lin - tenor saxophone Norman Simmons - piano + band. Chicago, Ill. november 1950

06. That's cool man 07. Slow drag

Claude Mc Lin - tenor saxophone L.C. Cohen - vocals Berkeley Kendrix - piano, organ Oscar Lee Bradley - drums. Los Angeles, Ca. february 1958

08. So fine 09. You're looking good

Claude Mc Lin - tenor saxophone Berkeley Kendrix - organ, guitar Oscar Lee Bradley - drums. Los Angeles, Ca. april 1958

10. Jambo I & II

Claude Mc Lin - tenor saxophone Daniel Horton - organ Oliver Berry - drums. Los Angeles, Ca. 1964

11. Diggin' my potatoes 12. A.B.C. blues 13. Bone yard blues 14. My black buffalo 15. Tuff luck blues 16. Key to the world

Little Son Joe (Ernest Lawlars) - vocals, guitar Memphis Minnie - guitar Fred Williams - drums. Chicago, Ill. 3 february 1939

17. Black rat swing 18. Just to had to holler

Little Son Joe - vocals, guitar Memphis Minnie - guitar Alfred Elkins - bass. Chicago, Ill. 12 december 1941

19. Ethel Bea 20. A little too late

Little Son Joe - vocals, guitar Memphis Minnie - guitar Little Brother Montgomery - pno, drums. Chicago, Ill. 5 october 1953

21. Free girl 22. Pain 23. My babe 24. I'm your part time love 25. Come back baby 26. Git out

Mitty Collier - vocals Cash Mc Call - guitar + band. Chicago, Ill. 1963-67

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For this 21st volume of our Chicago/ The Blues Yesterday series, let's delve again into the great diversity of the many blues played in Chicago during the 1940's-60's: jazzy blues, R&B, Country blues coming from the Deep South and Soul blues...

Singer and piano player Lil Palmore was a favorite in the uptown Chicago clubs during the late 1940's: Garrick Stage Bar, Hurricane, Ritz Lounge, Pitts Pub... Outside this Ebony single featured here in which she is backed by Willie Dixon and probably guitarist Leonard Caston, Lil has also recorded with Brother John Sellers, Little Brother Montgomery and Jimmy "Boo Boo" Blazer.

Saxophonist Claude Mc Lin (1925-95) was born in Chicago and studied music at the famous Du Sable High School. He started a musical career in 1946, playing also in the best jazz and R&B Chicago clubs with Lester Young, Gene Ammons or as the leader of his own band. He recorded under his own name from 1950 in Chicago and then Hollywood where he settled down during the mid-50's, being on numerous sessions backing artists like Amos Milburn or Red Callendar.

Little Son Joe (Ernest Lawlars) (1900-61) is of course mostly known as the guitarist husband of the great Memphis Minnie, recording constantly with her from 1939. Before that, Joe (born in Hughes, Arkansas) teamed with Robert Wilkins. Joe also recorded 10 tracks under his own name, mostly his own striking compositions (like the all time classic Black rat swing) between 1939 and 1953.

At last, Mitty Collier (born in Birmingham, AI, 1941), starting to sing Gospel at an early age, shows the beginning of the Chicago Soul blues. She recorded for Ralph Bass more than a dozen singles between 1961 and 1967, backed by the usual Chess session musicians like guitarist Cash McCall. During the late 1960's, Mitty left Chicago, pursuing a career more and more in a Gospel vein. We have selected some of her bluesiest tracks. ---Gerard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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