

Harmonica Hinds – Finally (2008)

Wpisany przez bluesever

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1. *Wake The Spirit* - 3:59 2. *Goin Down To The River* - 6:03 3. *It's So Cold* - 8:28 4. *You Got It Good* - 3:42 5. *Take Your Time* - 6:16 6. *Stop Complaining* - 5:50 7. *Imelda* - 4:58 8. *Harmonica Hinds Shuffle* - 5:03 9. *Don't You Still My Money* - 5:00 10. *Can't Stay Here For Ever* - 4:00 11. *That Old Dichotomy* - 6:33 12. *Connected With The Sun* - 4:54

Mervyn "Harmonica" Hinds has been a regular on the Chicago blues scene for over thirty years, with the occasional recording session behind artists such as Koko Taylor, John Primer, and Eddie Taylor Jr., but very little under his own name. This self-produced effort, with Taylor Jr. and Tom Holland on guitars and a first-call rhythm section of bassist Greg McDaniel and drummer Kenny Smith should help to bring some long-merited attention Hinds'way.

The group steps out smartly with the Little Walter-style instrumental *Wake The Spirit* to open the set before Hinds steps up to the vocal mic on *Goin' Down To The River*, a brisk shuffle in a Jimmy Reed bag with Taylor Jr. taking his dad's guitar part. The slow blues *It's So Cold* features some nice Walters-influenced slide but at 8:28 drags on a mite long. Things pick up again with *You Got It Good*, an instrumental featuring chromatic harp and a distinctive surging beat. Next up is the after hours instrumental *Take Your Time*, with slide in the Robert Nighthawk/Earl Hooker mode. *Stop Complaining* takes us back to Eddie Taylor territory before the stripped-down *Imelda* and an aptly titled *Harmonica Hinds Shuffle*. The band nails the Howlin' Wolf rhythm of *Don't You Steal My Money*, with slide from the Elmore James school this time. Hinds turns philosophical on the album's last three cuts, contemplating his mortality on *Can't Stay Here For Ever* and *That Old Dichotomy* before finishing with a *Connected To The Sun* that would not have been out of place on Sun Ra's Saturn label.

This is one of the most enjoyable albums in the classic Chicago blues style to come down the pike lately-let's hope that the title should be taken to mean "finally" as in "at last," and not as in

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"the last." ---Jim DeKoster, harmonicahinds.com

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