

Mississippi John Hurt – Today (1966)

Wpisany przez bluesever

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1. *Payday (Hurt)* - 4:18
 2. *I'm Satisfied (Hurt)* - 2:52
 3. *Candy Man (Hurt)* - 2:54
 4. *Make Me a Pallet on the Floor (Traditional)* - 4:30
 5. *Talking Casey (Hurt)* - 5:04
 6. *Corrina, Corrina (Traditional)* - 1:48
 7. *Coffee Blues (Hurt)* - 3:43
 8. *Louis Collins (Hurt)* - 4:05
 9. *Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight (Traditional)* - 3:29
 10. *If You Don't Want Me Baby (Hurt)* - 3:17
 11. *Spike Driver Blues (Hurt)* - 3:23
 12. *Beulah Land (Traditional)* - 3:44
- Solo performer: Mississippi John Hurt (vocals, guitar).

Today is Mississippi John Hurt's first and finest studio release since his "rediscovery" on his Avalon farm by folklorist Tom Hoskins in 1963. Eclipsed possibly only by his earlier 1928 Sessions, this album shows a more mature Hurt picking his way through standards and originals after the Depression years and Hurt's fall into obscurity before the folk revival of the 1960s. It shows, however, that all that the great bluesman has lost is years; his voice retains its characteristic Buddha-esque warmth and it is still difficult to believe that there is just one man playing on the seemingly effortless guitar work. The music on the album comes from a variety of different influences, from the fun and poppy "Hot Time in Old Town Tonight" and "Coffee Blues," to the bluesy standards "Candy Man" (Hurt's most famous song) and "Spike Driver's Blues" to the soulful spirituals "Louis Collins" and "Beulah Land." Hurt's tranquil guitar work -- mixing country, Scottish folk, and Delta blues -- strings all of the songs along the same simple and elegant thread. Hurt himself never could explain his guitar playing, as he used to say, "I just make it sound like I think it ought to." Regardless, that sound, along with a mellow and heartfelt voice, wizened here by decades, combine to make Today an unforgettable whole. A truly essential album of the folk revival, unrivaled in its beauty and warmth. ---David Freedlander,

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