

SMOKESTACK BLUES – *Extra* nyhetsbrev 28/10 2015 (nr 8-2015)

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STÄNGT 12-24/11

Vi ber igen om överseende för stundtals **långa leveranstider**. Av ökonomiska skäl kan vi inte hålla något större lager. Och när Smokestacks kundkrets inte är så stor längre tar det ofta flera veckor (ibland månader) innan vi fått underlag till en ny beställning hos våra leverantörer.

MÅNADENS SKIVA NOVEMBER



The Peterson Brothers "The Peterson Brothers"

Blue Point Records BPTCD 1502

160:-

Glenn och Alex Peterson är två ungdomar (18 resp 16 år när skivan spelades in våren 2015) från Austin, Texas, som är på stark frammarsch i USA med redan många festivalspelningar och en Legendary R&B Cruise bakom sig.

På skivan, inspelad dels i Blade Studios i Shreveport, LA, och dels i studio i Austin, kompas de av James Pace, keys, och Brady Blade, trummor; Glenn sjunger och spelar gitarr och Alex spelar bas och, i en låt, fiol. Producerat har Grammy Award- och Blues Music Award-vinnaren Michael Freeman gjort. Sex av elva låtar är original.

Blues Blast: "...forty minutes of classic blues that sounds just as new as anything Kanye West might release. Their vocal talent, keen musicianship, and sharp songwriting skills should put their first CD on radio playlists worldwide. The Peterson Brothers are a bridge between novelty and tradition."

Blues & Rhythm: "...this is a very classy release with excellent musicianship and choice of material and what soloing there is complements the songs, rather than being the centerpiece, and there is some particularly nice complementary work from keyboardist Pace."

Classic Blues Artwork from the 1920's
2016 Calendar *SPECIAL AMERICAN EPIC EDITION!* Vol. 13

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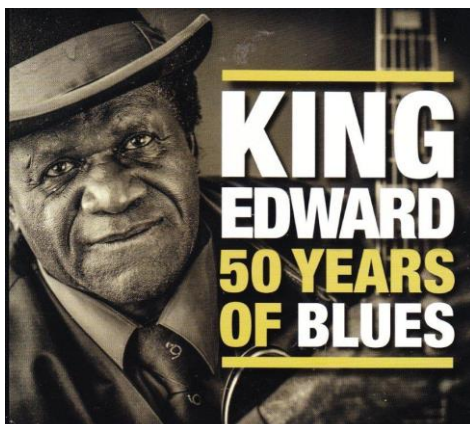
CD Features:
12 Blues Classics from Blues Masters:
• Blind Willie Johnson
• Blind Lemon Jefferson
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5 Super RARE songs by Legendary Blues Artists including:
• 2 tracks by Hottie Hyde (aka Hottie Holt) and the Memphis Jug Band
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2016 års väggkalender med tillhörande CD som jag presenterade i förra nyhetsbrevet har nu kommit. Pris höjt till 195:- pga dålig dollarkurs och de höga fraktkostnaderna från USA (och profithunger inte minst).

Vi fick nyss in **Blues Unlimited: Essential interviews from the original blues magazine** (University of Illinois Press). Detta är alltså intervjuer från engelska *Blues Unlimited* (1963-1987) sammanställda av Bill Greensmith, Mike Rowe and Mark Camarigg. 496 sidor. 80 s/v foton. Pris 335:-.



"Den gitarrspelande ädelpotatisen", som vi så vitsigt skrev i en bildtext med honom i *Jefferson* nr 28 (1974), celebrerar som synes med en CD. Den är utgiven på Hit The Road Records och är professionellt producerad i Nashville.

Jag kommer att inhandla ett antal ex, när jag befinner mig i Jackson, MS, i mitten av november.

Stor intervju med **King Edward** finns i *Jefferson* nr 176.

Soul From The Vaults fortsätter ge ut excellent soul; det senaste är *A deep dip into Georgia soul Vol.3*. Från den har jag lagt in fyra låtar som spelas till och från på Smokestacks hemsida: Mitty Collier med *One heck of a lover*; Rozetta Johnsons 12-taktare *I understand my man*; Clarence Glovers *Keep your promises* samt Tony Troutmans *One way love (ain't no good for two)*.

SBA (Swedish Blues Association) har utsett **Introducing: Shoutin' Red** på Roots Records att representera Sverige i The Blues Foundations (i Memphis) tävling om Best Self-Produced CD. Tydligt ett populärt val, för till dags dato är det 3920 träffar på Jeffersons facebookinlägg, och det är mycket bra enligt SBA:s fejanadministratör. Där ligger också en video där Red sjunger *When the levee breaks* helt betagande.

Jisses vilken tjejsamling på **Voodoo voodoo: Feisty fifties females**, en 3-CD på Fantastic Voyage. Dinah Washington (*New blow-top blues*), "Rutan", Helen Humes, Ella Johnson, Big Maybelle osv osv. 205:-.



Tar tillfället i akt att skriva några ord om **JJ Thames**, som var bland det absolut bästa jag såg vid The Jackson R&B Festival i somras. Jag har sett henne förut och vet att hon är bra, men den här gång knockade hon mig. Med de rätta kontakterna skulle hon kunna bli en ny Tina Turner med den röst, koreografi och scenutstrålning hon besitter. Vi har haft hennes debut-CD *Tell you what I know* (DeChamp Records), men har sålt slut på den. Ev kan det finnas möjlighet ta in fler, om vi får tillräckligt med beställningar.

Stor intervju med JJ i *Jefferson* nr 180, där hennes CD är "Kvartalets skiva".

På bilden är också **Grady Champion**, som har producerat skivan. Med Grady har vi skivor i lager på hans egen label Grady Shady och på Malaco. *Bootleg whiskey* på Malaco fick en mycket bra recension i *Jefferson* 183. Foto: Tommy Löfgren på Underground 119 i Jackson, MS.



Endast på vinyl: Alligator ALLP 9203. 275:-

SIDE ONE

Koko Taylor - Merry, Merry Christmas (4:28)

Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials - I'm Your Santa (2:56)

Shemekia Copeland - Stay A Little Longer, Santa (4:22)

The Holmes Brothers - Back Door Santa (3:04)

Katie Webster - Deck The Halls With Boogie Woogie (3:00)

Charlie Musselwhite - Silent Night (2:41)

SIDE TWO

Little Charlie & The Nightcats - Santa Claus (2:58)

Michael "Iron Man" Burks - Christmas Snow (3:59)

Marcia Ball - Christmas Fais Do Do (3:15)

Roomful Of Blues - Santa Claus, Do You Ever Get The Blues? (3:22)

Tinsley Ellis - Santa Claus Wants Some Lovin' (3:24)

Elvin Bishop - The Little Drummer Boy (2:53)

NEWS

ALLIGATOR RECORDS TO RELEASE ALL-STAR BLIND WILLIE JOHNSON TRIBUTE ALBUM

[10/21/2015]

Newly Recorded Songs From Tom Waits, Lucinda Williams, Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, Cowboy Junkies, The Blind Boys Of Alabama, Sinéad O'Connor, Luther Dickinson, Maria McKee, Rickie Lee Jones

Alligator Records is proud to announce the first quarter 2016 release of ***God Don't Never Change: The Songs Of Blind Willie Johnson***. The album (to be issued on CD and vinyl) features newly recorded versions of the iconic slide guitarist/vocalist's most seminal material. Tom Waits, Lucinda Williams, Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, Cowboy Junkies, The Blind Boys Of Alabama, Sinéad O'Connor, Luther Dickinson, Maria McKee, and Rickie Lee Jones all deliver deeply moving interpretations of Johnson's otherworldly "gospel blues" music.

Produced by Jeffrey Gaskill (producer of the twice Grammy-nominated compilation, *Gotta Serve Somebody: The Gospel Songs of Bob Dylan*), ***God Don't Never Change: The Songs Of Blind Willie Johnson*** highlights the music of one of the greatest and most influential slide guitarists and vocalists who ever walked the Earth. Johnson sang his sanctified gospel lyrics with overwhelming intensity, his deep, raspy voice accompanying his haunting, moaning, blues-drenched guitar playing. Rock fans will no doubt recognize many of his songs which have been recorded over the years by artists ranging from Led Zeppelin to Eric Clapton to Bob Dylan. Johnson's recording of *John The Revelator* was included in the *Anthology Of American Folk Music*, archivist Harry Smith's 6-LP collection released in 1952 that set the folk revival of the 1960s into motion. ***God Don't Never Change: The Songs Of Blind Willie Johnson*** is, according to Gaskill, "my life's work." The project was years in the making, and Gaskill is thrilled it's ready to be released. "You gotta serve somebody," he says, referencing his earlier compilation, "and I got the songs of Blind Willie Johnson."

Blind Willie Johnson recorded a total of 30 songs between 1927 and 1930 for Columbia, leaving behind a priceless legacy of the unforgettable music he created by marrying the raw, gospel fervor of his voice with the steely blues fire of his guitar. His songs were mostly traditional or came from hymnals, but when Johnson performed them, he transformed them with his soul-shaking voice and amazing slide guitar. Johnson was among the best-selling black gospel artists of the era, but the Great Depression ended his recording career.

Johnson's life has been shrouded in mystery, but scholars have unearthed a few details. Born in Independence, Texas on January 22, 1897, Johnson grew up around Marlin, Texas. His stepmother, in a fit of rage, threw lye in his face when he was seven, blinding him for life. He traveled the area as a street singer, moving between Dallas, Galveston, Houston, Corpus Christi, San Antonio and finally to Beaumont, where he thundered out his street corner evangelism, spreading his sacred message through his transfixing music. He died in 1945 in Beaumont, Texas at the age of 48.

Luther Dickinson calls Johnson's music "primitive modernism," his sound opening up "a whole other universe. He touches everybody. His music is so of the earth that it still sounds completely modern. It's timeless and like nothing else ever recorded. If we could hip anybody to Blind Willie Johnson, their lives would be enriched for sure."

Derek Trucks wholeheartedly agrees, saying, "I never heard a slide player, even to this day, play with that much emotion. I've only heard a few things that have hit me quite that strongly. There's something so honest about his recordings. He's one of the few handful of musicians whose music really feels sacred to me. Johnson's songs, lyrics and the ability to pair the slide with the voice were amazing. It feels like it came out of a different world.

According to Rickie Lee Jones, recording *Dark Was The Night, Cold Was The Ground* -- Johnson's best-known performance -- was life-changing. She incorporated lyrics to the tune which dated back to the late 1700s. "The blues is everyman's cry," she says. "The song is part of me now."

Blind Willie Johnson's recording of *Dark Was The Night, Cold Was The Ground* is now also a part of the cosmos. It was included -- along with Beethoven and the sound of a human heartbeat (among other tracks) -- on a gold disc sent into outer space on the Voyager space probe back in 1977, a timeless representation of Earth's humanity for other sentient beings to one day discover.

God Don't Never Change: The Songs Of Blind Willie Johnson

- 1) Soul Of A Man (Tom Waits)
- 2) It's Nobody's Fault But Mine (Lucinda Williams)
- 3) Keep Your Lamp Trimmed And Burning (Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi)
- 4) Jesus Is Coming Soon (Cowboy Junkies)
- 5) Mother's Children Have A Hard Time (The Blind Boys of Alabama)
- 6) Trouble Will Soon Be Over (Sinéad O'Connor)
- 7) Bye And Bye I'm Going To See The King (Luther Dickinson featuring The Rising Star Fife & Drum Band)
- 8) God Don't Never Change (Lucinda Williams)
- 9) John The Revelator (Tom Waits)
- 10) Let Your Light Shine On Me (Maria McKee)
- 11) Dark Was The Night, Cold Was The Ground (Rickie Lee Jones)