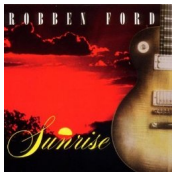
Robben Ford – Sunrise (1999)



01. Oh Gee (Matthew Gee) - 6:29 02. Red Rooster (Willie Dixon) - 4:24 03. Eighty One (Miles Davis - Ron Carter) - 8:07 04. Ain't Nobody's Business (Jimmy Witherspoon - Clarence Williams - Graham R.Prince - Porter Grainger) - 3:48 play 05. Sunrise (Robben Ford) - 11:28 06. Blue & Lonesome (Little Walter Jacobs) - 8:23 07. Miss Miss (Robben Ford) - 8:56 08. Everyday I Have The Blues (Peter Chatman) - 5:26
play

Personnel: - Robben Ford - guitar, saxophone, lead vocals (02,05,06,08) - Paul Nagle - keyboards - Stan Poplin - bass, guitar - Jim Baum - drums - Jimmy Witherspoon - lead vocals (04,08)

Sunrise is an album of live recordings made in 1972 by Robben Ford, and released on CD in 1999. Though Ford's music ranged over jazz, blues, and rock music styles, the performances on this album are strongly rooted in jazz, despite some of the songs having been composed originally by blues artists. The songs on this album were originally recorded live in clubs noted at the time for introducing promising new artists to the music world. ---wiki

It's ironic that some of the people who swear up and down that they don't like jazz will get into Robben Ford, whose career has as much to do with jazz as it does with blues, pop, soul and rock. Though Ford was never a "jazz snob," his jazz credentials are quite solid. Jazz, blues and rock are all primary ingredients of Sunrise, a CD that was released in 1999 and contains live performances at Los Angeles and London venues in 1972. Back then, the singer/guitarist was in his early twenties and hadn't yet become famous, but those who were hip to Ford knew that he was a unique young talent who had considerable promise. This unpredictable and highly

enjoyable collection ranges from the hardcore instrumental jazz of Miles Davis' "Eighty One" (which finds Ford playing the sax) and jazz-rock fusion of "Miss Miss" to spirited performances of Willie Dixon's "Little Red Rooster" and Peter Chatman's "Every Day I Have the Blues." The latter finds Ford performing a vocal duet with blues singer Jimmy Witherspoon, who is the only vocalist on "Ain't Nobody's Business." The late Witherspoon thought the world of Ford, and it's easy to see why they got along so well -- like Ford, Witherspoon was an eclectic, unpredictable artist who held jazz and the blues in equally high regard. Whether you're into jazz, blues or rock -- or all of the above -- Sunrise is a CD to savor. --- Alex Henderson, Rovi

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