

## Maria Muldaur - Don't You Feel My Leg: The Naughty Bawdy Blues Of Blue Lu Barker (2018)

Written by bluesever

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1 Georgia Grind 4:52 2 Leave My Man Alone 3:43 3 Loan Me Your Husband 4:12 4 Scat Skunk 3:49 5 Now You're Down In The Alley 3:39 6 Here's A Little Girl From Jacksonville 4:24 7 Nix On Those Lush Heads 3:42 8 Bow Legged Daddy 2:55 9 Trombone Man Blues 3:28 10 A Little Bird Told Me 2:20 11 Handy Andy 4:27 12 Don't You Feel My Leg 3:59 Bass – Roland Guerin Drums, Percussion – Herlin Riley Guitar – Christopher Adkins Piano – Dave Torkanowsky Saxophone, Clarinet – Roderick Paulin (tracks: 2, 3, 5 to 8, 10 to 12), Tom Fischer (tracks: 1, 4, 5, 9, 12) Trombone – Charlie Halloran (tracks: 1, 4, 5, 9, 12), Rick Trolsen (tracks: 2, 3, 5 to 8, 10 to 12) Trumpet – Duke Heitger (tracks: 1, 4, 5, 9, 12), Kevin Louis (tracks: 2, 3, 5 to 8, 10 to 12) Vocals - Maria Muldaur

The album is a tribute to popular vocalist and songwriter Blue Lu Barker, who made her mark in the late 30s and early 40s, and whom Billie Holiday once cited as her biggest influence. Featuring a stellar band of NOLA musicians including New Orleans A-listers David Torkanowsky on piano (Neville Brothers, Irma Thomas, Solomon Burke), Roland Guerin on bass (Allen Toussaint, Steve Earle, Chris Thomas King), and Herlin Riley on drums (Dr. John, Wynton Marsalis, Cassandra Wilson), among others, DON'T YOU FEEL MY LEG brings Muldaur full circle from the 1973 album sessions that spawned Muldaur's million-selling hit, "Midnight At The Oasis," and which also featured a sassy take of Barker's "Don't You Feel My Leg," a cult favorite that remains Muldaur's most requested song to this day at her performances.

"Because of my friendship with Blue Lu and Danny, and my longtime association with that song, I was invited to New Orleans in 2016 to put on a concert paying tribute to Blue Lu in New Orleans. I started doing some in-depth research of all their past recordings, and to my surprise and delight I discovered that they had written and recorded dozens of songs equally naughty, bawdy, witty, and clever as 'Don't You Feel My Leg'. Besides the wonderfully funny, suggestive lyrics, I was really struck and quite charmed by Blue Lu's delivery of these tunes... droll, sly, full

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of sass and attitude, yet understated...a bit girlish and coy. Her cool nonchalance and crisp ladylike diction in contrast to the naughty, risqué lyrics made them smolder with innuendo all the more. These were songs by hipsters, for hipsters," says Muldaur.

Muldaur adds, "as we sit here in 2018, you might well ask why a vintage gal like me feels it is important to present these vintage tunes at this point in time. Well for one thing, in an era when so many aspects of sexuality are dealt with and discussed with such deadly seriousness, I find the lighthearted playful expressions of sexuality in these songs a pleasant and welcome respite from the fraught discourse prevailing today...and for another...these are all basically hip, fun happy songs, and I think we could all use a big dose of HAPPY right about now."

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