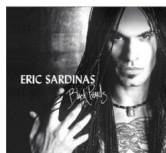


Eric Sardinas - Black Pearls (2003)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 30 July 2010 18:51 - Last Updated Monday, 18 January 2021 11:54

Eric Sardinas - Black Pearls (2003)



1. *Flames Of Love*
2. *Same Ol' Way*
3. *Bittersweet*
4. *Ain't No Crime*
5. *Big Red Line*
6. *Liar's Dice Blues*
7. *Black Pearls*
8. *Sorrow's Kitchen*
9. *Four Roses*
10. *Old Smyrna Road*
11. *Tenfold Trouble*
12. *Wicked Ways*

Eric Sardinas (vocals, guitar); Mike Duple (drums); Keith Johnson (programming).

Eric Sardinas is a good, even great, electric slide player, and his Dobro skills are equally as impressive. His band on Black Pearls, Paul Loranger on bass and Mike Dupke on drums, is also quite good. The problem here is the material. The songs, all written by Sardinas, are at the worst end of blues cliché. They sound good and rock hard, but in the end, you've heard all this said before, and probably better. Granted, blues feeds on recycled lyrics, and it is undoubtedly hard to find a new way to say "I've been down so long I'm gonna leave you," but it can be done (Otis Taylor comes immediately to mind). The highlights here -- the cheerful pop-blues of "Big Red Line," the bluegrass-paced Dobro work on "Old Smyrna Road" -- come on songs that step a little bit outside the blues-boogie template. ---Steve Leggett, allmusic.com

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