

Carrie Smith - Confessin' The Blues (1993)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Confessin' the Blues* 02. *Country Man* 03. *(Mama) He Treats Your Daughter Mean* 04. *Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out* 05. *On Revival Day* 06. *Won't Be Long* 07. *I Want a Little Boy* 08. *Trouble in Mind* 09. *St. Louis Blues* 10. *In the Dark* 11. *Ill Wind* 12. *When I've Been Drinking* 13. *'Deed I Do* 14. *Careless Love* 15. *Do Your Duty* 16. *Everybody Loves My Baby* Carrie Smith (vocals) Billy Butler (guitar) Eddie Barefield (alto saxophone) George Kelly (tenor saxophone) Budd Johnson (tenor & soprano saxophone) Doc Cheatham, Dick Vance (trumpet) Vic Dickenson (trombone) Ram Ramirez; Sir Charles Thompson, Hank Jones (piano) Al Hall, George Duvivier (bass) Eddie Locke, Oliver Jackson, Panama Francis (drums)

This CD reissues not only Carrie Smith's original hard-to-find Black & Blue LP, but six selections from two other sessions including three previously unissued alternate takes. Smith, who was coming into her own during this period, is in top form on a variety of vintage material ranging from Bessie Smith songs in the 1920s to the '50s Ruth Brown hit "Mama He Treats Your Daughter Mean" and Big Bill Broonzy's "When I've Been Drinkin'." It is interesting to hear some of the altered lyrics, which have been changed to reflect a female rather than a male singing; "I Want a Little Boy" is the most obvious example. Most selections find Smith backed by a quartet that includes tenor saxophonist George Kelly and pianist Ram Ramirez, while a few of the added tracks have short spots for trumpeter Doc Cheatham and trombonist Vic Dickenson. This is one of the best Carrie Smith CDs currently available. --- Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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