Written by bluesever Saturday, 16 July 2011 08:56 - Last Updated Sunday, 28 February 2021 17:45

Jessie Mae Hemphill - She Wolf (1981)



01. She-Wolf <u>play</u> 02. Standing In My Doorway Crying 03. Jump, Baby, Jump 04. Take Me Home With You, Baby 05. Black Cat Bone 06. Boogie 'Side Of The Road 07. Hard Times 08. Crawdad Hole 09. Married Man Blues 10. Honey Bee <u>play</u>

11. Overseas Blues 12. Loving In The Moonlight 13. Bullyin' Well 14. Jessie's Boogie 15. My Lord Do Just What He Say

Jessie Mae Hemphill (vocals, guitar, tambourine); Dr. David Evans (guitar); Calvin Jackson, Joe Hicks (drums).

This compact disc reissue gathers up all the original tracks from Jessie Mae's 1980 debut album for the French Vogue label along with four remixed bonus tracks, all seeing their first domestic release. Recorded by folklorist Dr. David Evans (who also contributes second guitar on 13 of the 15 tracks here) in various locales around Memphis and Mississippi, the music stays down-home and primal throughout. There's a strong sense of rhythm that permeates this record, whether it comes from the fife and drum-derived percussion work of Calvin Jackson and Joe Hicks or simply Jessie Mae's own foot-operated tambourine driving the beat home. Highlights include "Jessie's Boogie" and "Standing In My Doorway Crying" (both sides of her first 45 single, underwritten by the National Endowment for the Arts), "Honey Bee," "Boogie Side of the Road," "Crawdad Hole," "Lovin' In the Moonlight," "Married Man Blues" and the title track. The blues, real and raw. ---Cub Koda

Any true blues fan should take it upon themselves to learn the difference between Mississippi Delta music and North Mississippi Hill music. This is NOT a Delta Blues album, it is Hill music. I personally prefer Hill music to Delta. It is a more primative form of blues music perfect for jook

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joint dancing. You can't help but tap your toe or stomp your foot to it.

Jessie May Hamphill is right up there with the best of the North Mississippi musicians, such as RL Burnside, Junior Kimbrough, Fred McDowell, Othar Turner, Lonnie Pitchford, to name a few.

She has recently suffered a stroke and can no longer play guitar. So buy her CD's now!! She won't be making any more. --- D. E. Landem

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