Albert King - New Orleans Heat (1978)

1. Get Out Of My Life Woman 2. Born Under A Bad Sign 3. The Feeling 4. We All Wanna Boogie 5. The Very Thought Of You 6. I Got The Blues 7. I Get Evil 8. Angel Of Mercy 9. Flat Tyre Albert King - Guitar, Vocals Leo Nocentelli – Guitar George Porter, Jr. – Bass Wardell Quezergue - Piano (Electric) Robert Dabon - Piano (Electric) Allen Toussaint – piano Charles "Hungry" Williams – Drums Kenneth Williams – Percussion Leroy Breaux – Drums

New Orlean Heat, an Albert King collaboration with Allen Toussaint, is, in many ways, a step back in time, or an homage to the fifties and early sixties, when blues and r&b artists flocked to Cosmo's to cut records with the funk talent of the crescent city. Albert is his usual smooth, velvet bulldozer on vocals, and arrangements are good, if not cutting edge. A lot less of the NO style funk than one might expect. The guitar work is subdued, so if you are expecting a lot of heat in New Orleans Heat. prepare to be underwhelmed. Not a lot of "talking wire" here. Perhaps the song choices and arrangements tended to muzzle Albert's well-known guitar excitement, the be a team player approach. Surprisingly, the liner notes give no mention of the backup female vocalists, and perhaps a few other members of the team. The foregoing disparagements aside, this is a fine album and one any AK fan needs in his collection to represent his Tomato years, in much the same way a Freddie King fan needs Texas Cannonball to represent his Shelter years. Just don't expect Born Under a Bad Sign meets the Meters.
---Leo H. Stakemiller, amazon.com

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