

Chicago - The Blues Yesterday Volume 9

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 09 June 2015 15:55 -

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- 01. Looking for my baby 02. Easy lovin' 03. Groan my blues away 04. I feel so all alone*
Jody Williams – vocals, guitar Harold Ashby – tenor saxophone Lafayette Leake – piano Willie Dixon – bass Clifton James – drums Chicago, 5-9 December 1955
- 05. You may 06. What kind of gal is that? 07. Lucky Lou 08. Hooked on love*
Jody Williams – vocals, guitar Harold Ashby – tenor saxophone Red Holloway – tenor saxophone Lafayette Leake – piano, organ Willie Dixon – bass Phil Thomas – drums Chicago, January 1957
- 09. Moanin' for molasses 10. Hideout*
Jody Williams – vocals, guitar Bernard Barkson – tenor & baritone saxophone Lafayette Leake – piano Bob Walter – bass, drums Chicago, 1962
- 11. Shotgun rider 12. Coast to coast*
Bo Dud (or Bo Dudley) – vocals, guitar Johnny Big Moose Walker – piano Fred Roulette – steel guitar Mack Thompson – bass, drums Chicago, January 1968
- 13. Soul election 14. Sure is fun 15. The get it*
Bo Dud – vocals, guitar Johnny Twist Williams – guitar, vocals John Bubbles – tenor saxophone Abb Locke – tenor saxophone, piano Calvin Jones – bass Bill Warren – drums Harvey, June 1968
- 16. I am back home 17. Why I sing the blues 18. Honky Tonk*
Bo Dud – vocals, guitar Johnny Twist Williams – guitar, harmonica Bobby Davis – piano, bass, drums Chicago, c. 1969
- 19. Love me or let me be 20. Get ready to meet your man 21. Who but you*
James “Bealestreet” Clark – vocals, piano J.T. Brown – clarinet Ransom Knowling – bass Chicago, 24 October 1945
- 22. Drifting*
James Clark – vocals Leonard Caston – piano Ollie Crawford – guitar Alfred Elkins – bass Chicago, 22 February 1946
- 23. Come to me baby 24. You can't make the grade*
James Clark – vocals, piano Muddy Waters – guitar Leroy Foster – guitar Ransome Knowling – bass Judge Riley – drums Chicago, 27 September 1946

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This ninth volume of our Chicago/ The Blues Yesterday series starts with one of the leading Chicago blues guitarists, the legendary Jody Williams. Born Joseph Leon Williams in Mobile, Alabama, on February 3th 1935 and coming to Chicago very early, Jody has been instrumental in forging the so-called West Side Sound with a precise, scathing and ultra bluesy guitar style. Through his numerous sessions behind a lot of artists like Howlin' Wolf, Billy Stewart, Bo Diddley, Billy Boy Arnold, Otis Rush etc... he has strongly influenced most of the upcoming Chicago blues guitarists. Thinking himself not as a singer, he has waxed only a handful of tracks, mostly instrumental pieces like Lucky Lou that has been copied by almost every Chicago guitar player. Unable to really make a decent living with his music, Jody has embarked in a career as a technician at Xerox. However, once retired from his job, he resumed his musical career and recorded several very good CDs and can be heard playing blues festivals around the world.

Bo Dud/ Bo Dudley was born Oscar Coleman in Mississippi in 1941. The first single (Shotgun rider/ Coast to coast) he recorded in 1968 gained rave reviews, mostly because of Freddie Roulette's steel guitar pyrotechnics. After that he has recorded several 45 on his own label Dud Sound, less in the Bo Diddley mould than his beginnings, and generally backed by the excellent guitar player Johnny Twist that we have featured on a previous volume of that series. Making a living mostly as a cab driver, Bo has resumed his musical career after a fire had almost taken his life and destroyed his home. He is still playing in Chicago and has even recorded a CD (Oscar boogie).

James "Beale Street" Clark (born January 12th, 1911 in Memphis) is a pianist and singer who came to Chicago during the 1930's. Although James is mostly known for the two tracks he made for Columbia backed by a young Muddy Waters, he has recorded several others 78s in 1945-47 under his name or the Memphis Jimmy moniker. Get ready to meet your man might be the very original of the blues standard Look over yonder's wall generally attributed to Jazz Gillum. We have been able to gather all his recordings minus his last Victor 78 for which a .mp3 copy would be a nice add. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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[back](#)