Times Ain't Like They Used To Be Vol. 2 (1997)

1. John Henry Blues Earl Johnson & His Dixie Entertainers 3:13 2. Moanin' The Blues Allen Shaw 3:01 3. Lonesome Road Blues Ernest Stoneman & Kahle Brewer 3:00 4. Washboard Cut Out Bobby Leecan & His Need More Band 2:56 $0.99 Buy MP3 5. Bob McKinney Henry Thomas 2:57 6. Swanee River Fiddling John Carson & His Virginia Reelers 3:18 7. James Alley Blues Richard 'Rabbit' Brown 3:08 8. Sail Away Ladies Uncle Dave MacOn & His Fruit Jar Drinkers 2:59 9. The Rooster's Crowing Blues Cannon's Jug Stompers 3:03 10. Tallapoosa Bound A.A. Grey & Seven Foot Dilly 3:13 11. Billy Grimes The Rover The Shelor Family 2:46 12. Brown Skin Girl Down The Lane The Massey Family 2:45 13. You Know You Done Me Wrong Joe McCoy 3:14 14. Old Joe Sid Harkreader & Gradey Moore 2:52 15. Beware Blind Alfred Reed 3:11 16. Knocking Down Casey Jones Wilmer Watts & The Lonely Eagles 3:12 17. Four Day Blues Tommy Bradley 3:13 18. Riley the Furniture Man Georgia Crackers 3:06 19. Piney Woods Girl Emmett Lundy & Ernest Stoneman 2:46 20. State Street Rag Louie Blue 2:49 21. Sugar In The Ground Tweedy Brothers 3:07 22. Then I'll Move To Town Southern Moonlight Entertainers 2:51 23. Lord Keep Me With A Mind Rev. D.C. Rice 2:51

Like volume one, this presents 23 examples of early American rural music, mastered from rare 78s of the 1920s and 1930s. And like volume one, the names here will challenge the expertise of all but the most fanatical collector; only Uncle Dave Macon, Cannon's Jug Stompers, Henry Thomas, and maybe Blind Alfred Reed will be familiar. It's a valuable sampler of non-urban sounds as captured in the early days of the recording industry, when primitive technology and marketing naivete ensured that the music was virtually unadulterated. Fiddles, banjos, and plaintive, spirited vocals abound. Bobby Leecan's jugband romp "Washboard Cut Out" is the most exuberant track; Rev. D.C. Rice's gospel number "Lord Keep Me with a Mind" starts off in a more somber mood, but soon evolves into a jubilant New Orleans-styled arrangement.
---Richie Unterberger, Rovi

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