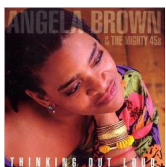


Angela Brown & The Mighty 45s - Thinking Out Loud (1998)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 15 August 2015 15:50 -

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01. Neighbour Neighbour (4:26) 02. Lay It On 'em Girls (4:50) 03. Let The Backdoor Hit Ya (4:33) 04. Blues On The Move (5:01) 05. I Intend To Take Your Place (6:31) 06. If That's The Way You Like It (4:03) 07. A Man Size Job (3:39) 08. Somebody's Been Cookin' (5:07) 09. Just Because The Package Is Open (4:32) 10. You Didn't Want What You Had (4:29) 11. Steppin' In The Shoes Of A Fool (4:42) 12. God Has Smiled On Me (4:05) Angela Brown - vocals Nigel Bagge - guitars, background vocals Russell Brown - bass, background vocals Simon Callow - piano, Hammond C3, background vocals James Evans - saxophones, background vocals Roger Jones - drums Alan Tidbury - trombone Nick Tidbury - trumpet + Carey Bell - harmonica Michael Coleman - guitar Willie Dixon - vocal, handclaps Johnny B. Moore - guitar Mike Vernon - percussion, background vocals

I saw Angela Brown and the Mighty 45's live at a small venue and it was simply one of the best performances I've been at. The CD doesn't have the atmosphere but it has the drive, the verve, the energy, the clarity of sound and some very smart songs. I don't understand how someone can give such a great performance on stage and on record, have such a great band behind her - and not be one of the stars of the moment. If you like a blues performance that rocks along, then you should buy this CD. ---geoffers, amazon.com

b. 1953, Chicago, Illinois, USA. Brown began her musical career by singing gospel music in church and although she was aware of the blues she did not sing them until around 1980, when she played the role of Gertrude 'Ma' Rainey in a stage musical. Following this, she worked in the numerous Chicago blues clubs, often accompanied by pianists Little Brother Montgomery or Erwin Helfer. Her debut recordings were released by the Red Beans label in 1983, and the first album under her own name was made in 1987 for the German label Schubert. Although she

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was dubbed 'the Bessie Smith of the 80s', a deserved title given her strong renditions of vaudeville blues material, her powerful voice is also well-suited to more modern blues styles. In the 90s she became a popular attraction at blues festivals all over the world. She was backed by English beat combo the Mighty 45s on 1999's Thinking Out Loud. This recent work, although good, sounded a little too polished and clean. The unlikely, tranquil setting of Wisley, Surrey, England, may have had some unconscious effect on proceedings. Carey Bell added some fine harmonica throughout, and Willie Dixon's voice was sampled on 'Lay It On 'Em Girls'. ---Rovi

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