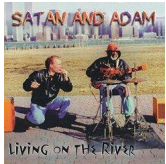


Satan And Adam - Living On The River (1996)

Written by bluesever

Monday, 02 January 2017 15:57 -

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01. *No More Doggin'* (Gordon, Taub) [4:10] 02. *Unlucky in Love* (Magee, Stone) [5:39] 03. *Ode to Billie Joe* (Gentry) [5:54] 04. *Sanctified Blues* (Magee) [4:15] 05. *I'm a Girl Watcher* (Killette, Killette) [5:00] 06. *Little Red Rooster* (Burnett, Dixon) [4:57] 07. *Pick Up the Pieces of My Life* (Gussow, Mabins, Magee) [5:36] 08. *Proud Mary* (Fogerty) [4:54] 09. *I'll Get You* (Magee, Stone) [5:45] 10. *I Got a Woman* (Charles, Richard) [6:56] 11. *Whole Lotta Nothin'* (Magee) [5:10] 12. *Stagga Lee* (Logan, Price) [4:02] Sterling "Mr. Satan" Magee - vocals, guitars and percussion Adam Gussow – harmonica

Satan & Adam continue to mine the same two-man street corner busker groove that has served them so well on this, their third album. The music is kept raw and alive in pursuing this, but on several tracks their sound is fleshed out with guest appearances from Ernie Colon on percussion, the Uptown Horns and background singers appearing on their version of "Proud Mary." But despite the additions, their basic sound is every bit as unfettered as one would expect from these two blues anomalies.— Cub Koda, AllMusic Reviews

Living on the River, released in April of 1996 on the New York-based independent RaveOn label, is our best yet: our first multi-track recording, the first time Mr. Satan has played not just his six-string Ampeg Superstud electric guitar, but also his 12-string Rickenbacker and a couple of acoustic cuts. "I Got a Woman" is the killer cut; we turned it up, stomped down, and jammed. Also getting a lot of radio airplay are covers of "No More Doggin'," "Little Red Rooster," and "Ode to Billy Joe"--the last done as a deep Delta funk, guitar soft and low with a djimbe (African drum) in the back and Mr. Satan's raspy voice big and low, almost punk-folk style. Straight-ahead blues lovers will love the New York-meets-Mississippi groove of "Unlucky in Love." Plus "Stagga Lee," "I'm a GirlWatcher," and many more.

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MR. SATAN is Sterling Magee, legendary Harlem guitarist and songwriter who has performed and recorded with James Brown, King Curtis, Etta James, George Benson, Willis "Gatortail" Jackson, and others. ADAM is Adam Gussow, former harmonicist with the national touring company of "Big River," the hit Broadway musical. Performing together since 1986, SATAN & ADAM have evolved an immediately accessible yet astonishingly original sound -- a new take on the classic American combination of guitar and harmonica.

Imagine Delta blues guitarist Robert Johnson reborn as a jazzy 1990s model funk machine and you'll have some idea of what to expect when Mr. Satan takes the controls. Seated at his homemade trapset -- a pair of Zildjian hi-hat cymbals topped with tambourines and anchored to a wooden sounding board -- Mr. Satan lays down a driving groove behind his hoarse, soulful vocals. Occasional guitar breaks give him a chance to demonstrate his fingerboard wizardry. Adam's amplified harp fills out the duo's sound -- riffing, warbling, insinuating itself through Mr. Satan's music like a juke-joint sax at a Saturday-night fish fry. --- nathanielturner.com

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