## **Texas Blues - Volume 2**



01. I'm gonna tell it on you 02. My precious darling James Davis – vocals + band Houston, Tx. 1962 03. Blue monday

04. Sing 05. Your turn to cry 06. Chains around my heart 07. Bad dreams 08. Ain't it great? James Davis – vocals Calvin Owens, Joe Bridgewater – trumpet James Mayes – saxophones, trumpet Clarence Hollimon – guitar Lloyd Lambert – bass Herman Hawkins – drums Houston, Tx. 1963

09. It's a sad sad world

Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Henry Hayes – alto saxophone Ed Wiley – tenor saxophone Don Cooks – bass Ben Turner – drums Houston, Tx. 1949

10. Alabama blues 11. My wish for you

Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Russ Wills – guitar Henry Hayes – alto saxophone Ed Wiley – tenor saxophone Don Cooks – bass Ben Turner – drums Houston, Tx. May 1950

12. I went to see a gypsy 13. A hep cat's advice 14. You see me smiling 15. Shout and rock 16. I'm movin' out

Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Goree Carter – guitar Henry Hayes – alto saxophone Ed Wiley – tenor saxophone Don Cooks – bass Ben Turner – drums Houston, Tx. December 1950 *17. Playboy blues 18. Cave man 19. Million dollar blues 20. Married woman blues* Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Goree Carter – guitar Henry Hayes – alto saxophone Ed Wiley – tenor saxophone Don Cooks – bass Ben Turner – drums Houston, Tx. 29 November 1950 *21. Over here pretty baby 22. Elmore's blues 23. If you'll be my love 24. Forgive me baby 25. Sad and blue 26. Last night* 

Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Henry Hayes – alto saxophone + band Houston, Tx. December 1952

27. Don't do it 28. The women

Elmore Nixon – vocals, piano Dave Bartholomew – trumpet + band New Orleans, La. 6 September 1955

29. Blues for a belly dancer 30. I just want to make a love to you 31. Shake a lady Harold Bennett – tenor saxophone, flute Albert Owens – guitar, organ George Malone – bass Isaiah Anderson – drums, percussion Houston, Tx. 1964

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This 2nd volume of our Texas Blues series starts with James "Thunderbird" Davis (born 10 November 1938 in Mobile, Al), a singer at first associated with Guitar Slim (Eddie Jones) for whom he opened the shows in Louisiana and Texas. At the end of the 1950's, James settled in Houston and started a personal career, recording ten tracks for Duke, hitting the charts with What else is there to do and Blue Monday. In 1966, James Davis was constantly on tour throughout the USA with Joe Tex and O.V. Wright. But during the mid-1970's, he became a preacher and stopped singing the blues. Rediscovered in 1988 by Black Top's Hammond Scott, James recorded a very good album Check Out Time and resumed his career. But he died of a heart attack on stage at Saint Paul (Minnesota) on January, 24th 1992.

Elmore Nixon (born in Crowley, La. on 17 November 1933) is well known by the blues fans for his striking piano work behind Lightnin' Hopkins, Clifton Chenier and numerous other Texas artists. But he also recorded quite substantially under his name in a R&B vein between 1949 and 1955. He died in Houston on December 11th, 1973 after surgery.

At last, saxophonist, flute player and composer Harold Bennett (born 7th August 1939 in Houston, Tx) has been very active in the studios, recording behind dozens of blues, R&B and jazz artists like Teddy Reynolds, Johnny Copeland, Bobby Bland, Sam Cooke, B.B. King.... He was a mainstay of several Houston clubs. He also recorded under his name and here are some of his most honking bluesy titles, waxed for the tiny Copa label. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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