Written by bluesever Monday, 08 March 2010 23:52 - Last Updated Thursday, 15 May 2014 09:35

Dr. Ross - One Man Band (1965/1998)



1. Dr. Ross' Rock - 1:50 2. My Little Woman - 4:33 3. Mama Blues - 3:52 4. 32-20 - 3:41 5. Chicago Breakdown - 6:11 6. Good Morning Little Schoolgirl - 3:00 7. Hobo Blues - 4:09 8. Fox Chase - 4:39 9. Goin' Down Slow - 4:22 10. The Boogie Woogie - 2:40 'Doctor' Isaiah Ross - Guitar, Harmonica, Vocals

They called him 'The Harmonica Boss'. His early, often heavily electrified, records were made for the legendary Sun label in the 1950s but continued to influence a decade and beyond (when Cream recorded his Cat Squirrel and the Flamin' Groovies Boogie Disease and 32-20).

In the 1960s, he reinvented himself as a one-man band (initially with vocal, harmonica and guitar and later adding drums) and his album for Takoma (recorded live at the University of Chicago on 30 January 1965) established a style that would be restated on recordings for Testament/Bounty, Blue Horizon and Xtra. His performances in Europe with the 1965 American Folk Blues Festival won him many overseas admirers and his official recording on that tour (of My Black Name Ringing) remains one of the best from that whole series of annual record and tour events.

Dr Ross died on 28 May 1993 but this concert recording, now nearly a third of a century's vintage, captures all the thrills and lonesome chills of his unique blues conception. --- John Crosby, acerecords.co.uk

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