Etta James – Rocks The House [Live] (1963)

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1 - Something's Got a Hold on Me - 5:02 2 - Baby, What You Want Me to Do - 4:14 3 -What'd I Say - 3:15 4 - Money (That's What I Want) - 3:22 5 - Seven Day Fool - 4:20 6 - Sweet Little Angel - 4:14 7 - Ooh Poo Pah Doo - 4:04 8 - Woke Up This Morning - 3:38 9 - Ain't That Lovin' You Baby -2:51 10 - All I Could Do Was Cry - 3:21 11 - I Just Want to Make Love to You - 3:40 Etta James - Vocals David T. Walker - Guitar Marion Wright - Bass Freeman Brown or Richard Waters - Drums Gavrell Cooper - Sax (Tenor) Vonzell Cooper – Organ

Simply one of the greatest live blues albums ever captured on tape. Cut in 1963 at the New Era Club in Nashville, the set finds Etta James in stellar shape as she forcefully delivers her own "Something's Got a Hold on Me" and "Seven Day Fool" interspersed with a diet of sizzling covers ("What'd I Say," "Sweet Little Angel," "Money," "Ooh Poo Pah Doo"). The CD incarnation adds three more great titles, including an impassioned reprise of her "All I Could Do Was Cry." Guitarist David T. Walker is outstanding whenever he solos. ---Bill Dahl, allmusic.com

One of the greatest live club recordings in Blues, and the only one from Etta's early career. You can feel the party; folks are screaming, Etta's steaming, the whole country was still reeling from her '61 At Last! recording that will also knock your shoes off and have you rocking the house yourself. Oh, Etta sings some beautiful blues, you know, but she can rip out some heart-wrenching gutteral gospel, too; it's all here in this one-night show. Just 25 years old and in full power, Live.

The audience is up screaming and dancing from the first number and Etta immediately slides

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into the sexiest version of Jimmy Reed's Baby, Any Way You Want Me To Do, giving the song all new meaning. Just four years earlier Ray Charles topped the charts with What I Say, and Etta belts it out true to form with all the flavor Ray gave it, and the audience is absolutely enthralled. You are right there with them on this recording.

She puts The Beatles to shame on Money (That's What I Want), and beat them to it here, rocking out to the tune originally recorded by Motown writer Barrett Strong in 1959. The Beatles made a hit out of it in '63 only after this show. They've Etta James to thank for warming Americans up to the beat.

The house stays on their feet keeping the floor wet though a rocking bluesy Seven Day Fool and they don't get a rest till the guitarist gets to put on a show of his own with Sweet Little Angel; a B.B. King classic, sung by Etta "with a feeling" as Little Walter wrote and Paul Butterfield so famously quoted and promoted. Oh, what a feeling. The first set ends here and we break for drinks!

Encore time! Ooh Poo Pah Doo gets the fans all riled up and dancing again. You can imagine a mixed crowd of revelers, drinks and smokes set down now, see 'em Twisting in front of the band and throughout the aisles. Back to B.B. King for Woke Up This Morning in rockin' double time, and Etta finishes off her party sending everyone home sweaty and in the mood with another Jimmy Reed classic, Ain't That Lovin' You Baby. --- David G. Lucas, amazon.com

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