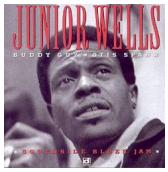
Junior Wells – Southside Blues Jam (1992)



01. Stop Breaking Down (3:33) 02. I Could Have Had Religion (3:08) 03. Just Make Love To Me (4:49) 04. Lend Me Your Love (7:03) 05. Long Distance Call (3:16) 06. Blues For Mayor Daley (5:58) 07. In My Younger Days (4:06) 08. Trouble Don't Last Always (7:54)
Junior Wells - Harmonica, Vocals Buddy Guy – Guitar Louis Myers – Guitar Otis Spann – Piano Earnest Johnson – Bass Fred Below – Drums

Enjoyable but less electrifying follow-up to Hoodoo Man Blues, cut in 1969-1970 -- looser, with longer songs that afford more room to stretch out instrumentally but don't quite equal the stunning precision of what came before. Buddy Guy returns on guitar; Otis Spann is the pianist, and Fred Below keeps superb time. ---Bill Dahl, allmusic.com

You might know singer and harmonica player Junior Wells from his collaborations with Rock Hall of Fame guitarist Buddy Guy — their career on vinyl was frustratingly uneven, but this was their recorded debut and "some of the best blues Chicago has to offer." The highlights were two seemingly improvised autobiographical songs, "I Could Have Had Religion" and "Blues for Mayor Daley." Also appearing here is the great pianist Otis Spann, in his last sessions before dying of liver cancer; Wells died from a heart attack in 1998; Buddy Guy still lives and plays.

What We Said Then: "Wells. . .screams in frustration and bewilderment that he has to fight to make sleep come sometimes: he doesn't want to have to fight for love or because he's black and you're white. He trails off singing 'A little bit of love. That's all I want. That's all I need.' The band soon comes to a clumsy halt. This is music of incredible honesty and emotion; rarely are

such moments captured on tape." — Michael Cuscuna, rollingstone.com

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