

Professor Longhair - Rock`n`oll Gumbo (1974)

Written by bluesever

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- 1 *Mardi Gras In New Orleans (2:56)*
- 2 *Hey Now Baby (3:37)*
- 3 *Junco Partner (3:30)*
- 4 *Meet Me Tomorrow Night (3:17)*
- 5 *Doin' It (4:04)*
- 6 *How Long Has That Train Been Gone (3:32)*
- 7 *Tipitina (3:38)*
- 8 *Rockin' Pneumonia (2:41)*
- 9 *Jambalaya (3:12)*
- 10 *Mean Ol'World (3:36)*
- 11 *Stag-O-Lee (2:58)*
- 12 *Mess Around (2:38)*
- 13 *Rum And Coke (3:12)*
- 14 *(They Call Me) Dr. Professor Long Hair (4:16)*

Personnel: [Henry Roeland Byrd] a.k.a. Professor Longhair (piano, vocals), Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown (guitar, violin), Julius Farmer (bass), Edwin "Sheeba" Kimbraugh (drums), Alfred "Uganda" Roberts (conga). + Jerry Jumonville (baritone & tenor saxophones), Steve Madaio (trumpet).

Recorded in 1974, this album almost never saw the light of day. Fortunately, the master tapes were found and the album was released posthumously. Professor Longhair was a giant in the New Orleans music community, but had not recorded in over ten years when he was convinced to start playing again. From the opening riffs, one can understand the stature of Professor Longhair as a great pianist -- he demonstrates that he is equally at home playing rhumba boogie, blues songs, and calypso. He plays New Orleans standards (many penned by himself), but what makes this recording a classic is the chance to hear him play with guitarist Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. The interplay of these music veterans is mesmerizing. The piano playing is breathtaking, and has a percussive quality unlike any other player before or since. It is hard to believe that Professor Longhair languished in obscurity for so many years after hearing the

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jubilance of "Mardi Gras in New Orleans," a song that will have you tapping your feet and hands as if you were in the parade. This album is essential for fans of New Orleans music and those aspiring to be rock & roll pianists. --- Vik Iyengar, Rovi

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