

Shakey Horton - The Soul Of Blues Harmonica (1964)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 26 March 2019 15:52 -

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*A1 Groove Walk 3:15 A2 Wee Baby Blues 3:01 A3 It's Alright 2:50 A4 Wrinkles 2:58
A5 Hard Hearted Woman 2:50 B1 John Henry 2:40 B2 Good Moanin' Blues 4:12 B3
Friday Night Stomp 3:00 B4 Gonna Bring It On Home 3:00 B5 La Cucuracha 2:32*
Walter Horton – harmonica, vocals (2, 5) Buddy Guy – guitar Bobby Buster – organ Jack
Myers – bass Willie Smith – drums

Big Walter's first album and with an all star cast -- Buddy Guy (guitar), Jack Myers (bass), Willie Dixon (vocals), and Willie Smith (drums). Although not definitive, this album is worth seeking out for Horton fans. It features Walter in a variety of musical styles, including a good rendition of "Hard Hearted Woman" and a wild version of "La Cucaracha" ---Michael Erlewine, AllMusic Review

In 1927 Horton began his career with the Memphis Jug Band but did not make a mark until he recorded a couple of records for Sam Phillips. Two of those songs are "Easy," which has a striking harp instrumental piece, and "I Almost Lost My Mind." Horton then worked the Southern dance and picnic circuit and also the Memphis street corners. Horton played briefly with the Muddy Waters' band and played the classic harp piece for "Forty Days and Forty Nights."

Horton moved to Chicago in the late 1940's but came back to Memphis to play on records released by Modern/RPM and Sun. Horton recorded four sides in 1951 for Modern/RPM label under the nickname "Mumbles." Horton returned in 1953 to Chicago after accepting an invitation from Eddie Taylor to play in his band. "Mad Love (I Want You to Love Me)" was

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recorded in 1953.

Blues became popular with white people during the sixties and Horton's music career excelled. He traveled throughout the United States and Europe sharing his music with many audiences. Horton recorded his first solo album in the mid sixties and produced several albums throughout the rest of the sixties and early seventies. During the seventies Horton played at folk and blues festivals and often with Willie Dixon's Chicago Blues All-Stars. In 1972 Horton recorded with Carey Bell for Alligator Records. Big Walter Horton with Carey Bell featured duets between the teacher and student. Horton continued to record music until his death in 1981. Walter Horton was later inducted into the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame. ---Daisy Goodman, mswritersandmusicians.com

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