

James Brown - 20 All Time Greatest Hits (1991)

Written by bluelover

Tuesday, 13 October 2009 16:11 - Last Updated Monday, 13 February 2017 09:46

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1. *I Got You (Fell Good)* 2. *Get Up (I Feel Like Being A) Sex Machine* 3. *I Got The Feelin'*
4. *Mother Popcorn* 5. *Give It Up Or Turn It Loose* 6. *Make It Funky* 7. *Papa's Got A Brand New Bag*
8. *Think* 9. *It's A Man's Man's Man's World* 10. *Try Me* 11. *Night Train* 12. *Cold Sweat*
13. *Get On The Good Foot* 14. *Papa Don't Take No Mess* 15. *Payback* 16. *Say It Loud (I'm Black And I'm Proud)*
17. *Super Bad* 18. *Hot Pants* 19. *Get Up Offa That Thing* 20. *Please Please Please*

A towering figure in postwar American music, for over 40 years James Brown has written, produced, and performed some of the most compelling R&B ever recorded. *20 All Time Greatest Hits!* distills Startime!, itself a four-CD set that barely scratched the surface of Brown's prodigious output. As such, this collection concentrates on Brown's best-known records: "I Feel Good," "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag," and "Cold Sweat." The propulsive one- or two-chord vamps with Brown's hoarse, declamatory vocals laid the groundwork for modern funk. It's a perfect starter set for anyone unfamiliar with Brown's work. But be warned--Brown is addictive. Like peanuts and potato chips, it's impossible to stop with just one. Buy this and don't be surprised if one day you find yourself scouring used record bins for a rare copy of *Grits and Cornbread*. --Steven Mirkin, amazon.com

While Brown's 30-track, 40-track, and even 50-track collections are excellent choices as well, this fine hits package is the best one for Brown neophytes looking for a way in. Covering his prime stretch from the late '50s through the early '70s, *20 All-Time Greatest Hits!* includes early R&B milestones ("Please, Please, Please"), epochal '60s sides ("Papa's Got a Brand New Bag, Pt. 1"), and latter-day funk classics ("Papa Don't Take No Mess, Pt. 1"). And that's not to mention such perennials as "Mother Popcorn," "Hot Pants," "Cold Sweat," and "Think." Start

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your Brown obsession here. ---Stephen Cook, AllMusic Review

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