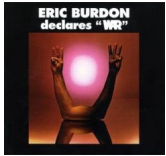


Eric Burdon – Eric Burdon Declares War (1970)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 11 October 2009 11:59 - Last Updated Friday, 16 February 2018 23:42

Eric Burdon – Eric Burdon Declares War (1970)



1. *The Vision of Rassian*
2. *Tobacco Road*
3. *Spill The Wine*
4. *Blues for Memphis Slim*
5. *You're No Stranger*

Bass, Vocals – Bee Bee Dickerson Congas, Percussion – Dee Allen Drums – Harold Brown
Flute, Tenor Saxophone – Charles Miller Guitar, Vocals – Howard Scott Harmonica – Lee
Oskar Lead Vocals, Concept By – Eric Burdon Organ, Piano – Lonnie Jordan

The debut effort by Eric Burdon and War was an erratic effort that hinted at more potential than it actually delivered. Three of the five tunes are meandering blues-jazz-psychedelic jams, two of which, "Tobacco Road" and "Blues for Memphis Slim," chug along for nearly 15 minutes. These showcase the then-unknown War's funky fusion, and Burdon's still-impressive vocals, but suffer from a lack of focus and substance. "Spill the Wine," on the other hand, is inarguably the greatest moment of the Burdon-fronted lineup. Not only was this goofy funk, shaggy-dog story one of the most truly inspired off-the-wall hit singles of all time, it was War's first smash -- and Eric Burdon's last. The odd closing track, a short piece of avant-garde sentimentality called "You're No Stranger," was deleted from re-releases of this album for years. ---Richie Unterberger, AllMusic Review

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