Butler, Neal , Frost - Harp And Blues (1983)

Side A Frank Frost *1.Harpin' On It 2.Things You Do 3.Harp & Soul 4.Ride With Your Daddy Tonight* George "Wild Child" Butler *5.Axe And The Wind 6.Hold Me Baby 7.Do Something Baby*
Side B George "Wild Child" Butler
1.Jelly Jam 2.My 40 Year Old Woman 3.Open Up Baby 4.The Best Of Wild Child
Raful Neal
5.Let's Work Together 6.Blues On The Moon 7.It's Been So Long

Frank Frost (15 April 1936, Auvergne, Arkansas, USA, d. 12 October 1999, Helena, Arkansas, USA.) Frost's skills encompassed keyboards and guitar, but like many other blues artists, he started with the harmonica. After moving to St. Louis as a teenager, he took up playing with Sonny Boy 'Rice Miller' Williamson in the mid-50s, appearing regularly with him on the famous radio show King Biscuit Time. He also teamed up with Robert Nighthawk and his son Sam Carr, before relocating to the south. In 1962 he recorded for Sam Phillips as part of the Nighthawks trio, featuring Carr on drums and guitarist Big Jack Johnson. One single and an album, Hey Boss Man!, resulted, featuring a very tough and raw, but tight, down-home blues sound, unusual on record at this time. A similar sound emerged from his next sessions in Nashville in 1966, produced by Scotty Moore, which produced three fine singles and, later, an album on Jewel Records. 'My Back Scratcher', Frost's take on Slim Harpo's 'Baby Scratch My Back', was even a minor R&B hit.

Subsequently, Frost went back to mainly local performing in the juke joints around his home area in the Mississippi Delta, basing himself at Eddie Mae's Café in Helena, Arkansas. He also continued to make records and tour with Carr and Johnson, releasing 1979's Rockin' The Juke Joint Down as the Jelly Roll Kings. Frost undertook some highly acclaimed appearances in Europe and, following his appearance in the 1986 movie Crossroads, recorded several well-received solo albums before his death in October 1999. --- oldies.com

George Butler was born in Autaugaville, Alabama on October 1, 1936. His mother nicknamed him ‘Wild Child’ before he could even walk. George took up the harmonica by the age of six and at 14 he was already performing professionally. In the late 1950’s ‘Wild Child’ Butler moved to Chicago and became a blues sensation. His recording debut was released in 1964. Butler continued to record and tour extensively for decades. In the early 1980’s while on tour in the Yukon Butler met a Canadian named Elaine who would soon become his wife and manager.

In order to remain in Canada but be close to Chicago the Butlers settled in the Windsor area in 1985. While living in Windsor, Butler recorded These Mean Old Blues in 1991 and Stranger in 1994. In the summertime Butler could be found enjoying a day of fishing and playing his harmonica at fishing holes and farm ponds around Stoney Point. George ‘Wild Child’ Butler passed away March 1, 2005 at the age of 68. Mr. Butler had been preparing to record his next CD and had finished writing all the songs for the album prior to his passing. --- windsor-communities.com

Born in Baton Rouge in 1936, Raful Neal took up the harp at age 14, tutored by a local player named Ike Brown and influenced by Chicago mainstay Little Walter. Neal's first band, the Clouds, also included guitarist Buddy Guy. This was the band Little Walter heard while in Baton Rouge and invited them to move up to Chicago and fill in at the gigs Walter couldn't make. Guy jumped at the chance but Neal decided to stay in Louisiana and raise his family. The harpist debuted on vinyl in 1958 with a 45 for Don Robey's Houston-headquartered Peacock Records. But "Sunny Side of Love," fine though it was, didn't lead to an encore for Peacock or anywhere else until much later, when Neal turned up with 45s on Whit, La Louisiane, and Fantastic.

Neal's debut album, the aptly titled Louisiana Legend, first emerged on Bob Greenlee's King Snake Records and was picked up by Alligator in 1990. I Been Mistreated, Neal's equally swampy follow-up, was released on Ichiban the following year; sons Noel (on bass) and Raful Jr. (on guitar) pitched in to help their old man out. Neal toured around the world and in 1997 he contributed harp to a couple of tracks on Tab Benoit's Live: Swampland Jam record. The understated but solid Old Friends appeared in 1998. Raful Neal died on September 1, 2004,

after a long bout with cancer. --- Bill Dahl, allmusic.com

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