

Jimmy Dawkins - Fast Fingers (1969)

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1. *It Serves Me Right To Suffer* 2. *I Wonder Why* 3. *I'm Good For Nothing* 4. *Triple Trebles*
5. *I Finally Learned A Lesson* 6. *You Got To Keep On Trying* 7. *Night Rock* 8. *Little Angel Child*
9. *I Don't Know What Love Is* 10. *Breaking Down* 11. *Sad And Blues* 12. *Back Home Blues*
Jimmy Dawkins – guitar, vocals Ernest Gatewood – bass Joe Harper - bass Lester Dorsie – drums Lafayette Leake – organ, piano Mighty Joe Young - guitar

Blues guitarist Jimmy Dawkins stands out as a solemn, thoughtful figure. With his ax cradled in his arms, staring through his shades into the crowd but not really seeing them, he seems merged with his songs on a higher realm. His voice pleads, his fingers answer with super-quick guitar riffs which complement each other beautifully.

Today Jimmy Dawkins is a seasoned Chicago blues veteran still actively recording albums. This CD was his first album as leader and it offers a glimpse into the soul and character of a great blues man. Winner of the prestigious Grand Prix du Disque de Jazz given by the "Hot Club de France." --- delmark.com

First released in 1969, after guitarist Jimmy Dawkins had served a long apprenticeship as a sideman in the Chicago electric blues scene, *Fast Fingers* remains one of the finest pure electric blues albums of its era. Dawkins proves to be a solid songwriter and an able singer, although the best moments on the album invariably come when he tears off a casually perfect, deeply soulful, but never showy electric solo. Highlights include the stomping instrumental "Triple Trebles," featuring an outstanding Dawkins solo over a funky horn-driven rhythm, and

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the mellow, laid-back opener, "It Serves Me Right to Suffer." The album was finally reissued on CD in 1998 with a new cover and two fine outtakes from the original sessions, "Sad and Blues" (which features an exceptional extended solo by Dawkins) and "Back Home Blues," which is a 1969 recording with a new (1998) vocal by Dawkins. --- Stewart Mason, allmusic.com

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