Professor Longhair – New Orleans Piano 1949-1953 (1989)

1 In The Night 2:23 2 Tipitina 2:40 3 Tipitina 2:29 4 Ball The Wall 3:09 5 Who's Been Fooling You 2:03 6 Hey Now Baby 2:47 7 Mardi Gras In New Orleans 2:54 8 She Walks Right In 3:09 9 Hey Little Girl 2:52 10 Willie Mae 2:38 11 Walk Your Blues Away 2:46 12 Professor Longhair Blues 2:19 13 Boogie Woogie 2:31 14 Longhair's Blues-Rhumba 3:02 15 Mardi Gras In New Orleans 2:42 16 She Walks Right In 2:40 Alto Saxophone – Robert Parker (tracks: 6 to 16) Baritone Saxophone – Red Tyler* (tracks: 1 to 5) Bass – Edgar Blanchard (tracks: 1 to 5), Unknown Artist Drums – Al Miller (tracks: 6 to 16), Earl Palmer (tracks: 1 to 5), John Woodrow (tracks: 6 to 16) Tenor Saxophone – Charles Burbeck, Lee Allen (tracks: 1 to 5) Vocals, Piano – Roy Byrd

All 16 of Professor Longhair's Atlantic sides from 1949 and 1953 (including a handful of alternate takes) are here on one glorious disc. Longhair's work for the label was famously marvelous -- this version of "Mardi Gras in New Orleans" reeks of revelry in the streets of the French Quarter, "She Walks Right In" and "Walk Your Blues Away" ride a bedrock boogie, and "In the Night" bounces atop a parade-beat shuffle groove and hard-charging saxes. ---Bill Dahl, AllMusic Review

All of the best of New Orleans blues singer and pianist Professor Longhair's work on the Atlantic Records label have been collected on this compilation album.

Henry Roeland "Roy" Byrd, better known as Professor Longhair, was a New Orleans blues singer and pianist. He was active in two distinct periods, first in the heyday of early rhythm and

blues and later in the resurgence of interest in traditional jazz after the founding of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. His piano style has been described as "instantly recognizable, combining rumba, mambo and calypso". His distinctive style of piano playing was influenced by learning to play on an instrument that was missing some keys.

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