



MUSIC for the New Intellectual

January 11, 2012

Search All

Main Menu

- Home
- Topics ▼
- Sections ▼
- REVIEWS
- INTERVIEWS
- STAFF BLOGS
- Web Links
- Submit News
- Top 10 Lists
- FAQ
- Contact Us
- Stats



Various Artists: Mean Street

The third release in the *Jukin' With The Blues* series, *Mean Street* finds the music in an unsurprisingly meaner mood than the two releases that flank this one (*Belly Full Of Blues* and *Saturday Night In Shankletown*, which are reviewed elsewhere) and I have to say that of the three this is the one with the widest



appeal to those not already steeped in the Blues. The rocked up approach across songs like Little Richard's excellent live rendition of "Hound Dog", or the down and dirty "V8 Ford Blues" courtesy of James Cotton exude the infectious vibe that so invigorated the Rock and Metal acts which used this style as a blueprint for their altogether loftier ambitions a few decades down the line. A quick listen to Etta James more Soulful delivery of "It Brings A Tear" also shows the power and devotion that this style of music could also elicit, with the audience she performs in front of being whipped into a frenzy by the sparse arrangements and scarily powerful vocals - which have lost none of their impact in the passing years. The strum and stomp of Jimmy Reed's "I Goin' Upside You Head" brings a joyous simplicity to a more refined release and with John Lee Hooker also offering up a gloriously shuffling delight in the shape of "Rock With Me", there really is something for any Blues inspired listener to enjoy here.

Unfortunately as with the other releases I've reviewed in this series, the simple if well put together booklet doesn't do the music it houses justice, with a lack of real facts on the artists and especially the music on this release, being a major oversight. However a few clumsy fade-outs aside, the sound, which on some of these songs has been lovingly

Visit Our Friends At:

www.progressiveeats.com

Who's Online

There are currently 50 guests online.

Google Ads

restored, is impressive and reassuringly even across all these different songs from different sources, something that is a feature across all of these MVD/Catbone UnReleased discs.

All three CDs so far to come out from this series are interesting insights into an often under rated genre, although I do think that *Mean Street* is probably the strongest starting point for those looking for an entry into this genre.

Track Listing

1. Before I Commit A Crime - HOWLIN' WOLF
2. Dust My Broom - ELMORE JAMES
3. Money Honey - LITTLE RICHARD
4. Take Out Some Insurance - JIMMY REED
5. V8 Ford Blues - JAMES COTTON
6. Killin' Floor - HOWLIN' WOLF
7. Deacon Stomp - BARRY DARNELL
8. I Need You So Bad - JAMES COTTON
9. Don't Lie To Me - MIKE BLOOMFIELD
10. Standin' Around Crying - MUDDY WATERS
11. Hound Dog - LITTLE RICHARD
12. Dealin' With The Devil - JAMES COTTON
13. I Goin' Upside You Head - JIMMY REED
14. Love Taker - PETER FRAMPTON / NANETTE WORKMAN
15. It Brings A Tear - ETTA JAMES
16. Southside Boogie - JAMES COTTON
17. Rock With Me - JOHN LEE HOOKER

Added: November 28th 2011

Reviewer: **Steven Reid**

Score: ★★★★★

Related Link: **Belly Full Of Blues MySpace**

Hits: 76

Language: english

[ **Printer Friendly Page**]

[ **Send to a Friend**]

[[Back to the Reviews Index](#) | [Post Comment](#)]



For information regarding where to send CD promos and advertising, please see our **FAQ page**.

If you have questions or comments, please **Contact Us**.

Please see our **Policies Page** for Site Usage, Privacy, and Copyright Policies.

All logos and trademarks in this site are property of their respective owner. The comments are property of their posters, all other content © Sea of Tranquility

SoT is Hosted by **SpeedSoft.com** 

