



BEAR FAMILY RECORDS

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ARTIST TITLE

**Ella Mae Morse
Rocks**

LABEL
CATALOG #
PRICE-CODE
EAN-CODE

Bear Family Records
BCD 16672
AR



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ISBN-CODE
FORMAT
GENRE
TRACKS
PLAYING TIME

978-3-89916-489-3
1 CD digipac with 52-page booklet
Rock'n'Roll / R&B
34
84:33



INFORMATION

"What is my type of song?" Ella Mae Morse once asked her mentor, the songwriter, singer and record label owner Johnny Mercer when he told her that a certain song didn't fit her style. He wasn't alone in pigeonholing her. "Cliffie Stone said, 'You're a country singer.' And Benny Carter said, 'You're a jazz singer.' T-Bone Walker said, 'You're a rock'n'roll, blues black singer – that's what you are.'" They were all right – and her versatility was both Morse's greatest asset and her biggest problem. Morse came of age in the Swing Era and her own tastes tended toward blues-tinged swing jazz and torchy ballads, but her breakthrough hit from 1942, the jivey, bluesy novelty *Cow Cow Boogie* aside, she has ironically been less remembered for her early forays in these styles than for her 1950s stabs at R&B, rock'n'roll and hillbilly boogie.

This collection gathers many of Morse's most rocking and hard-swinging sides, as compiled by the noted music historian Bill Miller. It runs the gamut, from the song that made Morse a star, *Cow Cow Boogie*, to covers of classic early '50s R&B and early rock 'n'roll like *Money Honey*, *Have Mercy Baby* and *Ain't That A Shame*. The telling link between these two styles were classic, forward-looking piano and vocal showcases from the early postwar period like *The House Of Blue Lights* and *A Little Further Down The Road A Piece*, many of them cut with Freddie Slack, the boogie woogie stylist with whom Morse had originally hit the big time.

TRACK LISTING

Money Honey • Have Mercy Baby • Rock Me All Night Long • Daddy Daddy • The House Of Blue Lights • 5-10-15 Hours • Tears From My Eyes • How Can You Leave A Man Like This • Lovey Dovey • Get Off It And Go • Okie Boogie • False Hearted Girl • Greyhound • Jump Back Honey • A Little Further Down The Road A Piece • Bouncin' Ball • Big Mamou • Forty Cups Of Coffee • Give A Little Time To Your Lover • The Blacksmith Blues • Won't You Listen To Me Baby • Okie Boogie • Smack Dab In The Middle • Yes, Yes I Do • Razzle Dazzle • Ain't That A Shame • Piddily Patter Patter • Seventeen • When Boy Kiss Girl (It's Love) • Give Me Love • Rockin' And Rollin' • Rock And Roll Wedding • Cow-Cow Boogie • Mr. Anthony's Blues

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CD 4

I Love You, Yes I Do • 5-10-15 Hours • How Can You Leave A Man Like This • Teardrops From My Eyes • It's You I Love • Happy Habit • Dedicated To You • Lovey Dovey • Goodnight Sweetheart • (We've Reached) The Point Of No Return • Give A Little Time To Your Lover • Bring Back My Baby • All I Need Is You • Livin' Livin' Livin' • Won't You Listen To Me Baby • Smack Dab In The Middle • Afraid • Heart Full Of Hope • Yes, Yes I Do • Razzle Dazzle • Ain't That A Shame • Piddily Patter Patter • Seventeen • Birmingham • An Occasional Man • Singing-ing-ing • When Boy Kiss Girl (It's Love) • Give Me Love • Once You've Been Lovers

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