



BEAR FAMILY RECORDS

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ARTIST HANK BALLARD & THE MIDNIGHTERS

TITLE Nothing But Good (1952–1962)

LABEL Bear Family Records

CATALOG # BCD 16795

PRICE-CODE EK

EAN-CODE



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ISBN-CODE 978-3-89916-422-0

FORMAT 5 CD Box with 84-page hardcover book

GENRE Rhythm & Blues

TRACKS 150

PLAYING TIME 399:31



Hank Ballard and The Midnighters were the first professional vocal group young James Brown ever witnessed in person. He vowed one day soon he'd be onstage doing the very same thing.

KEY SELLING POINTS

- Everything the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Famer and his vocal group cut for the Federal and King labels from 1954 to 1962!
- Five jam-packed discs include unissued gems, alternate takes, unreissued rarities, and a demo version of *The Twist* as well as the classic hit!
- Featuring the original hit versions of *Work With Me Annie*, *Annie Had A Baby*, *Finger Poppin' Time*, *Let's Go*, *Let's Go*, *Let's Go*, and *The Hoochi Coochi Coo!*
- Comprehensive liner notes from Bill Dahl!

SALES NOTES

Long before The Temptations, Four Tops, and Spinners made Detroit ground zero for soulful male vocal groups, the city spawned Hank Ballard & The Midnighters.

They were the Motor City's first nationally successful R&B group despite their risqué 1954 R&B chart-topper *Work With Me Annie* and its equally raunchy smash followup *Annie Had A Baby* being banned from most U.S. radio airwaves. Ballard's singularly dynamic lead tenor and the muscular harmonies and uproarious onstage hijinks of the Midnighters were enormously influential to everyone from The Contours to James Brown. In 1958, the group cut the original version of *The Twist*, which Hank wrote, only to see Chubby Checker score one of the biggest smashes of the era with a soundalike cover. Ballard and his crew got a measure of revenge by cutting a slew of early '60s dance hits for Cincinnati-based King Records, most notably *Finger Poppin' Time*, *Let's Go*, *Let's Go*, *Let's Go*, and *The Hoochie Coochi Coo*.

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There have been several greatest hits compilations by Hank Ballard & The Midnighters over the years, but never anything on the all-inclusive scale of Bear Family's new boxed set by the group. Its five jam-packed discs open with Hank's earliest appearances as lead singer of The Royals before collecting every song The Midnighters recorded from 1954 through 1962, first for King's Federal subsidiary and from '58 on for the parent King logo. Though he could belt the blues with livewire intensity (and does here), Ballard's group was primarily concerned with rocking the house. They were one of the first vocal groups to record with their own band, initially led by blistering Houston guitarist Cal Green, whose solos are frequently mind-boggling.

This mammoth collection unearths several previously unreleased titles including a 1960 rendition of Wynonie Harris' *Keep On Churnin' ('Til The Butter Come)*, a selection of unheard alternate takes, and a slew of obscure 45s and album tracks that have consistently eluded CD reissue until now. Also aboard is the demo of *The Twist* that the group cut for Miami producer Henry Stone prior to re-signing with King.

Never has the recorded legacy of the late Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Famer been treated with such loving care and respect, and never have he and his group sounded better!

TRACK LISTING

CD 1:

I Feel So Blue - Are You Forgetting - Get It - No, It Ain't - That's It - Hello Miss Fine - Someone Like You - I Feel That-A-Way - That Woman - Work With Me Annie - Work With Me Annie (alt) - Until I Die - Give It Up - Work Baby - Work Baby (with overdub) - Sexy Ways - Don't Say Your Last Goodbye - Annie Had A Baby - She's The One - Annie's Aunt Fannie - Stingy Little Thing - Crazy Loving (Stay With Me) - Tell Them - Switchie Witchie Titchie - Switchie Witchie Titchie (alt) - Why Are We Apart - Ashamed Of Myself - Ring A-Ling A-Ling - Whatsonever You Do - Don't Ever Change Your Pretty Ways - We'll Never Meet Again - Looka Here

CD 2:

Henry's Got Flat Feet (Can't Dance No More) - It's Love, Baby (24 Hours A Day) - Rock And Roll Wedding - That House On The Hill - Partners For Life - Open Up The Back Door - Sweet Mama, Do Right - Rock, Granny, Roll - Tore Up Over You - Early One Morning - Let Me Hold Your Hand - I'll Be Home Someday - Ooh Bah Baby - Baby Please - Come On And Get It - Ow-Wow-Oo-Wee - E Basta Così - In The Doorway Crying - Let 'Em Roll - What Made You Change Your Mind - Let 'Em Roll - Is Your Love For Real - Oh So Happy - Daddy's Little Baby - Stay By My Side - The Twist - I'll Pray For You*

CD 3:

The Twist (with sax overdub) - The Twist - Teardrops On Your Letter - I'll Pray For You - Everybody Does Wrong Some Time - Kansas City - Cute Little Ways - So Good To Be Home - House With No Windows - Rain Down Tears - I'll Keep You Happy - She's Got A Whole Lot Of Soul - Sugaree - Sugaree (alt) - Young Lady - Move, Move, Move - I'm Crying Mercy, Mercy - Leave That Fat - I Said I Wouldn't Beg You - Look At Little Sister - I Could Love You - Never Knew - The Coffee Grind - Waiting - Don't Go I Love You - I Love You, I Love You So-o-o - I Must Be Crazy - These Young Girls - Finger Poppin' Time - I'm Thinking Of You

CD 4:

Young Lady - Broadway - Let's Go, Let's Go, Let's Go - I'm Sick Of You - Keep On Dancing - Keep On Churnin' (Till The Butter Come) - Goodbye So Long - When I Need You - If You'd Forgive Me - When I Need You - The Hoochi Coochi Coo - Mona Lisa - The Hoochi Coochi Coo - Just One More Chance - Summertime - I Like To See My Baby - Let's Go Again (Where We Went Last Night) - You Ain't Nothing But Fine - Where Is The Love - Deep Blue Sea - I'm So Crazy About You - I'm Young - What Is This I See - I'm Gonna Miss You - Daddy Rolling Stone - The Continental Walk - The Switch-A-Roo

CD 5:

The Float - I Belong To You (You're The Keeper Of My Heart) - I Got A Mind To Leave You (I Got A Mind To Go Back Home) - Big Red Sunset - Big Red Sunset (alt) - Big Red Sunset (alt 2) - Can't You See I Need A Friend - Nothing But Good - Do You Remember - Hello Lover, Goodbye Tears - Miss Twister - Up And Away - Up And Away (with Woody Woodpecker voice) - Do You Know How To Twist - Do You Know How To Twist (alt) - It's Twistin' Time - Good Twistin' Tonight - Get Ready - I Want To Thank You (From The Bottom Of My Heart) - Your Lovin' - She's The One - Dream World - Excuse Me (I Think I've Got A Heartache) - Autumn Breeze - What's Your Name - I'm Learning - After School - Shaky Mae - Christmas Time For Everybody But Me - I Love And Care For You - Santa Claus Is Coming - Santa Claus Is Coming (alt) - Love, Oh Love (Where Can You Be) - Bring Me Your Love