



BEAR FAMILY RECORDS

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ARTIST Christine Kittrell
TITLE Call Her Name
The Complete Recordings 1951-1965

LABEL Bear Family Records
CATALOG # BCD 16942
PRICE-CODE AH
EAN-CODE



4 000127 169426

ISBN-CODE 978-3-89916-467-1
FORMAT 1 CD digipac with 40-page booklet
GENRE R&B
TRACKS 31
PLAYING TIME 87:19



A forgotten R&B legend reborn on Bear Family! This comprehensive CD collection contains:

- All 15 songs originally issued on the Tennessee and Republic labels, including one with Little Richard backing her! Plus five unissued alternative takes of Republic titles.
- All eight songs issued by Champion, Vee-Jay, and Federal, and one unissued Vee-Jay song
- One song issued pseudonymously on Hit Records and Spar Records
- All sourced from master tapes wherever possible
- A 40-page booklet by Martin Hawkins based on original interviews with Christine Kittrell, her producers, and backing musicians.
- Rare photographs and memorabilia.

INFORMATION

Christine Kittrell made some of the best R&B of the 1950s and '60s without ever becoming a household name. She was the leading nightclub vocalist on the rocking Nashville scene in the late 1940s and '50s. A marvellous singer - far more versatile than most of her contemporaries - Christine worked with Joe Turner, Fats Domino, Memphis Slim, Little Walter, Johnny Otis and even Count Basie. Her relatively few recordings, mainly on unfashionable labels, possessed rare expressiveness that could elevate a mundane song into something exceptional. She sang late night mood songs like *Heartache Blues* and *Don't Do It*, and pounding rockers like *Call His Name* and *Lord Have Mercy* - where she is backed by Little Richard on piano and vocals. Her rerecording of *Call His Name* in the 60s, became a northern soul classic. She also recorded the original version of the anthemic *I'm A Woman*. Her biggest hit, *Sittin' Here Drinking*, featured one of her trademark spoken intros.

Nashville-born Kittrell settled in Columbus, Ohio where she became a matriarch of her local blues scene. She suffered a number of falls and illnesses, starting with mortar bomb injuries received on a singing tour during the war in Vietnam - she liked to say that she was the only blues singer wounded in action! She died in 2001. This 31-track CD collects together all 29 different songs Christine recorded in the 1950s and 1960s for the Tennessee, Republic, Champion, Vee-Jay, Hit/Spar and Federal labels.



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TRACKLISTING

Call His Name • Leave My Man Alone • Don't Do It • Old Man You're Slipping • Sittin' Here Drinking • I Ain't Nothin' But A Fool • Heartache Blues • You Ain't Nothin' But Trouble • Slave To Love • Gotta Stop Loving You • I'll Help You Baby • L & N Special • Everyday In The Week • Evil-Eyed Woman • The Price You Pay For Love • Snake In The Grass (alt) • Snake In The Grass • Lord Have Mercy (I'm So Lonely) • Sittin' Here Drinking Again • Black Cat Crossed My Trail • If You Ain't Sure • I'm Just What You're Looking For • I Thank Him • Mr. Big Wheel • Sittin' And Drinkin' • I'm A Woman • It's Nobody's Fault • Next Door To The Blues • Love Letters (Straight From My Heart) • Ain't Never Seen So Much Rain Before • Call His Name