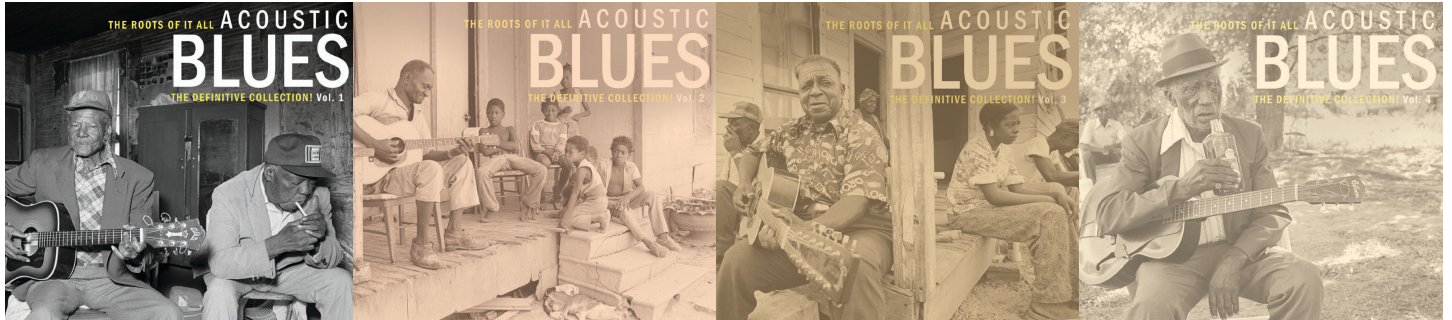




BEAR FAMILY RECORDS

TEL +49(0)4748 - 82 16 16 • FAX +49(0)4748 - 82 16 20 • E-MAIL b2b@bear-family.de



ACOUSTIC BLUES 1923-2012 THE ROOTS OF IT ALL VOLUME 1

- First volume in a series of four 2-CD digipac sets.
- Covering the story of acoustic blues from 1923 to 1939.
- Pre-war recordings, a total of 58 tracks, carefully re-mastered from the original 78s.
- 134-page booklet with rare photos and in-depth liner notes and bios.
- Blues greats like Blind Lemon Jefferson, Tommy Johnson, Charley Patton, Son House, Bukka White, and Robert Johnson alongside blues obscurities like Rube Lacy, Little Hat Jones, a.m.o.

INTRODUCTION TO ACOUSTIC BLUES VOLUME 1

August 10, 1920 was a crucial day for the future of the blues. That's when Mamie Smith recorded her groundbreaking *Crazy Blues* for OKEH RECORDS. Her glamorous approach to the music was solidly based in the vaudeville tradition, the accompaniment dominated by jazzy horns and flowery piano.

The next big trend to emerge a little later in the decade revolved around blues guitarists, virtually all of them originally hailing from the rural South, their approach closely related to field hollers and work songs. Many were veritable virtuosos on their instruments. Lonnie Johnson, Blind Willie McTell, Blind Blake, and Skip James mapped out the guitar-dominated long-term future of the idiom with every 78 they released. These giants made their nimble fretwork heard over the cacophonous din inside the rowdy juke joints where they plied their trade by fretting their instruments with a slide or bottleneck. They achieved a fluid, crying sound on their acoustic axes, or pounded the hell out of their boxes with forceful chording. Performers popular enough to afford them acquired flashy steel-bodied National guitars that resonated louder than standard models.

Blind Lemon Jefferson proved a sensation with rural blacks after he was discovered in Texas in 1925 or '26, underscoring the commercial potential of downhome blues. The crushing poverty of the Depression brought the first boom of blues recording to an abrupt halt at the dawn of the 1930s. But the first two decades of recorded blues were a veritable goldmine of acoustic guitar brilliance. This collection offers a splendid cross-section of the very best.



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ARTIST TITLE

Various
Acoustic Blues
The Roots Of It All
The Definitive Collection Volume 1

LABEL

Bear Family Productions

CATALOG

BCD 17229

PRICE-CODE

BS

EAN-CODE



5 397102 172298

FORMAT

2 CD digipac with 136-page booklet

GENRE

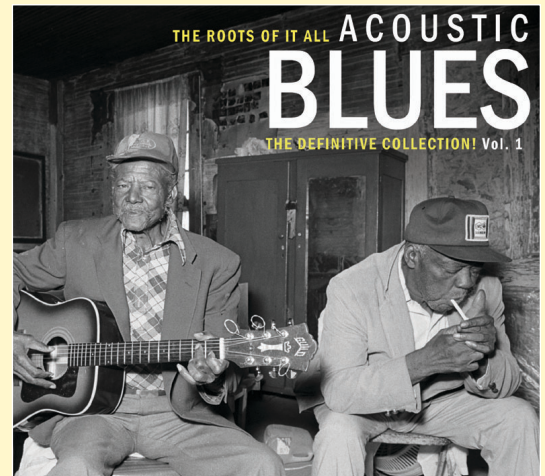
Blues

TRACKS

58

PLAYING TIME

178:21



TRACKLISTING

CD 1 • The 1920s:

Sylvester Weaver: Guitar Blues • **Papa Charlie Jackson:** Shake That Thing • **Lonnie Johnson:** Mr. Johnson's Blues • **Blind Lemon Jefferson:** Match Box Blues • **Barbecue Bob:** Mississippi Heavy Water Blues • **Furry Lewis:** Billy Lyons And Stack O'Lee • **Jim Jackson:** Jim Jackson's Kansas City Blues Pt. 1 • **Blind Willie Johnson:** Dark Was The Night, Cold Was The Ground • **Frank Stokes:** Downtown Blues • **Mississippi John Hurt:** Frankie • **Ramblin' Thomas:** So Lonesome • **Rube Lacy:** Ham Hound Crave • **Henry Thomas:** Bull Doze Blues • **Scrapper Blackwell:** Kokomo Blues • **Tommy Johnson:** Canned Heat Blues • **Ishman Bracey:** The Four Day Blues • **Blind Willie McTell:** Statesboro Blues • **Curley Weaver:** No No Blues • **Hambone Willie Newbern:** Roll And Tumble Blues • **Henry Spaulding:** Cairo Blues • **Charley Patton:** Pony Blues • **Kansas Joe & Memphis Minnie:** When The Levee Breaks • **Little Hat Jones:** Little Hat Blues • **Blind Blake:** Diddie Wah Diddie • **Charlie McCoy:** Last Time Blues • **Robert Wilkins:** That's No Way To Get Along • **Henry Townsend:** Henry's Worry Blues • **Clifford Gibson:** Ice And Snow Blues • **Blind Joe Reynolds:** Outside Woman Blues

CD 2 • The 1930s:

Mississippi Sheiks: Sitting On Top Of The World • **Garfield Akers:** Dough Roller Blues • **Son House:** My Black Mama - Part 1 • **Willie Brown:** M & O Blues • **Charley Jordan:** Stack O' Dollars Blues • **'Funny Paper' Smith:** Howling Wolf Blues - No. 1 • **Skip James:** I'm So Glad • **King Solomon Hill:** Times Has Done Got Heart • **Big Bill & His Jug Busters:** Long Tall Mama • **Joshua White:** Good Gal • **Tampa Red:** Black Angel Blues • **Leadbelly:** Midnight Special • **Memphis Minnie:** Chickashaw Train Blues (Low Down Dirty Thing) • **Kokomo Arnold:** Milk Cow Blues • **Johnnie Temple:** Lead Pencil Blues (It Just Won't Write) • **Sleepy John Estes:** Someday Baby Blues • **Blind Gary:** Cross And Evil Woman Blues • **Blind Boy Fuller:** Rag, Mama Rag • **Carl Martin:** Crow Jane • **Joe Williams' Washboard Blues Singers:** Baby Please Don't Go • **Casey Bill:** Somebody Changed The Lock On My Door • **Oscar Woods:** Lone Wolf Blues • **Robert Johnson:** Cross Road Blues • **Black Ace:** Black Ace • **Robert Lee McCoy:** Prowling Night-Hawk • **Bukka White:** Shake 'Em On Down • **Bo Carter:** Old Devil • **Sister Rosetta Tharpe:** This Train • **Tommy McClennan:** Bottle It Up And Go