

BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCT INFO (CD) November 6, 2020

Artist **Frank Virtue & The Virtues**
Title **Rock**
Label Bear Family Productions
Catalog no. BCD17533
EAN-Code 5397102175336 Price code: AR
Format 1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
Genre Rock 'n' Roll
No. of tracks 33 approx. 76:00 min.
Release date November 6, 2020



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INFO:

- Famous as the 'Guitar Boogie Shuffle' man and reduced to this top 10 hit, Bear Family's compilation shows how Frank Virtue and his Virtues could really rock and roll back then (1953 - 1965)!
- This CD describes Frank's evolution from R&B and Northern band sound to an instrumental virtuoso.
- Rare early recordings with the Esquire Boys and hits like *Guitar Boogie Shuffle* or titles like *Guitar In Orbit* and *Flippin' In*.
- Rarities like his cover versions recorded under pseudonyms for Waldorf Music Hall and other budget labels and recordings for small labels like his version of *Rebel Rouser* on the General American Label!
- The 36-page color booklet reveals details about Frank Virtue's career, written by the well-known Chicago music journalist Bill Dahl, as well as rare photos, illustrations and discographical information.

Philadelphia Sound

Frank Virtue is a significant name when it comes to the history of the Philadelphia sound. The state of Pennsylvania with its metropolis Philadelphia, affectionately known as Philly by Americans, was a true melting pot of musical virtuosos during the rock 'n' roll era. Of course, one immediately thinks of Bill Haley, Charlie Gracie and Chubby Checker. The name Frank Virtue fits in seamlessly here. Not only did his studio work until the 1970s provide a solid foundation for Northern Soul, but years earlier he had already caused a stir with various rock 'n' roll formations. This is impressively demonstrated here on 33 tracks. Starting in the early 1950s, when Virtue was bassist with the Esquire Boys, up to instrumental recordings of the 1960s, this CD deals with the career of Frank Virtue in chronological order.

Guitar Boogie Shuffle

Frank Virtue and The Virtues are still associated with their only top 10 hit, *Guitar Boogie Shuffle* from 1959. In addition to this rock 'n' roll classic, we have included two more 'Guitar Boogie' recordings: an early version with the Esquire Boys (1953) and the *Guitar Boogie Twist* (1960). Virtue, who sometimes called himself Frank Virtuoso, was indeed virtuosic. This is particularly evident in his arrangements of cover versions of famous classics such as Carl Perkins' *Boppin' The Blues*, Haley's *Rock-A-Beatin' Boogie* or Chuck Berry's *Roll Over Beethoven*, all in the typical style of the Philadelphia Northern band sound, which, as a further development of Lindy Hop, is absolutely amazing. This also applies to numerous original compositions. The overall picture is rounded off by instrumental numbers and twist songs from the early sixties.

Included is a 36-page booklet in color with the Frank Virtue biography, which contains many previously unknown details and was written by the well-known music journalist Bill Dahl from Chicago, as well as rare photos and illustrations, plus discographical information on his releases from 1953 to 1969! Frank Virtue rocks, and The Virtues, too!

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TRACKLISTING:

CD:

The Esquire Boys: Guitar Boogie Shuffle **The Esquire Boys:** Rock-A-Beatin' Boogie **Frank Virtuoso & The Virtues:** Rollin' And A Rockin'
Frank Virtuoso & The Virtues: Toodle-Oo Kangaroo **Frank Virtuoso & The Virtues:** Good Bye Mambo **The Rhythm Rockets:** Stranded In The
Jungle **Tom Friday & The Rhythm Rockets:** Hallelujah, I Love Her So **Frank Virtuoso:** Corinne, Corinna **Frank Virtuoso:** Fever
Joe Fortunato & The Rhythm Rockets: Roll Over Beethoven **Frank Virtuoso:** Rattle My Bones **The Rhythm Rockets:** Boppin' The Blues
Frank Virtuoso: Mambo Rock **The Rhythm Rockets:** Rip It Up **Frank Virtuoso Quintet:** Go Joe Go **Frank Virtuoso & The Virtues:** Hop, Skip,
Jump And Mambo **Frank Virtuoso:** Straighten Up And Fly Right **Frank Virtuoso:** Let's Have A Party **Frank Virtuoso & His Men Of Virtue:** My
Constant Love **Frank Virtuoso & His Men Of Virtue:** I'm Going Home **The Virtues:** Guitar In Orbit **The Virtues:** Guitar Boogie Shuffle
The Virtues: Flippin' In **The Virtues:** Shufflin' Along **The Virtues:** Virtue's Boogie Woogie **The Virtues:** Pickin' The Stroll
Frank Virtue & The Virtues: Highland Guitar **Frank Virtue & The Virtues:** Marching Guitars **The Virtues:** Guitar Boogie Twist
The Virtues: Guitar Shimmy **Frank Virtue & The Virtues:** Guitars In-The-Round **The Frank Virtue Combo:** Manhunt
The Twangy Rebels: Rebel Rouser "65"

ALSO AVAILABLE:

Freddie Bell & The Bellboys: Rockin' Is Our Business

BCD15901 AH
CD with 20-page booklet
EAN: 4000127159014



The Treniers: Rock

BCD16164 AR
CD (Digipak) with 64-page booklet
EAN: 4000127161642



Ella Mae Morse: Rocks

BCD16672 AR
CD (Digipak) with 52-page booklet
EAN: 4000127166722



Bill Haley: Bill Rocks

BCD16807 AR
CD (Digipak) with 32-page booklet
EAN: 4000127168078



The Coasters: Rock

BCD17526 AR
CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 5397102175268



Link Wray: Rocks

BCD17600 AR
CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 5397102176005

