

BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCT INFO (CD-box-set) October 4, 2019

Artist **Fats Domino**
Title **I've Been Around**
The Complete Imperial & ABC Recordings
Label Bear Family Productions
Catalog no. BCD17579 Price code: JK
EAN 5397102175794
Format 12-CD & DVD boxed set (28x28x6 cms)
in clothbound slipcase with 240-page hardcover book
Genre Rock 'n' Roll
No. of tracks 312 736:18 mns
Release date October 4, 2019



BEAR FAMILY
PRODUCTIONS 

INFO:

- **Upgraded and increased in size compared to the old box which came out in 1993 and has been deleted since years.**
- **12 CDs versus 8 CDs, 240-page book versus 60 pages in the old box.**
- **The music sounds much better on this box set than it ever has before due to the brilliant remastering from the original tapes.**
- **A lot of new material has been added including unreleased alt takes, undubbed and unedited masters, and instrumental backing tracks.**
- **Also for the first time anywhere we present some of Fats's biggest hits as they were originally recorded, not speed-up for release.**
- **The completely revised book contains a wealth of previously unpublished images, track-by-track musical commentary by the producers, as well as updated and extended notes by Fats biographer Rick Coleman.**
- **The box also includes an acclaimed video documentary on Fats's life and music.**

We could have taken the easy way out. The original 1993 box set was out of stock. We could simply have printed more copies and filled orders. Of course, we didn't.

This is Bear Family Records and we don't take shortcuts. We've invested more than 1000 hours in re-writing, recompiling and re-mastering this box. The brilliant engineering by Christian Zwarg will leave you shaking your head in admiration. You won't quite recognize some of your favorite Fats Domino tracks because they've never sounded this good.

We've found a lot of new material – some things that were thought to be lost and other things that nobody knew existed. We have alternate takes that have never before been issued. We've got new unedited and non-overdubbed versions of some familiar Fats songs and newly discovered overdubs of familiar songs. We've got the intact recording of *Blueberry Hill* without the tape glitch. We've got previously unreleased backing tracks. We've also included some examples of Fats working as a session pianist for other artists (including Joe Turner, Lloyd Price and Smiley Lewis) early in his career. And to show how influential Fats's style was, we've included some examples of other performers imitating Fats during his Golden Era.

But the biggest news concerns the Speed-up. Everybody knows that some of Fats's Imperial records were speeded up for release, making them both faster and pitched in higher keys. But how many of them? And which ones? And just how much were they speeded up? And, in case you wondered, how was it done back in 1955 and by whom? We didn't have as good a handle on those questions when the original box set was compiled back in 1993, and we sure didn't know the answers. But we do now. And we admit, back 25 years ago we screwed up some of the speeds on our original box. And when other companies tried to fix things with their Fats Domino reissues, they made their own mistakes and just added to the mess.

But now the mess is over. A lot of those 1000+ hours went into getting speeds exactly right so we can truly present Fats's music as it was originally released. But what is completely new here is that we also present, for the first time anywhere, examples of Fats's Greatest Hits as they were originally performed in the studio, at their original speeds and in their real keys. No speed-up. You can be a fly on the wall and hear songs like *Ain't It A Shame* and *I'm Walking* as they actually sounded in Cosimo's New Orleans studio. That addition alone makes this Box a landmark event.

A lot has also gone into updating and revising the accompanying, lavishly illustrated book by Fats biographer Rick Coleman, and by music historians Hank Davis and Scott Parker. That includes an updated Fats Domino Imperial Records Discography. And what's more, we extended the Box to include two CDs with all of Fats post-Imperial recordings for the ABC Paramount label. Twelve CDs in all – an upgrade of 50% from the original box.

Even if you bought the first Bear Family box 25 years ago, 'Fats Domino: I've Been Around' is a must for any serious Fats Domino collection. It's not going to get any better than this.

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Some Questions you may have about the new Fats Domino box set:

Q: I have the old Fats Domino Box on Bear Family which was released 25 years ago. Why should I buy this box?

A: It's been upgraded and increased in size (12 CDs - 312 tracks versus 8 in the old box; 240-page book versus 60 in the 1993 box). Much new material has been added including unreleased alt takes, undubbed and unedited masters, and instrumental backing tracks.

Also for the first time anywhere we present some of Fats's biggest hits as they were originally recorded, not sped-up for release. The completely revised book contains a wealth of previously unpublished images, track-by-track musical commentary by the producers, as well as updated and extended notes by Fats biographer Rick Coleman. The box also includes an acclaimed video documentary on Fats's life and music.

Q: Isn't this new box very expensive?

A: Not for what it is. Remember, this project took years to complete and thousands of hours. Sure, there is a lot of cheap Fats Domino product out there – and it looks and sounds it. The book production here, the pictures, the remastering, the background story – these are available nowhere else.

And we licensed primary sources to master from. None of these were cheap. Putting it simply: the music sounds much better on this box set than it ever has before due to the brilliant remastering from the original tapes. Second, the book that we include is much better – in terms of both the writing and the images – than anything anyone has done before, Bear Family included. The new box set is actually a bargain.

Q: You mentioned songs in different speeds? Please explain that to me.

A: Many of Fats's biggest hits were artificially sped up for release to make him sound more "youthful". This box includes both the familiar sped up versions and never-before-heard authentic versions.

Q: How many of the Fats songs were sped up?

A: Twenty-seven songs were originally released sped up as singles. But once Imperial had success with the new sped-up version of Fats, they began to speed-up old recordings when they appeared as "filler" on LPs. It took a lot of sleuth-work and engineering to get things right.

Q: Who did the speed up on Fats, his producers or the record company?

A: Imperial Records authorized it. But the speed-ups were proposed and carried out by the sound engineer where the records were mastered, a man named Abraham 'Bunny' Robyn.

Q: Why were the songs sped up in the first place?

A: 'Bunny' Robyn thought some of Fats's records sounded "logey" – not lively enough -- and convinced Lew Chudd at Imperial to let him try doing it. The first record he sped up was *Ain't It a Shame*, a huge success.

Q: Do I get all the Fats Domino songs I love?

A: If they were recorded for Imperial and ABC-Paramount, yes you do.

Q: As Fats experts know, reissues of Blueberry Hill reliably use the patched-together repaired master because of a ruined stretch of tape. What is in this box?

A: We mastered from a pristine copy of the US-issued Imperial 78 rpm release – the only version that didn't require repair. *Blueberry Hill* is one of the tracks that got sped up so we also include a repaired version slowed down to its authentic performance speed. Our book discusses this odd episode in Fats's recording career.

Q: Are all the CDs remastered or is it just the ones that were sped up?

A: Every track in this box has been carefully remastered. You will be delighted and in many cases surprised at how good they sound.

Q: I see there are recordings by other musicians. Why?

A: Early in his career, Fats sometimes worked as a session pianist for other artists like Joe Turner, Lloyd Price and Smiley Lewis. We've included some examples of those recordings. In addition, Fats was an incredibly influential performer whose style was often imitated. We include some examples of that as well.

Q: Does the Discography in the new box include complete session information?

A: It contains everything that is known. The Imperial sessions are a lot better documented. Unfortunately, the ABC sessions contain some personnel gaps, but rest assured - you are getting everything that is known.

Q: What about the video? Why is it part of the box?

A: We were fortunate enough to secure the rights to the widely acclaimed PBS documentary about Fats and his place in rock & roll history. It includes interviews with Dave Bartholomew and legendary New Orleans recording engineer Cosimo Matassa.

Q: I've heard there is a longer "director's cut" of the documentary. Do I get that too?

A: Yes, you do. Both are on the DVD.

Q: Who are the producers, Hank Davis and Scott Parker?

A: They are musicians and rock & roll historians who have loved Fats's music for over 60 years. They have been involved in the production of more than 50 projects for Bear Family Records.

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TRACKLISTING:

CD 1: The Fat Man • Detroit City Blues • Hide Away Blues • She's My Baby • Brand New Baby • Little Bee • Boogie Woogie Baby • Hey! La Bas Boogie • Korea Blues • Every Night About This Time • Careless Love • Hey! Fat Man • Tired Of Crying • What's The Matter Baby • I've Got Eyes For You • Stay Away • Don't You Lie To Me • My Baby's Gone • Rockin' Chair • Sometimes I Wonder • Right From Wrong • You Know I Miss You • I'll Be Gone • No, No Baby

CD 2: Reeling And Rocking • Goin' Home • The Fat Man's Hop • How Long • Long Lonesome Journey • Poor Poor Me • Trust In Me • Cheatin' • Mardi Gras In New Orleans • I Guess I'll Be On My Way • Nobody Loves Me • Dreaming • Going To The River • I Love Her • Second Line Jump • Goodbye • Swanee River Hop • Please Don't Leave Me • Domino Stomp • You Said You Love Me • Fats Domino Blues • The Girl I Love

CD 3: Rose Mary • Ain't It Good • Don't Leave Me This Way • Something's Wrong • Fat's Frenzy • Goin' Back Home • You Left Me • Forty-Four • Barrel House • Little School Girl • If You Need Me • You Done Me Wrong • Thinking Of You • Baby Please • Where Did You Stay • You Can Pack Your Suitcase • I Lived My Life • Little Mama • I Know • Love Me • Don't You Hear Me Calling You • Don't You Know • Helping Hand

CD 4: Ain't It A Shame • All By Myself • La-La • Blue Monday • Troubles Of My Own • Poor Me • I Can't Go On • I'm In Love Again • Bo Weevil • Don't Blame It On Me • So Long • My Blue Heaven • When My Dreamboat Comes Home • What's The Reason I'm Not Pleasing You • Blueberry Hill • Honey Chile • I'm Walkin' • What Will I Tell My Heart • I'm In The Mood For Love • My Happiness • The Rooster Song • As Time Goes By • It's You I Love • Valley Of Tears • Wait And See • The Big Beat • I Still Love You

CD 5: What's Wrong • Help Me • Oh Ba-A-By • Howdy Podner • I Can't Go On This Way • Ida Jane • (The Twist) Set Me Free • Would You • Don't Deceive Me • Telling Lies • Town Talk • Twistin' The Spots • True Confession • Sailor Boy • It Must Be Love • Little Mary • Stack & Billy • When I See You • Oh Whee • My Love For Her • I Want You To Know • Yes, My Darling • Don't You Know I Love You

CD 6: Sick And Tired • No, No • Prisoner's Song • One Of These Days • I'll Be Glad When You're Dead You Rascal You • Young School Girl • I'm Gonna Be A Wheel Some Day • How Can I Be Happy • Lazy Woman • Isle Of Capri • Coquette • Once In A While • Sheik Of Araby • Whole Lotta Loving • I Miss You So • I'll Always Be In Love With You • If You Need Me • Hands Across The Table • So Glad • Darktown Strutter's Ball • Margie • My Heart Is Bleeding • I Hear You Knocking • Lil' Liza Jane • Every Night • When The Saints Go Marching In • Country Boy

CD 7: I'm Ready • I Want To Walk You Home • When I Was Young • Easter Parade • I've Been Around • Be My Guest • Tell Me That You Love Me • Before I Grow To Old • Walking To New Orleans • Don't Come Knockin' • La-La • Put Your Arms Around Me • Three Nights A Week • Shu Rah • Rising Sun • My Girl Josephine • You Always Hurt The One You Love • Magic Isles • Natural Born Lover • Am I Blue • It's The Talk Of The Town • It Keeps Raining • What A Price • Ain't That Just Like A Woman • Fell In Love On Monday • Trouble In Mind • Hold Hands • Bad Luck And Trouble • I've Been Calling

CD 8: I Just Cry • Ain't Gonna Do It • Won't You Come On Back • I Can't Give You Anything But Love • I'm Alone Because I Love You • Good Hearted Man • In A Shanty In Old Shanty Town • Along The Navajo Trail • One Night • Trouble Blues • You Win Again • Your Cheatin' Heart • Let The Four Winds Blow • What A Party • Rockin' Bicycle • Did You Ever See A Dream Walking • Birds And Bees • Wishing Ring • Jambalaya (On The Bayou) • Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans • South Of The Border • Teen Age Love • Stop The Clock • Goin' Home • My Real Name • Hum Diddy Doo • Those Eyes • I Want To Go Home • Dance With Mr. Domino • Nothing New (Same Old Thing)

CD 9: Ain't It A Shame (original key) • Bo Weevil (original key) • I'm In Love Again (original key) • My Blue Heaven (original key) • When My Dreamboat Comes Home (original key) • Blueberry Hill (original key) • Blue Monday (original key) • I'm Walkin' (original key) • It's You I Love (original key) • Wait And See (original key) • The Big Beat (original key) • Bo Weevil (unedited) • You Always Hurt The One You Love (unedited) • Natural Born Lover (unedited) • I Can't Go On This Way (undubbed) • Valley Of Tears (undubbed) • It's You I Love (undubbed) • I'm Ready (undubbed) • When I Was Young (undubbed) • Don't Come Knockin' (undubbed) • Fell In Love On Monday (undubbed) • Walking To New Orleans (undubbed) • I'm Gonna Be A Wheel Someday (backing track) • Young School Girl (backing track) • **Lloyd Price:** Lawdy Miss Clawdy • **Lloyd Price:** Oo-Eee Baby • **Joe Turner:** Oke-She-Moke-She-Pop • **Joe Turner:** Crawdad Hole • **Smiley Lewis:** Show Me The Way • **Smiley Lewis:** The Rocks • **Dave Bartholomew:** Good News

CD 10: Tired Of Crying (alt) • How Long (alt) • Long Lonesome Journey (alt) • Poor Poor Me (alt) • Rose Marie • You Left Me (alt) • Set Me Free (Don't Know What's Wrong) • Margie (IM 1762) • Margie (IM 1808-9) • The Sheik Of Araby (IM 1809) • Hands Across The Table (alt) • I Hear You Knocking (alt) • Country Boy (alt) • Let The Four Winds Blow (IM 3030) • Let The Four Winds Blow (IM 3035) • La-La (overdub) • Telling Lies (overdub) • When I See You (overdub) • Every Night About This Time (overdub) • Trouble In Mind (overdub) • Along The Navajo Trail (overdub) • Ain't It A Shame (overdub) • **Jimmy Besley:** My Happiness • **Bobby Charles:** Put Your Arms Around Me • **Clarence 'Frogman' Henry:** Lonely Tramp • **James 'Sugar Boy' Crawford:** Morning Star • **Joe Barry:** I'm A Fool To Care • **Smiley Lewis:** I Hear You Knockin'

CD 11: I've Got A Right To Cry • There Goes My Heart Again • Can't Go On Without You • Nobody Needs You Like Me • Bye Baby Bye Bye • Just A Lonely Man • When I'm Walking (Let Me Walk) • Forever, Forever • Song For Rosemary • Red Sails In The Sunset • Tell Me The Truth, Baby • Land Of A Thousand Dances • I'm Living Right • Who Cares (For Me) • Something You Got Baby • I'm A Fool To Care • The Land Of Make-Believe • Old Man Trouble • Mary Oh Mary • If You Don't Know What Love Is • Fats' Shuffle • The Fat Man • Gotta Get A Job • Fats On Fire

CD 12: Love Me • Packin' Up • Valley Of Tears • You Know I Miss You • Lazy Lady • I Don't Want To Set The World On Fire • (All Of My Life) For You • Sally Was A Good Girl • A Whole Lot Of Trouble • That Certain Someone • Kansas City • Hearbreak Hill • I Met The Girl I'm Gonna Marry • Ballin' The Jack • Trouble In Mind • Monkey Business • Reelin' And Rockin' • Why Don't You Do Right • Man That's All • Wigs • On A Slow Boat To China • When My Dreamboat Comes Home • Let Me Call You Sweetheart • Goodnight Sweetheart

DVD: Opening Credits & Intro • Domino Family History • Boogie Woogie • Dave Bartholomew • New Orleans R&B Scene • Birth of The Fat Man • Mardi Gras In New Orleans • You Can Pack My Suitcase • Fats Sits In • Ain't That A Shame • I'm In Love Again • Blueberry Hill • Blue Monday • Movies And TV • Rock 'n' Roll Riots • Walking To New Orleans • The Saints • End Credits • Dave And Fats Reunion • Fats Domino At Home (2010) • The Saints Go Marching In (1962) • Blue Monday (1962) • I'm Ready (1962) • Opening Credits & Intro • Fats' Early Years • First Record • New Orleans Music Scene • Mardi Gras In New Orleans • Ain't That A Shame • Rock 'n' Roll Explosion • Fats On Top • TV And The Movies Call • On The Road With Fats • Segregation • Walking To New Orleans • The Saints • Closing Credits

DVD info:

NTSC, 16:9, code-free, stereo, 150 min. – A film by Joe Lauro – produced by Joe Lauro, Rich Nevins, Rick Coleman - edited by Anthea Carr – written by Joe Lauro, Rick Coleman – Executive producers: Celia Zantz, Daniel Wheeler, Dick Connette.