

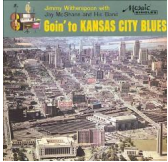
## Jimmy Witherspoon - Goin' To Kansas City Blues (1957)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 01 September 2018 13:12 - Last Updated Wednesday, 03 March 2021 22:40

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## Jimmy Witherspoon - Goin' To Kansas City Blues (1957)



1 *The Jumpin' Blues* 3:03 2 *Until The Real Thing Comes Along* 2:47 3 *Hootie Blues* 3:20  
4 *Rain Is Such A Lonesome Sound* 3:16 5 *Confessin' The Blues* 4:15 6 *Piney Brown Blues*  
5:29 7 *Froggy Bottom* 2:36 8 *Gee Baby, Ain't I Good To You* 3:17 9 *Blue Monday* 3:40  
10 *Ooh Wee, Then The Lights Go Out* 2:55 + 11 *Cloudy* 3:15 12 *Fare Thee, Honey, Fare  
Thee Well* 3:33 13 *Ride On* 3:30 Jimmy Witherspoon (vocals) Jay McShann Band - Jay  
McShann (piano) - Ray Copeland (trumpet) - J. C. Higginbotham (trombone) - Hilton Jefferson  
(alto sax) - Seldon Powell (tenor sax) - Haywood Henry (baritone sax) - Kenny Burrell (guitar)  
- Gene Ramey (double bass) - Mousey Alexander (drums)

Jimmy Witherspoon was a blues shouter from Arkansas-Jay McShann a piano player from Oklahoma. McShann settled in Kansas City and founded a band featuring a young Charlie Parker. In 1944, Witherspoon was hired as the singer for McShann's band (several years post-Parker) and from there, his career blossomed. After a four years with McShann, Witherspoon left and found brief success as a solo artist. However, by the 50's, the shouter style had run it's course and Witherspoon was thin on material and interest in his music.

Witherspoon cut this album in 1957 with McShann as somewhat of a reunion and somewhat as an attempt to comeback for both artists. It's a pretty mellow affair and despite that Witherspoon's shouting was well placed in jazz circles, he tones it down here. That's not to say it's not a good album or that he doesn't still belt it out (see "Blue Monday Blues"), but just a relaxed feel to the album. There are some great tunes written by Parker and McShann way back when. There's also 5 1/2 minute rendition of Joe Turner's Piney Brown Blues which is phenomenal and pays tribute to Witherspoon's idol Joe Turner, as well as making a solid tribute to Kansas City.

Further, you got to love this cover, right? The Union Station was still a working train depot. Just

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a lot to look over and find what's still there and what's changed. ---kclawrencevinyl.blogspot.com

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