Written by bluesever Saturday, 05 January 2013 18:19 - Last Updated Tuesday, 08 December 2020 10:41

Honeyboy Edwards – Delta Bluesman (1994)



01. Alan Lomax Introduces David Edwards 02. Roamin' And Ramblin' Blues 03. I'm from The Library Of Congress 04. You Got to Roll [A Cappella] 05. You Got to Roll [Levee Camp Song] 06. Water Coast Blues 07. Stagolee 08. Just A Spoonful 09. Spread My Raincoat Down 10. Hellatakin' Blues 11. Wind Howlin' Blues 12. Worried Life Blues 13. Tear It Down Rag 14. The Army Blues 15. They Called It Big Kate 16. Big Katie Allen 17. Black Cat 18. I Met Peetie Wheatstraw In '39 19. Number 12 At The Station 20. When I Came To Memphis 21. Rocks In My Pillow 22. We Used To Sing That When I Was A Kid 23. Decoration Day 24. Who May Be Your Regular Be 25. I Studied Up That Song Myself 26. Eyes Full Of Tears 27. Bad Whiskey And Cocaine David Honeyboy Edwards (vocals, guitar, harmonica); Floyd Jones (acoustic guitar, drums); Carey Bell (harmonica); Michael Rasfeld (recorder); Sunnyland Slim (piano); Robert Plunkett, Arthur Lee Stevenson (drums)

One of the underrated greats of country blues, Honeyboy Edwards is heard on this superior release at the beginning and in the later part of his long career. A very authentic blues singer and guitarist who occasionally played harmonica, Edwards grew up in Mississippi and was captured by Alan Lomax in Clarksdale in 1942 for the first 14 selections on this CD. Already distinctive at the age of 27, Edwards was in Chicago during the 1950s but, despite being quite active, he hardly recorded at all until the late '70s. The final 13 selections on this CD are mostly from 1991 and they find Edwards being featured both solo and with Sunnyland Slim and Carey Bell in an excellent quintet, still singing and playing guitar with power. He also tells a few stories about the distant past. As of this writing in 2006, the 91-year-old Honeyboy Edwards, nearly the last link to Robert Johnson and Charley Patton in the 1930s, is still performing at blues festivals. Delta Bluesman remains his definitive release. ---Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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