

Lucky Peterson - Heart Of Pain (2010)

Written by bluesever

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- 01 - *Out Of The Frying Pan*
- 02 - *Heart Of Pain*
- 03 - *A Woman Don't Care*
- 04 - *I Will Survive*
- 05 - *Age Ain't Nothing But A Number*
- 06 - *Oh Baby*
- 07 - *He's The Answer*
- 08 - *Brown Can't Be Bad*
- 09 - *Lucky's 88*
- 10 - *Bound To Make You Love Me*
- 11 - *I Won't Be Found*

Lucky Peterson (vocals, guitar, keyboards); Jerome Loudon (guitar); Tamara Peterson (vocals); Ricky Rigsby (bass); Jim Exum, Bill Eden, Ira Bassett (horns).

Lucky Peterson's journey through the blues has been a long and labyrinthine one. A child prodigy, he scored his first hit at the age of six, appeared on both The Tonight Show and The Ed Sullivan Show, and was a longtime member of Bobby "Blue" Bland's traveling and recording band before he got his own shot as a leader in the '80s. He's a notable guitarist who also plays a hell of a piano and a Hammond B-3, is a fine vocalist and arranger. He's recorded jazz and gospel albums -- he collaborated with Mavis Staples on the excellent *Spirituals & Gospel: Dedicated to Mahalia Jackson*. *Heart of Pain* is a return to (mostly) contemporary Chicago-style blues, on which Peterson plays lead guitar, keyboards, and sings. He is backed by his current road band and a three-piece horn section. *Heart of Pain* is his third recording for Great Britain's JSP imprint, and quite solid. It contains 11 tracks of old-school Chicago blues beginning with a rollicking reading of John Steadman's and Steve Washington's "Out of the Frying Pan and into the Fire" (they wrote the majority of the tunes here). The I-IV-V progression features a killer piano break from Peterson. The title track highlights Peterson's guitar muscle with a deeply soulful vocal. There is a slick gospel number on the set called "He's the Answer," penned with his sister, Tamara, who offers a fine duet performance. Another roadhouse rocker is the stellar

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"I Will Survive," with its punchy horns, B-3, and stinging guitar fills. There's a strutting piano workout called "Lucky's 88" and the set closes with the funky "I Won't Be Found," featuring a swaggering horn chart. In sum, this is a great place to catch Peterson at what he does best, and yet another chapter in his blues sojourn. ---Thom Jurek, allmusic.com

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