

Big Maceo Merriweather - Best Of Big Maceo - The King Of Chicago Blues Piano (1992)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Worried Life Blues*
2. *Ramblin' Mind Blues*
3. *County Jail Blues*
4. *Can't You Read*
5. *So Long Baby*
6. *Texas Blues*
7. *Tuff Luck Blues*
8. *I Got the Blues*
9. *Bye Bye Baby*
10. *Poor Kelly Blues*
11. *Some Sweet Day*
12. *Anytime for You*
13. *My Last Go Round*
14. *Since You Been Gone*
15. *Kid Man Blues*
16. *I'm So Worried*
17. *Things Have Changed*
18. *My Own Troubles*
19. *Maceo's 32-20*
20. *Texas Stomp*
21. *Winter Time Blues*
22. *Detroit Jump*
23. *Won't Be a Fool No More*
24. *Big Road Blues*
25. *Chicago Breakdown*

Personnel:

Big Maceo Merriweather (vocals, piano);

Tampa Red (vocals, guitar);

Chick Sanders, Tyrell Dixon, Melvin Draper, Clifford "Snags" Jones (drums).

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The title The King of Chicago Blues Piano is no joke -- while never achieving the level of fame won by many of his contemporaries, Big Maceo Merriweather was indeed a major force behind the development of the Windy City sound, and these 1940s sides, cut in collaboration with guitarist Tampa Red, remain his most enduring legacy. Combining startling instrumental proficiency with a traditional blues sensibility, Maceo was also a powerful vocalist; despite recording just 28 sides -- all but three of which are included here -- he was still a pivotal figure, bridging the country blues of the '20s with the urbanized electric sound of the '50s. Among the highlights: the instrumental closer "Chicago Breakdown," an instrumental tribute to his incredible prowess, and "Worried Life Blues," later covered by Chuck Berry. ---Jason Ankeny, Rovi

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