

Lou-Ann Barton – Old Enough (1982)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 07 October 2010 10:42 - Last Updated Tuesday, 13 April 2021 11:31

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1. *I'm Old Enough* 2. *Brand New Lover* [play](#) 3. *It's Raining* 4. *It Ain't Right* 5. *Finger Poppin' Time* 6. *Stop These Teardrops* 7. *Sudden Stop, The* 8. *Doddle Song, The* 9. *Maybe* 10. *Every Night of the Week* [p/](#)
[ay](#)

Lou Ann Barton (vocals); Greg Piccolo, Harvey Thompson (tenor); Ronnie Eades (baritone); Glenn Frey (guitar, background vocals); Jimmy Johnson, Duncan Cameron, Jimmie Vaughan (guitar); Al Garth (saxophone); Harrison Galloway (trumpet); Charlie Rouse (trombone); Muscle Shoals Horns (horns); Clayton Ivey, Barry Beckett (keyboards); David Hood (bass instrument); Roger Hawkins (drum); Tom Roady (percussion); Cindy Richardson, Eddie Struzick, Lenny LeBlanc (background vocals).

The debut album by Austin-based blues-rock singer Lou Ann Barton didn't sound like many major-label releases of 1982. Produced by Atlantic Records veteran Jerry Wexler (with, worryingly, some help from ex-Eagles schlockmeister Glenn Frey) and recorded at the legendary Muscle Shoals Sound Studios, *Old Enough* is a solid piece of soulful Texas-style blues-rock. Barton reveals herself to be an exceptional singer, sassy and sly but with a welcome tendency toward restraint. (Many singers in this style try too hard to prove their soulfulness and end up sounding ridiculous.) She's also got a keen eye for songs, investing the old standard "Finger Poppin' Time" with enough relish to make it sound fresh and turning Marshall Crenshaw's rockabilly-tinged "Brand New Lover" into a full-on Wanda Jackson-style barnburner. There are a few missteps, like the too-slick-by-half radio-friendly ballad "It's Raining," but overall, *Old Enough* is an unpretentious, timeless-sounding set. It all but disappeared upon its 1982 release and remained out of print until the Austin blues label Antone reissued it on CD in 1997. ---Stewart Mason, allmusic.com

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