

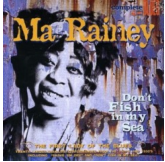
## Ma Rainey - Don't Fish in My Sea (2004)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 24 June 2011 18:39 - Last Updated Saturday, 24 April 2021 14:59

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01. *Bad Luck Blues* 02. *Daddy Goodbye Blues* 03. *See See Rider* [play](#) 04. *Sleep Talking Blues* 05. *Yonder Come The Blues* 06. *Ma & Pa Poorhouse Blues* 07. *Jealous Hearted Blues* 08. *Trust No Man* 09. *Toad Frog Blues* 10. *Farewell Daddy Blues* 11. *Black Cat Hoot Owl* 12. *Morning Hour Blues* 13. *Dont Fish In My Sea* [play](#)

14. *Mountain Jack Blues No 1* 15. *Mountain Jack Blues No 3* 16. *Shave Em Dry* 17. *Big Feeling Blues* 18. *Little Low Mama* 19. *Black Eye Blues* 20. *Night Time Blues*

Ma Rainey (vocals); Ma Rainey; Papa Charlie Jackson (vocals, banjo); George W. Williams, Martell Pettiford, Charlie Dixon (banjo); Herman Brown (kazoo, washboard); Jimmy O'Bryant (clarinet); Charles Harris (alto saxophone); Tommy Ladiner, Howard H. Scott (cornet); Charlie Green (trombone); Carl Reid (horns); Lovie Austin & Her Blue Serenaders, Lil Henderson, Georgia Tom Dorsey, Jimmy Blythe, Lovie Austin (piano); Happy Bolton (drums, chimes); Tampa Red, Blind Blake (guitar); Don Redman, Buster Bailey (clarinet); Coleman Hawkins (bass saxophone); Louis Armstrong (cornet); Fletcher Henderson (piano).

By no means a definitive compilation, *Don't Fish in My Sea* is nonetheless a fine one, offerings songs from all six of Ma Rainey's years as a recording artist -- 1923-1928 (she had been a performer for a decade before she ever recorded and continued performing six years after putting her last side on cylinder). All of these sides were recorded for Paramount and contain some of her finest moments -- an early, pre-Lucille Bogan version of "Shave 'Em Dry," "Bad Luck Blues," "Hoot Owl," and 14 more. The sound quality here is acceptable and the performances are among the most vital of the early recorded blues records by artists of either gender. This is a fine introduction to one of the 20th century's most fabled blues practitioners. ---Thom Jurek, allmusic.com

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Ma Rainey (April 26, 1886 - December 22, 1939) was one of the earliest known American professional blues singers and one of the first generation of such singers to record. She was billed as The Mother of the Blues.

She began performing at the age of 12 or 14, and recorded under the name Ma Rainey after she and Will Rainey were married in 1904. They toured with F.S. Wolcott's Rabbit Foot Minstrels and later formed their own group called Rainey and Rainey, Assassins of the Blues. From the time of her first recording in 1923 to five years later, Ma Rainey made over 100 recordings. Some of them include, Bo-weevil Blues (1923), Moonshine Blues (1923), See See Rider (1924), Black Bottom (1927), and Soon This Morning (1927).

Ma Rainey was known for her very powerful vocal abilities, energetic disposition, majestic phrasing, and a 'moaning' style of singing similar to folk tradition. Though her powerful voice and disposition are not captured on her recordings, the other characteristics are present, and most evident on her early recordings, Bo-weevil Blues and Moonshine Blues. Ma Rainey also recorded with Louis Armstrong in addition to touring and recording with the Georgia Jazz Band. Ma Rainey continued to tour until 1935 when she retired to her hometown. Ma Rainey died in Rome, Georgia in 1939.

She was inducted into the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame in 1983, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.

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