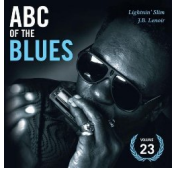


ABC Of The Blues CD23 (2010)

Written by bluesever

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CD 23 – Lightnin’ Slim & J.B. Lenoir 23-01 *Lightnin’ Slim – Rock Me Mama* 23-02 *Lightnin’ Slim – Bad Luck* 23-03 *Lightnin’ Slim – New Orleans Bound* 23-04 *Lightnin’ Slim – Bigger Bigger Boy* [play](#) 23-05 *Lightnin’ Slim – I’m a Rollin’ Stone* 23-06 *Lightnin’ Slim – Hoodoo Man* 23-07 *Lightnin’ Slim – I’m Grown* 23-08 *Lightnin’ Slim – Nothing but the Devil* 23-09 *Lightnin’ Slim – Tom Cat Blues* 23-10 *Lightnin’ Slim – Wintertime Blues* 23-11 *J.B. Lenoir – I Have Married* 23-12 *J.B. Lenoir – How Much More* 23-13 *J.B. Lenoir – Let’s Roll Pt. 1* 23-14 *J.B. Lenoir – The Mojo Pt. 1* 23-15 *J.B. Lenoir – Slow Down Woman* 23-16 *J.B. Lenoir – Louise* 23-17 *J.B. Lenoir – When I Was Young* [play](#) 23-18 *J.B. Lenoir – Bassology* 23-19 *J.B. Lenoir – Play a Little While* 23-20 *J.B. Lenoir – Livin’ in the White House*

Specialising in Louisiana and swamp blues, **Lightnin’ Slim** was born Otis Hicks in St. Louis, Missouri, and died of stomach cancer in Detroit, Michigan.

Slim moved from Missouri to Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the age of thirteen. Taught guitar by his older brother Layfield, Slim was playing bars in Baton Rouge by the late 1940s. He debuted on Jay Miller’s Feature Records label in 1954 with “Bad Luck” (“If it wasn’t for bad luck, I wouldn’t have no luck at all”).

Slim then recorded for Excello Records for 12 years, starting in the mid 1950s. Slim often collaborated with his brother-in-law, Slim Harpo. He took time off from the blues for a period of time and ended up working in a steam laundry which resulted in him suffering from constantly having his hands exposed to high temperatures. He was a very well dressed and presentable man, would wear flash suits and had an excellent sense of humour.

In the 1970s Slim performed on tours in Europe, both in the UK and at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland where he was often accompanied by Moses “Whispering” Smith on harmonica.

J.B. Lenoir is an outstanding blues singer, songwriter who was born in Monticella, Mississippi (March 5, 1929). J. B. Lenoir was known in the 50s for his particular zebra-patterned costumes and his brilliant female-like voice but he was a very influential musician and composer playing electric guitar. His band included piano (Sunnyland Slim), saxophone (J. T. Brown), and drums (Alfred Wallace). In this period he wrote several blues standards including Don't Dog Your Woman, Mama Talk To Your Daughter, and Don't Touch My Head.

He was also known with his political content relating to racism and war in his lyrics. “Vietnam Blues” and “Alabama Blues” were major examples.

Despite the angry lyrics of many of his songs, Lenoir sang in a disarmingly sweet, laid-back style, and he was widely known as an exceptionally friendly and gentle person. He befriended and encouraged many young blues artists both black and white. He died on April 29, 1967 in Urbana, Illinois from a heart attack related to injuries he suffered in a car accident three weeks earlier. His untimely death is lamented by John Mayall in the song, “Death of J. B. Lenoir”. He was also honored by Wim Wenders in the movie “The Soul of a Man”.

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