

The Nighthawks - Rock 'n' Roll (1974)

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01. Red Hot Mama (Fine Little Mama) 02. Can't Get Next To You 03. Keep Cool 04. Bring It On Home 05. Tell The Truth 06. Stop Breakin' Down 07. Shake And Finger Pop 08. Bright Lights 09. Little Sister 10. Heat Wave 11. Memo From Turner 12. Teenage Nervous Breakdown Musicians: Mark Wenner (vocals, guitar) Jimmy Thackery (guitar) Don Monihan (bass) Larry Bolet (drums) Bill Holland (keyboards)

Rock 'N' Roll, The Nighthawks first album, was recorded at Paragon Studio in Silver Spring, MD. The band went with strong but simple arrangements that covered a variety of musical influences and styles—mostly blues classics along with two contemporary songs. Among the highlights were the Rolling Stones song “Memo to Turner,” Little Feat’s “Teenage Nervous Breakdown,” the soul song “Heatwave” and the rockabilly of “Little Sister.” With the commercial successes of the J. Geils Band and Bonnie Raitt, it seemed like the time was right. And it was a very strong debut that the band basically handed over to Aladdin already complete. It was released in 1974—and it’s still as powerful and engaging now as it was then.

Their first single was the famous Elmore James song “Red Hot Mama,” b/w “Keep Cool,” in 1975. The songs got airplay on WHFS and WEAM in D.C. and praise in music trade publications including Billboard, Downbeat and Record World. --- whoisthemonk.wordpress.com

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