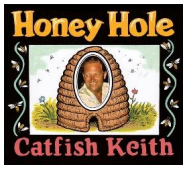
Catfish Keith - Honey Hole (2014)



01. Sweet Honey Hole (3:22) 02. Best Jelly In The Neighborhood (3:32) 03. Jailbird Love Song (3:32) 04. Weed Smoker's Dream - Why Don't You Do Right (5:46) 05. Tomi Tomi (3:30) 06. Take Me Back (3:41) 07. Who's Been Here (4:05) 08. She Got Washed Away (4:09) 09. Someday Baby (3:50) 10. Rowdy Blues (3:50) 11. God Don't Like It (4:13) 12. Frisco Town (4:01) 13. Lotus Blossom (4:21) 14. Poor Howard - Green Corn (2:41) Catfish Keith - guitar, vocals

Cutting-edge blues singer, songwriter and bottleneck slide guitarist Catfish Keith has established himself as one of the most exciting country blues performers of our time. Catfish's innovative style of foot-stomping, deep delta blues and American roots music has spellbound audiences the world over. He has reinvented the guitar with great power and artistry, and brings a rare beauty and vitality to his music. Handing down the tradition, Catfish continues his lifelong journey as one of the brightest lights in acoustic blues and roots music. --- catfishkeith.com

Catfish Keith has spent some serious time in the woodshed. Keith's latest disc, Honey Hole, his 15th and latest disc since 1991's Pepper In My Shoe! debut, is further evidence that the Iowa-based guitarist understands the Delta blues geneology from which he culls his persuasive guitar style. The liner notes are dotted with testimonials to the artists who either inspired or first covered the tunes on this album, with notes as to which of his impressive guitars he has used on each track -- some beauties including a National M1 Baritone Tricone and Flammang Parlor guitar.

All of the albums 14 tracks were recorded live - just a man, a voice and his guitar. Keith's fingerstyle precision is honed to the bone on cuts such as Best Jelly In the Neighborhood, while his inventiveness and slide chops ring true on early 20th century Hawaiian duo Kanui and Lula's Tomi Tomi.

Elsewhere Keith digs deep for a cover of Kid Bailey's 1929 Rowdy Blues, replete with colorful rambling vocals. He goes the opposite way with a cover of Sister Rosetta Tharpe's 1939 Decca single, God Don't Like It, a precursor to John lee Hooker's foot-flapping brand of talking blues that urges the listener to "stop that drinkin' moonshine."

A one-man roots exposition able to command his audience at the mere snap of a string and a tall tale, Catfish Keith continues his exploration of 21st century acoustic blues. --- Mark Uricheck, Living Blues Magazine

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