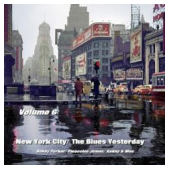
New York City Blues Yesterday Vol. 6



01. Titanic 02. Suggie duggie boogie baby 03. Once upon a time Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar Paul Wiliams – alto saxophone + band New York City, 1 august 1956
04. You got what it takes 05. Blues get off my shoulder
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar Paul Wiliams – baritone saxophone Oscar Dennis – tenor saxophone Earl Williams – piano Gene Redd – vibraphone Skeeter Best – guitar Ted Sturges – bass guitar Harry Lewis – drums Chicago, Ill. 3 september 1957
06. Foolish love 07. Stop by my house
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar Paul Wiliams – baritone saxophone, horns Skeeter Best – guitar + band Chicago, Ill. 1959
08. Steal your heart away 09. Watch your step
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar Buddy Sanchez – trumpet Maurice Robertson – alto saxophone Bill Clark – tenor saxophone, bass TNT Tribble – drums Washington DC, 1961
10. It's too late darling 11. Get it right
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar + band Washington DC, october 1963
12. Do the monkey 13. Gimme a little loving
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar + band Washington DC, december 1963
14. Don't drive me away 15. Keep away from my heart
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar + band New York City, 1964
16. I won't believe it till I see it
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar + band New York City, 1966
17. It's hard but it's fair
Bobby Parker – vocals, guitar + band London, GB. 15 december 1968
18. Camp meeting
Pinocchio James – vocals Ray Felder – tenor saxophone Herman Smith - piano Boots Nelson - guitar Edwyn Conley – bass Dutch Baker – drums New York City, 23 october 1951
19. Your mouth got a hole in it
Pinocchio James – vocals Todd Rhodes – piano Charlie Hooks – trumpet Hallie Dismukes – alto saxophone Louie Stephens – tenor saxophone Robert Fort – baritone saxophone Joe Williams – bass George DeHart - drums Cincinnati, Oh. 20 june 1953
20. New Orleans woman 21. Rock'n'roll Rockin' chair
Pinocchio James – vocals + Lionel Hampton and His Orchestra Stuttgart, Germany, 5 january 1958
22. Kidney stew
Pinocchio James – vocals + Lionel Hampton and His Orchestra New York City, 13 april 1959

23. Weak and broken hearted 24. Mama don't love me no more
Pinocchio James – vocals Ram Ramirez – organ Kenny Burrell – guitar Milt Hinton – bass Osie Johnson – drums New York City, 1959
25. Everybody loves my baby 26. Hamp's Twist
Pinocchio James – vocals Lionel Hampton – vibraphone New York City, 1962
27. Sneaking around 28. I'm still in love with you
Pinocchio James – vocals Lionel Hampton – vibraphone + band New York City, 1964
29. Can't help myself
Kenny Ballard – vocals, guitar Moses Penham - vocals, guitar + band New York City, 26 october 1956
30. I want to love you 31. I'm all alone
Kenny Ballard – vocals, guitar Moses Penham - vocals, guitar + band New York City, 19 february 1957
32. So long I'm gone 33. Yes I will
Kenny & Moe – vocals, guitars + band New York City, 29 may 1957

Robert Lee "Bobby" Parker, born in Lafayette, La; 31 August 1937 has started his musical career as a guitar player as soon as the early 50's, first in the Los Angeles area with several R&B groups (Otis Williams & Charms) then in New York City with the band of saxophonist Paul Williams with whom he will record his first tracks in 1956. With his very special, brilliant and forceful guitar playing, Bobby Parker is much on demand during the following years, touring with great R&B acts of the day and recording regularly (a superb Blues get off my shoulder in 1958) and having a modest R&B hit in 1961 with Watch your step whose inevitable guitar riff will be recorded by Spencer Davis Group, Jefferson Airplane, Adam Faith or Santana! The riff will also be used and reused by The Beatles and Led Zeppelin without a lot of recognition and rewarding for Parker. Despite a short tour of England (and a last single for the Blue Horizon label), the following decades are lean years for Parker who, relocating in Washington DC, would play only in local venues. At last, "rediscovered" in 1992, Parker has then recorded two excellent blues albums for the Black Top label (Bent out of shape et Shine me up). He dies on 31 October 2013 in Washington.

Cornelius 'Pinocchio" James (born in Atlanta, Ga. 20 April 1916) is a blues shouter who has mostly recorded with the Lionel Hampton Orchestra with whom he was the lead singer (cf https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5D_s3tDCyS0) between 1957-65. A student at the Cosmopolitan School Music of Cincinnati, James begins to record with the pianist Todd Rhodes' band in 1951 before joining Hampton and to tour relentlessly worldwide. The musical career of

Pinocchio seems to have stopped after he left Hampton and one doesn't know what he did the following decades. According to Blues/ a regional Experience, Cornelius James died on 22 November 1995 in Atlanta.

The very dynamic duo Kenny & Moe is composed by two singers/ guitarists Kenny Ballard and Moses Penham. They recorded ten tracks in 1956-57 that, while evidently rooted in the East Coast blues style, are also quite close to the Rock'n'Roll of the era. Despite my researches, I've not been able to gather much about Kenny & Moe and I'm not even sure than - despite it is said here and there - the Kenny Ballard of Kenny & Moe is the same than the Soul singer of the same name who recorded a handful of 45s during the 1960's. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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