

Chicago - The Blues Yesterday Vol. 5

Written by bluesever
Sunday, 31 May 2015 15:02 -

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01. *You cost too much* 02. *Please come back* Al Perkins – vocals, guitar Luther Tucker – guitar Detroit Jr – piano + band Chicago, 1960
03. *I feel alright* 04. *It's good enough*
Al Perkins – vocals, guitar Burgess Gardner – trumpet and His Orchestra Chicago, 1962
05. *Homework*
Al Perkins – vocals Betty Bibbs – vocals Luther Tucker – guitar + band Chicago, 1965
06. *Yes my goodness yes* 07. *So long*
Al Perkins – vocals + band Chicago, 1969
08. *I don't want to lose I & II* 09. *I'm so thankful*
Al Perkins – vocals Willie Mitchell band Memphis, Tn. 1972
10. *Homework* 11. *I have to laugh*
Otis Rush – vocals, guitar Mighty Joe Young – guitar King Kolax, Sonny Turner, Maury Watson – trumpet Monk Higgins – trombone Johnny Board, Abb Locke – tenor saxophone Lafayette Leake – organ, piano James Green – bass Casey Jones – drums Chicago, Ill. 6-7 september 1962
12. *Cleo's back*
Abb Lock – tenor saxophone Otis Rush – guitar + band Chicago, 1983
13. *Mean train* 14. *Fool for you baby*
Grover Pruitt – vocals, guitar Freddie Roulette – guitar, bass, drums Chicago, 1959
15. *Shake the flea* 16. *Little girl*
Grover Pruitt – vocals, guitar + band Chicago, 1969
17. *Run baby* 18. *Your well ran dry*
Carol Ford – vocals Lafayette Leake – piano Mighty Joe Young – guitar, bass, drums Chicago, 1964
19. *Big city lights* 20. *The best man I ever had* 21. *You got everything*
Cleo Randle – vocals Mighty Joe Young – guitar + band Chicago, 1966-67

This 5th volume of our Chicago/ The blues yesterday series starts with the singer/guitarist/producer Al Perkins (born august 1st 1930 in Brookhaven, Ms) who enjoyed some success during the 60's with his brand of blues and Soul. He waxed some 45s for several

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Chicago (USA, C.J.), Detroit and Memphis (Hi) labels, particularly his duet with Soul singer Betty Bibbs, Homework, his own composition that has been made famous through versions of Otis Rush and Fleetwood Mac. A noted Detroit DJ, Perkins seemed to deal also with other more underground businesses and, for that, was shot to death in the streets of Detroit on February 13th, 1983.

Thanks to our friend Jose Yrrabera, we can post the very rare Otis Rush's Duke 45 (Homework/ I have to laugh). Unfortunately, Otis recorded also several other titles during this session that are laying in some vaults to the despair of blues buffs from all over the world! We also have included in this anthology Cleo's back from 1983 by saxophonist Abb Locke in which Otis takes a superb guitar solo.

Grover Pruitt who recorded one 45 for Laredo (Mean train) was long thought a young white rockabilly singer. In fact, he is a black bluesman from Chicago. After this single, he went onto the West Coast, waxed another very rare single there (Chain gang farm: if anybody owns it, please send a .mp3 copy!!), then came back to Chicago, recorded another excellent (and also rare) 45 for Salem (Shake the flea/ Little girl) and drifted into obscurity. He resurfaced some years ago, playing in the Chicago clubs. It would be nice if anyone out there could interview him and - why not? - make him record a whole album?

Carol Ford is one of those numerous soul/blues singers that tried to get a break in the Chicago scene and then disappeared. Her juicy Run baby (with the wonderful Mighty Joe Young) deserves to be heard. At last, Cleo Randle recorded a good blues 45 (again with Mighty Joe Young) before recycling herself into the Gospel world.

Thanks again to all those who constantly loan me and share their precious original records: Alain M., Pierre Monnery, Hartmut Münnich, Paul de Bruycker, Jean Ballerin and of course Jose, Fonsoul and all the others...

As usual, all your remarks and such are welcomed... This is the only way for me to know if this work is really useful. --- Gérard Herzhaft, jukegh.blogspot.com

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