

Clifton Chenier - King Of The Bayous (1970)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Tu Le Ton Son Ton (Every Now And Then)* — 3:47 02. *Hard To Love Someone* — 3:25
03. *Who Can Your Good Man Be (Brown Skin Wom)* — 3:45 04. *Zodico Two-Step (Zydeco Two-Step, French Two-Step)* — 3:22 05. *Going La Maison* — 3:42 06. *I Believe I'll Go Back Home* — 3:26 07. *Release Me (From My Sin)* — 4:00 08. *Grand Mamou (Big Mamou)* — 3:25
09. *Ton Na Na (Aunt Na Na)* — 3:07 10. *I'm Coming Home (To See My Mother)* — 3:19 11. *Josephine Par Se Ma Femme* — 3:12 12. *It's Christmas Time* — 4:16 13. *Coming Home Tomorrow* — 3:24 14. *Me And My Chauffeur* — 3:12 15. *Mo Veux Connaitre (Where She Slept)* — 3:45 16. *Tired Of Crying Over You* — 2:40 17. *Clifton's Blues* — 3:32 18. *Let's Rock A While* — 3:31 Clifton Chenier (vocals, accordion); Antoine Victor, Raymond Monett, Cleveland Keyes (guitar); Elmore Nixon (piano); Joe Morris (bass); Robert Peter (drums); Cleveland Chenier (rubboard).

After gaining initial notoriety in the '50s and '60s on Specialty Records and a variety of small Texas and Louisiana labels, Zydeco King Clifton Chenier brought the blues-fueled Cajun music he practically invented to Chris Strachwitz's roots label Arhoolie, subsequently recording a series of fine albums including 1970's *King of the Bayous*. Featuring brother and longtime partner Cleveland Chenier on rubboard, Robert St. Judy on drums, Joe Morris on bass and Antoine Victor on guitar, *King of the Bayous* includes Chenier's standard blend of zydeco two-step, waltzes and blues, and provides an excellent taste of what the band no doubt played on countless one-niters along the Louisiana-Texas Gulf Coast. Zydeco-brand blues predominates with Chenier originals "Hard to Love Someone," "Who Can Your Good Man Be" and "I Am Coming Home," in addition to a cover of the honky-tonk weeper "Release Me." Offering a contrast to the blues and something for the dancers, the band lays down a lively two-step beat on "Tu Le Ton Son Ton," "Josephine Par Se Ma Femme" and "Zodico Two Step." Throughout the varied set, Chenier's irrepressible vocals and accordion playing stand out. A nice sample of bayou zydeco by one of its finest and most original practitioners. --- Stephen Cook, allmusic.com

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