

James Cotton Band – 100% Cotton (1974)



1. *Boogie Thing* 2. *One More Mile* 3. *All Walks Of Life* 4. *Creeper Creeps Again* 5. *Rocket 88* 6. *How Long Can A Fool Go Wrong* 7. *I Don't Know* 8. *Burner* 9. *Fatuation* 10. *Fever* James Cotton (vocals, harmonica); Little Bo (saxophone); Lenny Baker (baritone saxophone); Phil Jekanowski (piano); Charles Calmese (bass); Kenny Johnson (drums).

The ebullient, roly-poly Chicago harp wizard was at his zenith in 1974, when this cooking album was issued on Buddah. Matt "Guitar" Murphy matched Cotton note for zealous note back then, leading to fireworks aplenty on the non-stop "Boogie Thing," a driving "How Long Can a Fool Go Wrong," and the fastest "Rocket 88" you'll ever take a spin in. ---Bill Dahl, allmusic.com

James Cotton. What a legend. A harp player who was mentored by Sonny Boy Williamson II, alternated with Little Walter in Muddy Water's band, worked with Howlin' Wolf and had enough stature in the industry that his first band under his own name included the celebrated Otis Span. This mid seventies (I think) release is one of his more classic records. Crammed full of intense Chicago blues, with his dramatic, impassioned harmonica right to the fore but with a tinge of jazz around the edges, it's interesting and foot stompingly good stuff, and he shows that he really was a rival for Little Walter's crown. An excellent record of fast blues, recommended. ---Victor, amazon.com

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