

## John Campbell - Austin Session 1979

Written by bluesever

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1. *Mean Old World* - 4:21
2. *Walking Blues* - 4:23
3. *Early This Morning* - 4:50
4. *Deeper Shade of Blue* - 4:27
5. *Key To the Highway* - 3:07
6. *Long Distance Call* - 4:22
7. *Feel Like My Time Ain't Long* - 4:25
8. *Worried About My Baby* - 2:40
9. *Come On In My Kitchen* - 3:49
10. *Hitchhikin' Women # 1* - 3:03
11. *Hitchhikin' Women # 2* - 3:25
12. *Shake 'em On Down* - 4:02
13. *Talk To My Baby* - 3:24
14. *Mojo Hand* - 4:51
15. *Boom Boom Boom* - 4:04

Guitar, Vocals – John Campbell

John Campbell harbored a singularly bleak blues vision. His gravel-strewn vocals and starkly brooding, voodoo-soaked songs marked the fiery guitarist as a unique up-and-comer on the contemporary blues scene. On June 13, reportedly while asleep, Campbell died unexpectedly of heart failure in New York City.

An exceptional slide guitarist, the 41-year-old Campbell released his domestic debut album, "One Believer," on Elektra in 1991. The intense, lyrically downbeat set, much of it written by Campbell and co-producer Dennis Walker, featured songs such as "Devil in My Closet" and "Tiny Coffin" that reverberated with harrowing imagery.

Campbell encored earlier this year on Elektra with "Howlin Mercy," another walk on the spooky side. An ominous cover of Tom Waits' "Down in the Hole" and the Walker/Campbell collaboration "Ain't Afraid of Midnight" walked the same treacherous ground, although the lighthearted original "Look What Love Can Do" momentarily offset the shroud of gloom.

The Shreveport, La., native was certainly no stranger to the darker side of life. At age 16, an auto accident cost Campbell his right eye and necessitated thousands of stitches in his face.

The wreck did have one positive effect, however. While enduring an extended recuperation, Campbell began to study and play the music of Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker. His final local appearance was at Buddy Guy's Legends last winter. ---Bill Dahl, Chicago Tribune, June 25, 1993

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