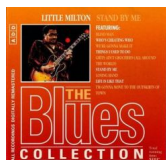


Little Milton – The Blues Collection Vol.48 – Stand By Me (1995)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 28 October 2009 22:09 - Last Updated Wednesday, 07 April 2021 08:37

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01. Little Milton - Losing Hand (2:36) 02. Little Milton - Life Is Like That (2:40) 03. Little Milton - Blind Man (3:24) 04. Little Milton - Stand by Me (2:52) 05. Little Milton - We're Gonna Make It (2:39) 06. Little Milton - Who's Cheating Who (2:59) 07. Little Milton - You're Welcome to the Club (2:45) 08. Little Milton - I'm Gonna Move to the Outskirts of Town (3:03) 09. Little Milton - Can't Hold Back the Tears (2:32) 10. Little Milton - Grits Ain't Groceries (All Around the World) (2:41) 11. Little Milton - Let's Get Together (3:00) 12. Little Milton - Your Precious Love (2:45) 13. Little Milton - Kansas City (3:12) 14. Little Milton - Things I Used to Do (3:52) 15. Little Milton - If Walls Could Talk (3:07) 16. Little Milton - Blues Get Off My Shoulder (3:11) 17. Little Milton - Good to Me as I Am to You (2:39) 18. Little Milton - Poor Man (2:43) Vocals, Guitar – Little Milton

Blues Hall Of Famer Little Milton is simply one of the greatest bluesmen of the modern era- every bit as deserving of the acclaim a B.B. King enjoys. Blessed with a thick, hearty soul/blues voice Milton also proved to be a top guitarist and songwriter. James Milton Campbell was born September 7, 1934, in Inverness, MS, and grew up in Greenville. (He would later legally drop the "James" after learning of a half-brother with the same name.) His father Big Milton, a farmer, was a local blues musician. At age 12 he began playing guitar and by 15 he was performing for pay in local clubs and bars. He got a chance to briefly back Sonny Boy Williamson (Rice Miller). Ike Turner, who was also a talent scout for Sun Records introduce Little Milton to Sam Phillips, who signed him to a contract in 1953. With Ike Turner and band backing him, Milton cut various Sun sides. Unfortunately, none of them were hits, and Milton's association with Sun was over by the end of 1954. He set about forming his own band, which waxed one single for the small Meteor label in 1957, before picking up and moving to St. Louis in 1958.

In St. Louis, Milton and DJ Bob Lyons set up their own label, Bobbin, which, by Milton's doing, signed Albert King. Little Milton's first Bobbin single, "I'm a Lonely Man," sold 60,000 copies. Although none of his, Albert King's or Fontella Bass' Bobbin singles charted they sold well enough to strike a distribution deal with Chess Records. Milton himself switched over to the

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Chess subsidiary Checker in 1961 and scored his first hit, "So Mean To Me" (#14 R & B) in 1962. After subsequent singles failed to chart he hit the big time in 1965 when "We're Gonna Make It" hit number one on the R&B charts and even managed #25 on the pop charts. Some say it was aided by the civil rights movement. Milton hit the R & B charts 13 more times for Checker, most notably with "Grits Ain't Groceries" (13 R & B), "Who's Cheating Who" (#4 R & B), "Feel So Bad" (#7 R & B), "Baby I Love You" (#6 R & B) and "If Walls Could Talk" (#10 R & B).

In 1972 Milton Memphis-based soul label Stax . "That's What Love Will Make You Do" returned Milton to the R & B Top 10 (#9) and Milton had several more soul blues hits with the label. Nevertheless, Stax went bankrupt in 1975, upon which point Little Milton moved to the TK/Glades label, which was better known for its funk and disco. His music was funkied up like most artists of the time, but managed a #15 R & B placing for the classic "Friend of Mine" and scored a few other minor charters. TK/Glades folded soon after as well and Milton recorded one album for Evidence, which contained a rough version of his great "The Blues Is Alright" and then cut one LP for MCA.

In 1984 Milton signed with Malaco, perfectly filling the void created at Malaco with the death Z.Z. Hill. Milton's recordings continued the soul blues revival Hill had started in 1980. Over the next two decades Milton cut 14 albums for Malaco- all of generally high quality full of crispy soul blues, down home soul & even standards. Milton passed away in 2006.

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