

Mississippi John Hurt – 1928 Sessions [1979]

Written by bluesever

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1. *Ain't No Tellin'* 2:55
2. *Stack O' Lee Blues* 2:57 [play](#)
3. *Candy Man Blues* 2:46 [play](#)
4. *Spike Driver Blues* 3:15
5. *Avalon Blues* 3:03
6. *Louis Collins* 2:59
7. *Frankie* 3:21
8. *Big Leg Blues* 2:51
9. *Nobody's Dirty Business* 2:52
10. *Got The Blues, Can't Be Satisfied* 2:51
11. *Blessed Be The Name* 2:47
12. *Blue Harvest Blues* 2:53
13. *Praying On The Old Camp Ground* 2:36

Mississippi John Hurt recorded 13 country-blues songs for the Okeh Electric Records company in 1928. Then he vanished. Actually, he never left his hometown of Avalon, Mississippi. He simply put the guitar down. It was the Great Depression, times were tough, money was scarce, and he needed to work. Nearly 30 years later, a blues enthusiast tracked him down and took him back to Washington, D.C. Suddenly, Mississippi John's musical career resumed as quickly as it had been halted. These first songs cut in the late 1920s, however, represent Hurt in his youthful prime; the 1928 recordings represent the greatest presentation of his melancholy voice and hypnotic guitar playing. --Percy Keegan

This ordering of thirteen blues, ballads, rags, and spirituals features the gentlest of Delta performers. Sharecropper/songster Hurt sings confidently in a throaty but quiet voice and picks guitar patterns that tell of his inner delight. His winsome music-from the John Henry tale "Spike

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Driver Blues" to the smilingly off-color "Candy Man Blues"-is essential listening. Bear with the surface noise of the 78s. --*Frank John Hadley 1993*

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