

Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee □ – Sonny & Brownie (1973)

Written by bluesever
Sunday, 07 July 2019 13:51 -

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*A1 People Get Ready A2 Bring It On Home To Me A3 You Bring Out The Boogie In Me
A4 Sail Away A5 Sonny's Thing A6 White Boy Lost In The Blues B1 The Battle Is Over
B2 Walkin' My Blues Away B3 Big Wind (Is A' Comin') B4 Jesus Gonna Make It Alright
B5 God And Man B6 On The Road Again* Brownie McGhee - guitar, vocals Sonny Terry - harmonica, vocals Arlo Guthrie - acoustic guitar, vocals Sugarcane Harris - violin Michael Franks - acoustic guitar and banjo John Mayall - 12-string electric guitar, piano and harmonica John Hammond - slide guitar Jerry Cole - guitar, banjo Jerry McGee - guitar, banjo Al McKay - guitar Harry Holt - bass guitar Maurice Rodgers - keyboards Eddie Greene - drums Venetta Fields, Clydie King, Marti McCall, Jackie Ward, Maxine Willard Waters, Jim Gilstrap - background vocals

In a way, this is the veteran duo's version of Fathers and Sons, a meeting of old black bluesmen with young white admirers that Muddy Waters and Otis Spann cut with Mike Bloomfield and Paul Butterfield. John Mayall and John Hammond, Jr. are among the "youngsters" on this powerful statement that includes a definitive version of Randy Newman's wickedly subtle anti-slavery tune "Sail Away." Sonny Terry's trademark whoops are energizing. The repartee between him and Brownie McGhee might convince you they were fast friends if you didn't know otherwise. ---Mark Allan, AllMusic Review

I've been a big fan of Brownie and Sonny since I was old enough to begin looking beyond popular music (1960's). There are some performers who just have it all - technical ability, vision and soul. These guys define the term "musician".

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When this album came out I jumped on it and it immediately became a favorite - my old heroes going beyond the traditional acoustic duo ... electric guitars and Rhodes pianos? Wow!

Joined by some of the young trend setters who they had influenced, this album is just great - you can feel the mutual admiration. I've said that every rock and roll harp player learned from Sonny whether he knew it or not ... their rendition of Michael Franks' "White Boy Lost in the Blues" with Mayall still makes me laugh.

Arlo Guthrie (whose dad was friends with B&S) joins in as does Sugarcane Harris, John Hammond, John Mayall and Michael Franks.

Politics? From old "politics via analogy" to the best ever cover of Randy Newman's "Sail Away"
...

Music? Brownie's solid, clean guitar work and vocals backed by Sonny is always the best. Here we get great, sweeping gospel treatments with Sonny's whoopin and blowin falling right into the groove.

For me it doesn't get much better than this. Traditional blues merging with the best of the "folk" and rock it spawned. Listen to this recording! ---Tommy, amazon.com

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