Kenny Burrell – Midnight Blue (1999)

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1. Chitlins Con Carne (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 5:30 2. Mule (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 6:57 3. Soul Lament (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 2:43 play 4. Midnight Blue (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 4:01 play 5. Wavy Gravy (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 5:47 6. Gee Baby, Ain't I Good To You (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 4:25 7. Saturday Night Blues (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 6:15 8. Kenny's Sound (Take 10) (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 4:42 9. K Twist (Take 35) (Rudy Van Gelder Edition) 3:38 Musicians: Kenny Burrell – guitar Stanley Turrentine – tenor saxophone Major Holley Billy Gene English – drums bass Ray Barretto - conga

Kenny Burrell's music is a wonderful blend of elegance and conviction, musical inventiveness and thoughtful restraint. On this 1967 session, the guitarist is joined by regular associates--tenorist Stanley Turrentine, conga drummer Ray Barretto, bassist Major Holley, and drummer Bill English--and together they concentrate on the subtlest and deepest hues of the blues, combining strong rhythmic grooves with a feeling of late-night reflection. There's never a misstep or a superfluous note, from the funky Latin hit "Chitlins Con Carne" to Burrell's deeply felt solo "Soul Lament" and the concentrated swing of "Gee, Baby, Ain't I Good to You." The result is a masterpiece, and the 24-bit remastering by the original engineer, Rudy Van Gelder, adds to the spaciousness and intimacy that have always been hallmarks of the session. ---Stuart Broomer

This album is one of guitarist Kenny Burrell's best-known sessions for the Blue Note label. Burrell is matched with tenor saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, bassist Major Holley, drummer Bill English, and Ray Barretto on conga for a blues-oriented date highlighted by "Chitlins Con

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Carne," "Midnight Blue," "Saturday Night Blues," and the lone standard "Gee Baby Ain't I Good to You." ---Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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