

## The Ultimate Jazz Archive Vol.63 – Howlin' Wolf [1951-1952] [2005]

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### The Ultimate Jazz Archive Vol.63 – Howlin' Wolf [1951-1952] [2005]



*01. Moanin' At Midnight 02. How Many More Years 03. Riding In The Moonlight 04. Dog Me Around 05. Morning At Midnight 06. Keep What You Got 07. Riding In The Moonlight 08. House Rockin' Boogie 09. Crying At Daybreak 10. Passing By Blues 11. My Baby Stole Off 12. I Want Your Picture 13. The Wolf Is At Your Door (Howlin' For My Baby) 14. California Blues 15. California Boogie 16. Look-A-Here Baby 17. Howlin' Wolf Boogie 18. Smile At Me 19. Gettin' Old And Gray 20. Mr. Highway Man 21. My Baby Walked Off 22. C. V. Wine Blues 23. My Troubles And Me 24. Chocolate Drop 25. Highway Man*

Chester Arthur Burnett (June 10, 1910 – January 10, 1976), known as Howlin' Wolf, was an influential American blues singer, guitarist and harmonica player.

With a booming voice and looming physical presence, Burnett is commonly ranked among the leading performers in electric blues; musician and critic Cub Koda declared, “no one could match Howlin' Wolf for the singular ability to rock the house down to the foundation while simultaneously scaring its patrons out of its wits.” A number of songs written or popularized by Burnett—such as “Smokestack Lightnin'”, “Back Door Man”, “Killing Floor” and “Spoonful”—have become blues and blues rock standards.

At 6 feet, 6 inches (198 cm) and close to 300 pounds (136 kg), he was an imposing presence with one of the loudest and most memorable voices of all the “classic” 1950s Chicago blues singers. This rough-edged, slightly fearsome musical style is often contrasted with the less crude but still powerful presentation of his contemporary and professional rival, Muddy Waters. Howlin' Wolf, Sonny Boy Williamson (Rice Miller), Little Walter Jacobs, and Muddy Waters are usually regarded in retrospect as the greatest blues artists who recorded for Chess in Chicago. Sam Phillips once remarked, “When I heard Howlin' Wolf, I said, ‘This is for me. This is where the soul of man never dies.’” In 2004, Rolling Stone magazine ranked him #51 on their list of the

“100 Greatest Artists of All Time”.

Burnett died at Hines VA Hospital in Hines, Illinois on January 10, 1976 and was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Hillside, Cook County, Illinois in a plot in Section 18, on the east side of the road. His large gravestone, allegedly purchased by Eric Clapton, has an image of a guitar and harmonica etched into it.

The Howlin’ Wolf Memorial Blues Festival is held each year in West Point, Mississippi. Wolf’s Juke Joint Jam is another annual Howlin’ Wolf tribute festival held in West Point. Some of the artists who have played ‘Wolf Jam’ include Wolf’s lead guitarist Hubert Sumlin, Muddy Waters’ back band of Willie “Big Eyes” Smith, Calvin “Fuzz” Jones and “Steady Rollin” Bob Margolin, Willie King, Blind Mississippi Morris, Kenny Brown, Burnside Exploration, etc. The festival is held at the 500-acre (2.0 km<sup>2</sup>) festival grounds known as Waverly Waters Resort.

A popular music venue in New Orleans, Louisiana was named The Howlin’ Wolf when it opened in 1988. Burnett was portrayed by Eamonn Walker in the 2008 motion picture Cadillac Records. ---last.fm

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