Bunk Johnson - The King of The Blues (1944)

01. C.C. Rider (3:45) 02. Lowdown Blues (4:28) 03. St. Louis Blues (4:11) 04. Blue As I Can Be (voc. Myrtle Jones) (3:59) 05. Dippermouth Blues (3:47) 06. Midnight Blues (9:25) 07. Weary Blues (4:29) 08. New Iberia Blues (4:11) 09. Careless Love (4:31) 10. How Long Blues (3:46) 11. Royal Garden Blues (3:51) 12. Tishomingo Blues (4:46) 13. C.C. Rider (voc. Myrtle Jones) (4:13) Bunk Johnson – trumpet George Lewis – clarinet Jim Robinson – trombone Baby Dodds – drums Lawrence Marrero – banjo "Slow Drag" Alcide Pavageau – bass + Sidney "Jim Little" Brown – tuba (2 & 8)

Back in New Orleans during part of 1944-45, the legendary trumpeter Bunk Johnson recorded fairly extensively with his regular group of the period: trombonist Jim Robinson, clarinetist George Lewis, banjoist Lawrence Marrero, bassist Alcide "Slow Drag" Pavageau, drummer Baby Dodds and occasionally the tuba of Sidney Brown. This CD, which launched the rebirth of the American Music label, has 13 performances, including two vocals by Myrtle Jones, three songs not previously released in the U.S., and two numbers ("Weary Blues" and "How Long Blues") being put out for the first time. In general, Bunk plays very well, and the ensemble-oriented music is quite enjoyable. ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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