Eddy Clearwater - West Side Strut (2008)

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1 A Good Leavin' Alone 4:12 2 Hypnotized 4:10 3 Gotta Move On 4:39 4 Walking Through The Park 4:09 5 Do Unto Others 4:22 6 Blue Over You 3:56 7 Trouble, Trouble 6:09 8 Too Old To Get Married 3:53 9 Came Up The Hard Way 6:12 10 They Call Me The Chief 4:22 11 Rock-A-Blues Baby 3:42 12 A Time For Peace 3:20 Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater – guitars, vocals Lonnie Brooks - guitars, vocals (8) Ronnie Baker Brooks – guitar, vocals (9) Jimmy Johnson – vocals (5) Otis Clay – vocals (5) Earnest Williamson – clarinet Dennis Taylor – tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone Steve Herrman - trumpet Daryl Coutts – organ, piano Billy Branch - harmonica Carlton Armstrong, Ronnie Baker Brooks – bass Maurice "Moe" Taylor – drums Jean-Christopher Leroy, Maurice "Moe" Taylor, Ronnie Baker Brooks – percussion Steve Herrman - arranger

The Chief Eddy Clearwater's West Side Strut is his first release for the Alligator label, and while nothing here is a surprise, Clearwater's Chicago blues/Chuck Berry hybrid remains evident as he works his way through a mix of rock & roll, country, soul, and gospel. Along with Clearwater is a stellar group of fellow Windy City musicians led by second guitarist (and producer) Ronnie Baker Brooks and his band, a horn section, and appearances by Billy Branch on harp, guitarist Lonnie Brooks, and backup vocals by Otis Clay and Jimmy Johnson. Spirited cover versions of Muddy Waters' "Walking Through the Park" and Lowell Fulson's "Trouble, Trouble" are highlights, as are the gutbucket blues "A Good Leavin' Alone," "Blue Over You," and the autobiographical "They Call Me the Chief." West Side Strut is another solid effort for the Chief and Alligator, as well. ---Al Campbell, Rovi

This is one of the best Blues discs to come out this year, if not the last 5 years, with great artists like Lonnie & Ronnie Brooks, Otis Clay, Billy Branch!! Eddie "The Chief" Clearwater struts his

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legendary talents on this one. If you want to get the full effect you must catch him live... but you have to pick up this CD today... this is one of the must have Blues CDs for 2008. --- blueswebradio.com

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