Hound Dog Taylor & The House Rockers - Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festival 1973



1 Everything Is All Right 4:52 2 Blues For John Sinclair 4:35 3 Wild About You Baby 4:35 4 Roll You Money Maker 4:25 5 Ted Harvey's Slam 5:55 6 Mighty Crazy 3:47 7 1000 Miles From Nowhere 3:00 Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog" Taylor - Vocals, Guitar Brewer Phillips - Guitar Ted Harvey - Drums Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festival (Evening) 09/09/1973

Hound Dog Taylor was born in 1915 in Mississippi. He was born with 6 (six!) fingers in each hand, and his first instrument wasn't the guitar – it was the piano. However, by the time he was in his twenties he has sold his Blues soul to a super-cheap Japanese teisco guitar with a slide. His resulting trademark sound was dirty, messy, raw and totally unheard of at the time.

He quickly gathered a loyal following with his wild and unpredictable shows, and became a favorite in the Chicago South and Westside. In the 60s he formed his band, Hound Dog Taylor and the HouseRockers. All their shows started with him shouting "Hey! Let's have some fun!" before he became a tight little wad of energy and frenzy. Punk rock, anyone? He died in 1975 and his epitaph was already written by him, several decades ago. His tombstone reads "He couldn't play sh*t, but he sure made it sound good!" A true artist!

Old school Blues guitarists like Hound Dog Taylor were a HUGE inspiration for the Electric Loog Guitar (that also got some news this week on Kickstarter, if you're interested). Vintage pickups with some distortion and a slide can sound AMAZING, something you can't really get with a standard or expensive guitar – that's why lots of professional guitar players hunt down these old, beaten-up, super cheap guitars – Jack White's a huge example of this, and a big fan of the Hound Dog Taylor sound. ---loogguitars.com

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