John Mayall and Sonny Boy Williamson - Trans Atlantic Blues (2010)



CD 1 (John Mayall) 1. Room to Move 2. It Ain't Right 3. Wild About You 4. I Ain't Got You 5. All Your Love 6. Racehorse Man 7. Help me 8. Ridin' on the L & N 9. Cold Blooded Woman 10. Dirty Dozen 11. Dream About the Blues 12. Rolling With the Blues CD 2 (Sony Boy Williamson)

1. Fattenin' Frogs for Snakes 2. Bye Bye Bird 3. Easy Baby 4. Highway 69 5. Pontiac Blues 6. My Babe 7. I'm Gonna Put You Down 8. Little Girl 9. Down and out Blues 10. Baby, Please Come Back Home 11. I'm So Glad 12. Down and out Blues

This is an obvious play on the theme of Aly Bain and Jerry Douglas' brilliant Celtic, Bluegrass and Scottish jam sessions which filled up four seasons of brilliantly filmed High Definition performances with lots of famous and unsung guests.

Again, this has nothing to do with that series and although I cannot imagine a John Mayall without a Sonny Boy Williamson II (AKA Alex "Rice" Miller) coming first as an inspiration. In fact, Mayall has been quoted describing Sonny Boy as "the Jimi Hendrix of the blues harp" for his antics juggling the harp in his mouth mid-solo. I'm sure they must have jammed together or seen each other but we will never know.

But still no one even dignifies the previously-released (mostly from the Animals and the Yardbirds' albums with Sonny Boy and the Storyville Sessions that contained the best of Sonny Boy's work in Europe. I could have put together a better set list and shown John Mayall fans what Sonny Boy Was all about. In fact, even Mayall's disc included Sonny Boy's "Help Me" but not his Sonny Boy tribute "Sonny Boy Blow."

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No connection, no liner notes no discography and nothing new but still great music although there is much better. ---Bill Donoghue, Sonny Boy's biographer

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