## Lonnie Johnson - Blues By Lonnie Johnson [1960]

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Don't Ever Love -3:33
No Love For Sale - 3:02
There's No Love - 2:25
I Don't Hurt Anymore - 3:53
She-Devil - 2:53
One-Sided Love Affair - 3:12
Big Leg Woman - 3:11 play
There Must Be A Way - 3:23 play
She's Drunk Again - 3:21
Blues 'Round My Door - 3:33
You Don't Move Me - 2:12
You Will Need Me - 3:27

Lonnie Johnson (Guitar.Violin, Keyboards,Vocals), Claude Hopkins (Piano), Bobby Donaldson (Drums), Hal Singer (Sax (Tenor), Wendell Marshall (Bass)

Lonnie Johnson's influence on modern jazz and blues guitar is staggering. His intricate, fluid playing inspired a long line of musicians from Charlie Christian to Lowell Fulson. But the kind of success his scions enjoyed often eluded Johnson. These recordings took place after a determined disc jockey finally located Johnson holding down a job as a janitor in a Ben Franklin store. And while they don't display the improvisational brilliance of his youth, Johnson's playing is still sharp and almost always captivating. The songs that best capture his smooth fretwork are "She Devil," "She's Drunk Again," and "Blues Around My Door." Johnson sticks mainly to simple blues structures, and there is one riff he revisits a little too often. But his dignified field holler still carries the power of 10 hurricanes, and strong sax work by Hal Singer keeps spirits high. --Ken

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Hohman

After four years off records and in obscurity, Lonnie Johnson launched his final comeback with this release, which has been reissued on CD. Teamed with tenor saxophonist Hal Singer, pianist Claude Hopkins, bassist Wendell Marshall and drummer Bobby Donaldson, Johnson sings and plays guitar on a variety of blues, showing that the layoff (he was working at the time as a janitor) had not hurt his abilities in the slightest. ---Scott Yanow, allmusic.com

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