

Sonny Terry - Sonny Is King (1963)



1. *One Monkey Don't Stop The Show* 2. *Changed The Lock On My Door* 3. *Tater Pie* 4. *She's So Sweet* 5. *Diggin' My Potatoes* 6. *Sonny's Coming* 7. *Ida Mae* 8. *Callin' My Mama* 9. *Bad Luck* 10. *Blues From The Bottom* Personnel: Sonny Terry (vocals, mouthharp), Lightnin' Hopkins, Brownie McGhee (guitars), Leonard Gaskin (bass), Belton Evans (drums).

Half of *Sonny Is King* is devoted to a rare session between Sonny Terry and Lightnin' Hopkins. The two guitarists are supported by bassist Leonard Gaskin and drummer Belton Evans, but the rhythm section fails to kick the pair into overdrive, and much of the music disappointingly meanders. Sometimes change is not a good thing. That's proven by the second side of the album, where Terry falls into the comfortable setting of duetting with Brownie McGhee. While these aren't among the duo's very best recordings, they are nonetheless enjoyable, suggesting that there's something to be said for the familiar. ---Thom Owens, Rovi

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