

The Daddy Mack Blues Band



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Razor Blade	Blues	Play Song	Download
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Daddy Mack Blues Band is part of a fraternity of down-home Memphis blues performers that presently includes Earl The Pearl Banks and the Peoples of the Blues, Big Lucky Carter and His Mighty Men of Sound, and the Hollywood All-Stars. These bands keep the traditional sounds of Memphis blues alive, performing their funky brand of music in neighborhood bars and juke joints. This is blues for a good time dancing, drinking, and getting loose on Saturday night. Mack and the band all have ties to the great Memphis blues combo, the Fieldstones all were members of the band between 1991 and 1994. When the Fieldstones finally broke up in 1994, they continued performing together as the house band at the legendary Greens Lounge. Since then, the band has been cranking out their infectious grooves around Memphis all week long. Individually the members of the group have deep roots in Memphis music tradition. Brothers James and Harold Bonner on guitar and bass form the nucleus of the band, having performed together for over thirty years. Born and raised in Memphis, the Bonners grew up immersed in the city's R&B and blues sounds. Harold started playing bass in 1965 at ten years old, while James picked up the guitar in 1967 when he was fifteen. Their first band together was called the Soul Magnatones, a rhythm & blues congo in the style of Stax Records Bar-Kays. James in particular was influenced early on by the Stax sound, especially guitarist Steve Cropper. Wilroy Wolf Sanders, Jr., is the son of Wilroy Sr., one of the original members of the Fieldstones. Wolf grew up around the blues playing drums with his father and in local bands. Despite picking up the guitar at the age of 40, Daddy Mack (Mack Arthur Orr) developed a unique and expressive style rooted in the deep tradition of Memphis guitarists. Mack was born in Como, Mississippi, February 21, 1945. He moved to Memphis in 1965. His biggest influence is blues legend Albert King, who recorded at Stax in the 1960s and 1970s. Among Macks other influences are Little Joe Blue and Gary B.B. Coleman. Mack included a Coleman composition (Its Almost Time To Leave) on this record. By day Mack works as an auto mechanic in the garage he owns. Many of the ideas for Macks songs come from listening to customers. Perhaps the most striking lyric on this recording is in the song Razor Blade; Baby, Id slide down a razor into a pool of alcohol to be with you. This raw, undiluted statement of desire came to Mack as he listened to two men taling on the street. Yah, I just heard these two fellas talking about a woman. One of them really was hot for her. He said hed even slide down a razor into alcohol to get with her. I just liked the way that sounded to me. All of Macks songs reflect his understanding of the different ways the blues can appear in a persons life. His songs are about feeling good when youre down and out and the stark realities of loss and betrayal. The Weekend is simply about heading down to the casinos in nearby Tunica, Mississippi, to gamble and have a good time. Whatever the song is about, Mack and the band put it to music that is full of groove. The band is known for their extended versions of songs that allow them to stretch out their playing and and keep the dancers happy and out of breath. Their version of Donny Hathaways The Ghetto gives a good idea of how the band can slip into a pocket and push a song into a funky state of Nirvana. Memphis blues is alive and well with band like Daddy Macks still serving it up with all the raw, greasy energy that much of contemporary blues is missing. Macks brand of blues is satisfying to the soul and just like Memphis barbecue tastes good going down.