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Mississippi Blues BUKKA WHITE

AIM 0007 CD

1. *Shake 'Em On Down*
2. *I Am In The Heavenly Way*
3. *Atlanta Special*
4. *Drunk Man Blues*
5. *Army Blues*
6. *Aberdeen, Mississippi Blues*
7. *Baby Please Don't Go*
8. *New Orleans, Streamline*
9. *Parchman Farm Blues*
10. *Poor Boy Long Way From Home*
11. *Remembrance of Charley Patton*

"Bukka" White, was born Booker T. Washington White on November 12 1909, in Houston, Mississippi, and died on January 26, 1977 in Memphis, Tennessee.

He was a traditional Mississippi Blues Singer and Slide Guitarist who came from the Hill Country of Eastern Mississippi and who moved to the Delta as a young man, where he came under the influence of Charley Patton.

He began recording in 1930, and in 1937 had the hit "Shake 'Em On Down" (later recorded by Led Zeppelin).

White's droning, hypnotic, percussive guitar style featured repeated riffs played on slide, and was accompanied by his rich voice. He was one of the first to play his guitar in a way that imitated the sound of a fast train.

He was sentenced to the notorious Parchman Farm State Penitentiary for two years in 1938, and he headed for Chicago on his release in 1940, where he recorded music that has been called 'brilliant', detailing the various aspects of his prison experience, and other topics like illness, death and depression. His music was 'too far out' for the commercial blues mainstream of the early 1940's, and combined with the rise of electric Chicago Blues, he fell out of favour with blues audiences, and returned to Memphis, and became a labourer.

In 1963, two Blues purists, John Fahey and Ed Denson, travelled to Memphis from California, found White, and recorded him there.

Knowing that there was no guarantee that he would ever record again, (it had been over twenty years since his last recording), White poured everything he had that afternoon into the songs recorded in his room in his boarding house, reprising much of his classic early repertoire, and, able to record these songs in longer versions, which the technology of the sixties allowed, for the first time, White revealed a level of playing that was simply a revelation.

The resultant recording "Mississippi Blues", is one of the classic 'rediscovery' albums, and helped cause Bukka White, to be regarded amongst the finest of the Delta Blues Greats, along with Charley Patton, Tommy Johnson and Robert Johnson.

AIM is truly proud to release the classic "Mississippi Blues" on its Legendary Masters Series.

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