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AVAILABLE NOW

Memphis Minnie

Me & My Chauffeur Blues

BLUES



Memphis Minnie ranks with MA RAINEY, BESSIE SMITH, and BIG MAMA THORNTON as one of the blues' most influential and historically significant female artists. The most popular and prolific blueswoman outside the vaudeville tradition, she earned the respect of critics, the support of record-buying fans, and the unqualified praise of the blues artists she worked with throughout her long career. Despite her Southern roots and popularity, she was as much a Chicago blues artist as anyone in her day.

Minnie's roots were in country blues, a style of music dominated by men. Minnie was an excellent composer, an able guitarist and authoritative singer who packed her notes with punch and rough-edged passion. Songs written by Minnie such as "Bumble Bee", "Hoodoo Lady", and "I Want Something For You" are genuine blues classics. Her command of the blues was such that her recording career spanned more than 30 years and survived the numerous stylistic shifts that occurred within the blues. She influenced a number of prominent blues singers from MUDDY WATERS on down and managed to keep a female presence in what became an increasingly male dominated industry.

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