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Jimmy Reed
his greatest recordings

Original Classic Recordings Series
Contains The Hits: Baby What You Want Me To Do,
Big Boss Man, Bright Lights Big City, Honest I Do,
Ain't That Lovin' You Baby, I Ain't Got You,
You Don't Have To Go... and more

Jimmy Reed

His Greatest Recordings

AIM 9001 CD

1. You Don't Have To Go
2. I Ain't Got You
3. She Don't Want Me No More
4. Ain't That Lovin' You Baby
5. You Got Me Dizzy
6. The Sun Is Shining
7. Little Rain
8. Honest I Do
9. Down In Virginia
10. I Wanna Be Loved
11. Take Out Some Insurance
12. Baby What You Want Me To Do
13. Hush Hush
14. Found Love
15. Big Boss Man
16. I'm A Love You
17. Aw Shucks Hush Your Mouth
18. Bright Lights Big City
19. Laughing At The Blues
20. Shame Shame Shame

Jimmy Reed was the most successful Blues artist of the fifties. At a time when Howlin' Wolf and Muddy Waters appealed almost exclusively to black, Reed was selling records to both blacks and a large amount of whites. He had 11 records in the Billboard Top 100, the only major blues based artist with more was Chuck Berry.

He was an influence on a generation of musicians who grew up in the 60', including Bob Dylan & the Rolling Stones, and many of his songs became a part of the repertoire of blues based bands the world over.

Jimmy Reed was born 6th September, 1925 at Leland, Mississippi, and made his way north to Chicago in the mid 1940's, where he became one of the select group of Mississippian blues musicians to forge the Chicago Blues style. He formed a childhood friendship with guitarist Eddie Taylor, who also moved to Chicago in the 40's, and who would contribute a large amount to Reed's future style.

Another contributor to his success was Mary Lee "Big Mama" Reed, who wrote many of his songs. Yet it was Reed himself who delivered the goods which made his music so distinctive and popular.

Jimmy Reed signed to Vee-Jay Records in 1953, and although his releases from that time are highly prized by blues collectors, it was not until 1955 that Reed had the first of 13 R&B chart hits (12 Billboard Top 100 hits) that would extend until 1963, "You Don't Have To Go" #9 R&B 1955 was the first in a long line of hits. The next year he hit with "Ain't That Lovin' You Baby" #7 R&B, he then followed in 1957 with "You've Got Me Dizzy". Other hits include "The Sun Is Shining" #5 R&B 1957, "Honest I Do" #10 Billboard Top 100, 1957, "Down In Virginia" #93 R&B, "Baby, What You Want Me To Do" #10 Billboard Top 100 #37 R&B, "Found Love" #88 R&B 1960, "Hush Hush" #75 R&B, 1960 "Big Boss Man" #78 R&B, 1961, "Bright Lights, Big City" #58 R&B, 1961, "Close Together" #68 R&B 1961, "Aw Shucks, Hush Your Mouth" #93 R&B, 1962, "Good Lover" #77 R&B, 1962, "Shame, Shame, Shame" #52 R&B 1963.

Numerous artists have performed Jimmy Reed's songs, including Aretha Franklin and the Rolling Stones - Honest I Do, Elvis Presley - Baby, What You Want Me To Do.

Jimmy Reed, who suffered from epilepsy, died in his sleep at the age of 50 in 1976.

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