

JAZZ 'N BLUES REVIEWS

ⓐ DISK & SLEEPER	ⓐ GOOD
ⓑ EXCELLENT	ⓑ FAIR
ⓓ VERY GOOD	ⓓ MEDIOCRE

THE CASH BOX

★ AWARD O' THE WEEK ★

"CALL OPERATOR 210"
"BABY BABY BLUES"

MEL WALKER & JOHNNY OTIS
(Mercury 8289)

● A currently hot item in the blues field is given an excellent reading by Mel Walker, who handles the vocal, and Johnny Otis on the instrumental end. The tune is a slow beat low down number that Walker chants with feeling. His dramatic delivery of the sentimental lyrics receives the polished support of the Otis aggregation. Orking is smooth and is in no

small way responsible for the effective waxing that the collaborating artists turn out. The under portion is a moderate tempo piece that Mel and Johnny do a solid job with. Tune is a rhythmic number and Walker sings the cute lyrics with zest. The musical backdrop is up to the usual Otis standards and the result is a fine backing although we look for the upper deck to break fast.

THE SONS OF CALVARY (Score 5038)

ⓐ "JESUS WILL HELP ME" (2:55) The Sons of Calvary, with a smooth voiced lead and easy chorus chanting, wax a light jubilee gospel number.

ⓐ "FRIEND OF MINE" (3:15) The group sings a slow beat inspirational number that changes to a shouty rendition at midpoint.

MICKEY CHAMPION (Aladdin 3137)

ⓐ "TWO FACED DADDY" (2:55) Mickey Champion does an enthusiastic vocal bit on a moderate beat blues. The fem thrush handles the cute lyrics expressively as she is supported by Maxwell Davis and his All Stars.

ⓑ "DON'T SAY YOU LOVE ME" (2:53) The same artists collaborate on a slow sentimental piece. Dynamic chanting and solid orking make this a strong contender.

ARNETT COBB (Okeh 6887)

ⓑ "OPEN HOUSE" (2:46) A quick beat item is given an instrumental waxing by the Arnett Cobb orchestra and the result is a happy sounding effort excitingly done. Arrangement of the tune features the brass section. Blend of the instruments produces an interesting sound.

ⓑ "WHISPERING" (2:51) The flip side is another excellent rendition of the moderate beat oldie.

AHMAD JAMAL'S THREE STRINGS (Okeh 6889)

ⓑ "PERFIDIA" (2:53) Ahmad Jamal's Three Strings run through the Latin beat oldie that is currently being revived in the pop field. An exciting arrangement, softly done, with a rhythmic undertone, makes this a solid side.

ⓑ "BILLY BOY" (2:37) The under-deck is a fast tempo oldie done with a latin rhythm. The group's instrumental treatment makes this a desirable disk.

THE FOUR INTERNES (Federal 12086; 45-12086)

ⓐ "IN THAT GREAT REUNION" (2:08) The Four Internes do a slow spiritual with an easy delivery that becomes a moderate beat rhythmic number about midway, with the harmonizing on the shouty side.

ⓐ "ONE OF THE MORNINGS" (2:19) The group belts out a wildish jubilee type spiritual aided by shouty chanting and rhythmic handclapping.

L. C. WILLIAMS (Imperial 5195)

ⓑ "ALL THROUGH MY DREAMS" (2:56) L. C. Williams chants a slow blues with a low down treatment. The artist sings the romantic lyrics backed with some rambling pianoing and solid guitaring.

ⓐ "WANT MY BABY BACK" (2:25) Flip is a similar item handled smoothly by the singer.

JOE HOUSTON (Imperial 5196)

ⓑ "BOBBY SOX RAMBLE" (2:09) A fast tempo instrumental is treated to the expert orking of Joe Houston and his group. Solid horn blowing stands out on the waxing.

ⓐ "HURRICANE" (2:50) The instrumental aggregation drive out a wild beat jump tune. As on the upper deck, the horn blowing is featured.

THE CASH BOX

Jazz 'n Blues

SLEEPER OF THE WEEK

"MAM'SELLE" (2:30)
"CALYPSO SONG" (2:00)

THE RAVENS
(Okeh 6888)



THE RAVENS

● The Ravens dig deep into the oldies for their newest release and come up with that melodic and appealing "Mam'selle". The group

blends its voices excitingly as it handles a rhythmic and exhilarating arrangement with zest and polish. The orking of the moderate beat item is solid, with emphasis on a sax solo, and does much to lift the dinking into the "hit" class. This end fills the requirements needed to rise to the top. It has the tune, the arrangement, and most important, the talent. Ops had better not hesitate with this one. Flip "Calypso Song", is a rhythmic ditty that shows the group off to good advantage. The Ravens handle the happy tune with style.

THE FIVE KEYS (Aladdin 3136)

ⓑ "I HADN'T ANYONE TILL YOU" (3:12) Taking hold of a slow soft item, The Five Keys give it their individual treatment and come up with a strong side.

ⓑ "HOLD ME" (2:02) The under siding is a change of pace item that The Five Keys harmonize smoothly. The fast beat oldie is sung in different tempo off and on to make it an effective reading.

DAVE BARTHOLOMEW (King 4544)

ⓐ "MY DING A LING" (2:49) A double entendre item is given the cute treatment by Dave Bartholomew. Soft orking of the moderate beat item supports the singer.

ⓐ "BAD HABIT" (2:49) The under deck is a slow blues effectively presented by the artist.

THE GAYLORDS (Savoy 852)

ⓑ "GO ON, BABY" (2:43) A wildish waxing with a fast moving beat, is enhanced with handclapping, shouts in the background, and deep voiced inserts from time to time. Lead singer comes through in fine style.

ⓑ "GET MAD, BABY" (2:41) Another driving side with cute lyrics handled with gusto by the Gaylords.

THE GAY SISTERS (Savoy 4037)

ⓐ "OH LORD, SOMEBODY TOUCHED ME" (2:44) The Gay Sisters give a shouty reading of a fast beat rhythmic gospel item. Piano and organ provide the musical assist.

ⓐ "HE KNOWS HOW MUCH WE CAN BEAR" (2:43) The sisters do a change of pace as they sing a slow spiritual.

PRESTON LOVE (Federal 12085; 45-12085)

ⓑ "STRICTLY CASH" (2:29) With a driving item as material, Preston Love and His Orchestra wing their way through an exciting instrumental rendition. Solid saxing stands out in the fine treatment.

ⓑ "LIKE A SHIP AT SEA" (2:45) Love and the ork run through a slow oldie in grand style.