The John Lee Hooker Session Discography
- compiled by Claus Röhnisch

The R&B Pioneers Series – Volume Two of twelve
The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B Site Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

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Below: Hooker’s first record, his JVB single of 1953, and the famous “Boom Boom”. The “Hooker” Box, Vee-Jay’s version of the Hooker classic, the original “The Healer” album on Chameleon, BluesWay 1968 single “Mr. Lucky”, the Craft Recordings album of March 2017, and the French version of the Crown LP “The Blues”. Right: Hooker in his prime. Two images from Hooker’s grave in the Chapel of The Chimes, Oakland, California; and a Mississippi Blues Trail Marker on Hwy. 3 in Quitman County (Vance, Mississippi memorial stone - note birth date c. 1917).
December 31, 1948 (probably not, but possibly early 1949) - very rare (and very early) publicity photo of the new-found Blues Star (playin' his Gibson ES 175). Inserted top: the Clarksdale area. Inserted bottom: The Cash Box, race record reviews, March 5, 1949 of Hooker's very first single (ctsy fixbutte, 45worlds.com), issued November 3, 1948. It was recorded on September 3, and hit the Race Records Chart on January 8, 1949. Top left: The 20-627 record is the original issue of "Boogie Chillen", originally the B-side - "Sally May" the A-side. Note the times presented (they are wrong). Modern 627 is an early repressing. All of Modern's early 78 singles had the 20-prefix up to early 1951 (the last Hooker one was 20-814).
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The John Lee Hooker Session Discography - The World’s Greatest Blues Singer

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The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

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INTRO:
1966 I’ll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive
1949 Hobo Blues
1955 Hug And Squeeze
1970 House Rent Boogie (Blues)
1951 Just Me And My Telephone
1957 I See You When You’re Weak
1974 Homework

“The Essentials”
ONE SONG PER DECADE + BONUS
1949 Boogie Chillen’
1951 I’m In The Mood
1956 Dimples
1961 Boom Boom! (and from “Blues Brothers”)
1971 Doin’ The Shout
1981 So Cold In Chicago (w Deacon Jones)
1991 Same Old Blues Again
2001 Loving People (remix)

EIGHT SUPER CLASSICS
1960 Whiskey And Wimmen
1949 Crawlin’ King Snake
1958 I Love You Honey
1954 Baby You Ain’t No Good
1960 No Shoes
1964 It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)
1974 Bluebird
1988 The Healer (w Carlos Santana)

EXIT:
1950 Notoriety Woman
1965 Bottle Up And Go
1952 Blues For Big Town
1962 Let’s Make It Baby (live audience)
1963 Birmingham Blues
1996 Don’t Look Back (w Van Morrison)
1961 I’m Going Upstairs
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

The 4CD "book-set" of 1994 that got sued (and had to be taken out of catalogue).

Images left and right: “Two sides of John Lee Hooker” – six Vee-Jay and the same six songs recorded in the 1990s Vee-Jay/Original Blues Classics vinyl LP VOR-37907-01 (issued Nov. 2015).

CLEVELAND, MISS. (May 1, 2017) — The GRAMMY Museum®, in conjunction with the Delta Blues Museum, the International Conference on the Blues, and Craft Recordings, The Catalog Division of Concord Music Group, will celebrate the centennial of the legendary GRAMMY®-winning bluesman with the opening of a new exhibit titled John Lee Hooker: King of the Boogie, on Aug. 22, 2017, at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi in Cleveland, Miss., Hooker’s home state.

The exhibit will open on what would have been the late blues icon’s 100th birthday and will celebrate Hooker’s lasting legacy through rare recordings, photos and one-of-a-kind artifacts. The exhibit is part of a year-long celebration of Hooker’s musical legacy that features special releases from Craft Recordings, a conference at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., and special exhibits at the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, Miss., and the Memphis-based Blues Foundation. The exhibit’s official media partners are Oxford American and Living Blues.

"John Lee Hooker was truly a seminal blues artist. Many of his songs are part of America’s blues music treasury," said blues historian and Founding Executive Director of the GRAMMY Museum Bob Santelli. “In addition to impacting Blues history, Hooker’s music influenced great rock bands like The Rolling Stones, the Animals, the Yardbirds and ZZ Top. We’re thrilled to honor the King of the Boogie’s legacy and tell the story of his incredible career in his own home state.”

On display at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi throughout the fall of 2017, the exhibit will feature:

• Rare and never-before-heard recordings from Hooker
• Instruments such as Hooker’s Gibson ES-335
• Hooker’s Best Traditional Blues Album GRAMMY for 1997’s ‘Don’t Look Back,’ which was co-produced by Van Morrison and Mike Kappus
• Rare photos, performance outfits and more
• John Lee Hooker: King of the Boogie will be on display at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi from Aug. 22, 2017 through fall 2017. It will then travel to Los Angeles where it will open at the GRAMMY Museum at L.A. LIVE.

"John Lee Hooker is gone but not forgotten. In collaboration with the GRAMMY Museum, our partners, the John Lee Hooker family is pleased and honored to be a part of this celebration of John Lee Hooker’s amazing life and his love of the music that he shared with the world." — Diane Ruon-Hooker and Zakiya Hooker, daughters of the legendary blues artist.

To celebrate 100 years of Hooker’s music, Craft Recordings will issue a series of titles throughout 2017, culminating with a centennial CD box set, offering 100 career-spanning hits and rarities, plus previously unreleased material. Craft will also release several earlier Hooker titles on 180-gram vinyl, as well as digitally, in hi-res and MP3 formats. To kick off the centennial celebrations, the label issued a 16-track collection of songs from the prime of Hooker’s career on its Vee-Jay imprint. Whiskey & Wimmen: John Lee Hooker’s Finest was released March 31 on vinyl and CD, offering classic tracks from the ‘50s and ‘60s, including “Boo-Bom Boom” and “Dimples.”

Other organizations celebrating the centennial include the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, Miss., which will host a special exhibit about Hooker featuring clothing, guitars, recordings, and more, opening in July. The celebration will continue through August as the museum celebrates its annual “John Lee Hooker Month” at the Delta Blues Museum. The Delta Blues Museum Band will perform Hooker’s songs when they open the 30th Annual Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival on August 11. The festival will run through Aug. 13. More information about celebratory activities at the Delta Blues Museum can be found at deltabluesmuseum.org.

Hooker’s 1996 album, Real Folk Blues, is being inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame at a ceremony coordinated by The Blues Foundation on May 10 in Memphis. In addition, The Blues Foundation will be opening a new exhibit, The Rosedale Agency and Mike Kappus: 45+ Years Sharing the Music, which will include a special display of Hooker artifacts, curated by Mike Kappus, long-time manager of John Lee Hooker. That exhibit will open on May 10, in conjunction with the Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and will run through October 2017.

In addition, the Fourth Annual International Conference on the Blues at Delta State University is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1 through Tuesday, Oct. 3. With an established record of attracting internationally renowned blues scholars and GRAMMY Award-winning talent, the upcoming conference promises to deliver an extra dose of educational and celebratory flair. In partnership with GRAMMY Museum Mississippi, the International Conference on the Blues will commemorate the John Lee Hooker Centennial this year.

To stay abreast of developments with the conference, visit www.deltastate.edu/bluesconference/.

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Whiskey & Wimmen: John Lee Hooker’s Finest

Released: March 31, 2017 (Vee-Jay Craft CD 02058)

Label: Vee-Jay Records / Concord Music Group (Universal)

Details: CD and vinyl with high quality sound

Compilation producer: Mason Williams in assoc with Zakiya Hooker

This new collection features some of John Lee Hooker’s most celebrated recordings from the prime of his career. Spanning his time on Vee-Jay, Stax, and Riverside Records, the album includes signature hits as “Boo-Bombo,” “Dimples” and “Big Legs, Tight Skirt.” New liner notes by music journalist Bill Dahl, lots of rare photos, and a detailed discography round out the package.

Tracks:

1961 Boo-Bombo
1959 Boogie Chillun’
1956 Dimples
1959 I’m In The Mood
1958 I Love You Honey
1960 Whiskey And Wimmen
1960 I Need Some Money
1961 Grinder Man
1961 I’m Going Upstairs
1964 Big Legs, Tight Skirt
1960 No More Doggin’
1960 No Shoes
1959 Crawlin’ Kingsnake
1962 Frisco Blues
1964 It Serves Me Right
1955 Time Is Marching

Note: “No More Doggin” listed as the 1954 Specialty recording (Concord has the right to it), but it is the Riverside acoustic one which appears.
Centennial CD box set, offering 100 career-spanning hits and rarities, plus previously unreleased material on Craft Recordings (CR00015).

**King of the Boogie – 5CD “Book Box Set”**

**New 5CD, 100-Track Book-Box For John Lee Hooker, King Of The Boogie**

By MA Rowe on 25 July, 2017 at 6:09 AM (edited by CR)

This is the 100th year of the birth date of Blues great, John Lee Hooker. It would be criminal to not acknowledge it in some way. Over the course of John Lee Hooker’s prolific career, he released well over 50 albums beginning with his Chess Records album issue, *House Of The Blues*, back in 1959 (debatable; it may probably have been Vee-Jay’s *I’m John Lee Hooker* and/or Riverside’s *The Country Blues of...*). He warmed the heart of many a Rock fan, and Rock stars. Before the albums arrived, he released a string of iconic singles including “Boogie Chillen” from 1948.

With this upcoming milestone, the newly formed Universal brand of Craft Recordings releases a 5CD collection of John Lee Hooker songs that represent his wonderful and extensive career. The box will be featured within a softbound book filled with photos, words, invaluable information, and other things. The set will provide new liner notes by Hooker historian, Jas Obrecht, as well as ruminations by his longtime manager, Mike Kappus. Musically, this set, called *King Of The Boogie*, offers 100 tracks. Those songs will be some that you know well, some live material, some that are rare, and even some that have been previously unreleased (really?!). *King Of The Boogie* is released in October 2017. Only 38 tracks of the Hooker Box are also on this book-box.

**Producer of the Book-Box:** Mason Williams in assoc with John Lee Hooker Foundation.

A very diversified issue in a superb “Book” cover. See page 12 for reviews and comments!
**Product Description:** Craft Recordings CR00015

Known to music fans around the world as the "King of the Boogie", John Lee Hooker endures as one of the true superstars of the blues genre. His work is widely recognized for its impact on modern music – his simple, yet deeply effective songs transcend borders and languages around the globe. Each decade of Hooker's long career brought a new generation of fans and fresh opportunities for the ever-evolving artist, and he regularly toured and recorded up until his passing in 2001. (*# also on Shout!Factory "Hooker" Box*

John Lee Hooker would have been 100 years old on August 22nd, 2017. To celebrate his centennial, a handful of high-profile events have been planned to honor the legendary Bluesman, including King Of The Boogie-themed exhibitions at the GRAMMY Museum and Blues Foundation. This special box set from Craft Recordings celebrates the music of John Lee Hooker in true style. 100 songs on five CDs span the artist’s career, covering not only his iconic hits, but also diving deep into his catalog for rare tracks, live recordings and previously unreleased material. Presented in a book format, the collection includes 56-pages of rare photos and new liner notes by writer and John Lee Hooker historian Jas Obrecht, as well as by Hooker’s longtime manager Mike Kappus.

*# noted previously unreleased*
King of the Boogie – 5CD Book-Box-Set on Craft Recordings - Part Two

**Disc 4: Live Recordings 1960-1983**

1. Hobo Blues (Vanguard/VJ 1960)
2. Maudie (Vanguard/VJ 1960)
3. Shake It Baby (Brunswick 1962)
4. Boogie Chillun (Fantasy rec 1962, issued 1974)
5. Bottle Up And Go (Fantasy rec 1962, issued 2002)
6. Crawlin’ King Snake (Fantasy as above)
7. The Mighty Fire (Vanguard/VJ 1963)
8. You’ve Got To Walk Yourself (Vanguard/VJ 1963)
9. I’m Bad Like Jesse James (Bluesway 1967)
10. Boogie Everywhere I Go (ABC 1973)
11. She’s Gone* (bootleg rec. at Metropol, Berlin May 9, 1983)
12. It Serves Me Right To Suffer* (as above)
13. Hi-Heel Sneakers* (as above) last four issued on a bootleg CD
14. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer* (as above, unissued)

*Note: original issue dates on all five discs, unless otherwise noted.

**Disc 5: JLH with his Friends 1952-1998**

1. I Got Eyes For You - with "Little" Eddie Kirkland (Modern 1952)
2. Mai Lee - with The Groundhogs (Verve-Forecast 1965)
3. Peavine - with Canned Heat (Liberty 1971) #
5. Five Long Years - with Joe Cocker (ABC 1974)
6. The Healer - with Carlos Santana (Chameleon rec 1988) #
7. I’m In The Mood - with Bonnie Raitt (Chameleon rec 1988) #
8. Sally Mae - with George Thorogood (Chameleon rec 1988)
9. Mr. Lucky - with Robert Cray (Pointblank 1991) #
14. Dimples - with Los Lobos (Pointblank 1997) #

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Matt Bauer, October 2, 2017:

At a hundred songs and five discs, box set King of the Boogie cuts right to the essence of John Lee Hooker. The blues icon’s hypnotic and idiosyncratic style—a clipped acoustic rhythmic guitar hung on a single chord and moaning vocals accompanied with his own foot taps—was captured to devastating effect on his first recording session, which yielded “Boogie Chillen,” one of the biggest R&B hits of the post-war blues era. Followup singles like “Crawling King Snake” helped cement Hooker’s presence, and the wisely chronological sequencing on the first three discs not only charts his evolution as an artist (including his embrace of electric guitar and the addition of band members like guitarists Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor), but the development of blues itself, with such deeply influential cuts recorded for the Vee-Jay label as 1956’s “Dimples” and 1961’s “Boom Boom,” building blocks in the development of rock music. But the great thing is that there’s track by track information that’s invaluable to Hooker fans...

Claus Röhnisch, October 12, 2017:

I have now listened to all 100 recordings (package arrived today). It looks like “Lay My Burden Down” is about the only track not issued before. It sounds like a Riverside recording of the 1960 session (Hooker v/c gtr plus drums, and possible bass). “Meat Shakes On Her Bone” (in stereo) sounds very much like the Guest Star “Talkin’ Bout My Baby” (which was not issued on Atlantic or Stax—and of which I have no vinyl left in my collection). Four of the last five live recordings have been issued before on a very rare German bootleg in 2008. It was a live radio broadcast of 1983, which also featured “One Bourbon…” (the last track of CD4 here). They all are interesting things—four boogies and a very nice version of “It Serves Me Right To Suffer” with Hooker’s Coast to Coast Blues Band, featuring Deacon Jones, ox; Mike Osborn (sic Osborn), gtr; Stephan Arthur Erman, bs; and Tim Richards, dms. “Sally May” is the “Sally Mae” Crown 5157 LP version (but listed as the original single version). “I’m In The Mood” is listed without Kirkland’s gtr (assuming Hooker is doubletracked also on guitar – personally I think it is BOTH).

The best things with this book-box are the design, the fine liner notes, the detailed sessionography, based on the latest information to make it as correct as possible. Maybe the compilers (Mason Williams, nowadays top producer at Craft Recordings, and Roger Armstrong, the UK Ace “boss”) took a peek at my discography? The fact that only 38 tracks of the 100 also can be found in the “Hooker” Box of 2006 is also a great plus.

Excerpt from a review in amazon.com by Stuart Jefferson October 6, 2017

At this point there’s probably not to many blues fans who don’t already own a few Hooker albums and/or box sets of his music. This latest 5 CD set is a good overview of Hooker’s long life in music. But with someone as prolific as Hooker was—he recorded so many tracks both under his real name and fictitious names—this latest set can only dip into his recordings. This box is somewhere between four and five “stars”—as far as the song selection goes it does a good if not great job—so as a collection only it’s probably closer to five “stars”. The packaging is nicely done—a 6 1/2” X 9 3/4” hardcover book-style with slots in the back pages/back end papers for each disc. The essay by Jas Olbrecht helps put Hooker’s music in some perspective, and the shorter essay by Hooker’s manager Mike Kappus also helps focus light on Hooker and his music. There’s a lot of period photos in both BW and color throughout the book. But the great thing is that there’s track by track information that’s invaluable to Hooker fans. The sound overall is very good—but with older tracks mixed with later period tracks, plus live recordings, the sound is variable—a minor quibble. But blues fans are used to not having something approaching “perfect” sound……. This is a good set of Hooker’s music, especially for someone wanting a broad overview of his work. But as a blues fan I know there’s so much more great music that couldn’t be included. Hopefully for fans just coming to Hooker’s music, this box set will only what the appetite to hear much more of his music, from his early days up through his later years.
**HOOKER - 4cd-BOX-SET on ShoutFactory!**

**Issued October 31, 2006**

Catalog #: 826663-10198

**Note:** (recording revised dates)

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**Disc One:** Detroit
- 1. Boogie Chiller (9/48)
- 2. Sally Mae (9/48)
- 4. Hobo Blues (9/48)
- 5. Hoochie Coochie Man (4/49)
- 6. Weeping Willow Blues (7/49)
- 7. Crawlin’ King Snake (9/48)
- 8. Down From Door To Door (8/48)
- 10. Hoochie Coochie Man (4/49)
- 11. Baby Lee Hooker (12/49)
- 12. Wandering Blues - Texas Slim (8/49)
- 13. Don’t You Remember Me - Texas Slim (3/50)
- 14. Nostrovert Blues (4/50)
- 15. Let Your Daddy Ride (2/50)
- 17. Bumble Bee Blues - Johnny Williams (1951)
- 19. Just Me And My Telephone (5/41)
- 20. I’m In The Mood (5/41)
- 21. Blues For Big Town (1952)
- 23. Down Child (late 1953)
- 24. Boogie Rambler (5/54)
- 25. Baby You Ain’t No Good (late 1954)
- 26. I’m Ready (ca. 11/54)

**Disc Two:** Chicago
- 1. Dimples (3/56)
- 2. Every Night (3/56)
- 3. So I’m Excited (3/57)
- 4. I Love You Honey (6/58)
- 5. Tuxedo Blues (4/59)
- 6. I Need Some Money (2/60)
- 7. Democrat Man (2/60)
- 8. No More Doggin’ (2/60)
- 9. Gonna Use My Rod (2/60)
- 10. Whiskey And Wimmen (2/60)
- 11. No Shoes (2/60)
- 12. We’re All God’s Children - Sir John Lee Hooker (7/60)
- 13. I’m Goin’ Upstairs (1/61)
- 14. Teachin’ The Blues (7/61)
- 15. You Lost A Good Man (7/61)
- 16. Turn Me From Your Door (7/61)
- 17. When My First Wife Quit Me (1961)
- 18. Boom Boom

**Disc Three:** Coast to Coast
- 1. One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer (5/66)
- 2. Let’s Go Out Tonight (5/66)
- 3. Bottle Up And Go (11/65)
- 4. Let’s Make It - Live (10/65)
- 5. King Of The World (10/65)
- 6. I’m Bad Like Jesse James - Live (8/66)
- 7. Think Twice Before You Go (11/67)
- 8. Mean Mean Man (8/68)
- 9. Burning Hell
- 10. John Lee Hooker & Canned Heat (Set 4/70)
- 14. Doin’ The Shout (11/72)
- 15. Bluebird (5/74)
- 16. Early One Morning (ca 1983)
- 17. We’ll Meet Again (1986)
- 18. Loving People

**Disc Four:** Frisco
- 1. Baby Lee - John Lee Hooker & Robert Cray (10/87)
- 2. I’m The Mood - John Lee Hooker & Robert Cray (10/87)
- 3. The Healer - John Lee Hooker & Carlos Santana (9/89)
- 6. This is It - John Lee Hooker & Ry Cooder (6/91)
- 10. Chill Out (Things Gonna Change)

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**Note:** This box - even if it has 16 lesser tracks than “King of the Boogie” on Craft Recordings of 2017 - has a broader appeal, a broader view on the “full career” of John Lee (even if it contains the same number of tracks, together with, or with different labels), with each of them circling eight “extra labels” beside the “multilates”. Only 38 tracks are featured in both boxes (which means you will have 146 unique tracks on the two CDs, of course).
**AN INTRODUCTION TO JOHNNIE LEE**


In the late 60s the blues of the Hooker blues has been no figure more singular than John Lee Hooker, who has died aged 83 or 88. Where other singers rhymed, he sang in blank verse; where other guitarists might slip through two or three changes, he would play entire six, or one or two chords; and where other blues veterans were fortunate to be rediscovered once, he bounced repeatedly from obscurity back into the limelight. For most African American musicians of Hooker’s generation, to be an album Mr. Lucky would be to exercise at least a little irony, but he did enjoy more strokes of good fortune than usually come a bluesman’s way. That he could charm him, even in old age, a crowd of admiring fellow musicians and would-be collaborators was largely due to the hypnotic effect of his music, to the mantra-like chanting over the relentlessly repetitive beat of guitar and foot, which absorbs listeners into a huge heartbeat. Those qualities were evident in his first hit, Boogie Chillen’ (1948) on Modern, an apparently impromptu synthesis of spoken narrative and sung verses with abrupt gear changes on the guitar. Such structural willfulness was not uncommon among the blues musicians of the 1920s and 30s, but for much of his life Hooker was exceptional, “the last”, as Ry Cooder called him, of “those unstructured, free players.”

So popular did he become after the success of Boogie Chillen’ that Hooker briefly turned into a multiple personality, recording for half a dozen labels under as many pseudonyms: Texas Slim, Delta John, Johnny Williams, Birmingham Sam, and the more obvious John Lee Hooker. He was based in Detroit, where he had moved in 1943, working during the day as a janitor at Dodge Motors or Comco Steel, and at night playing in nightclubs. He managed to preserve a good deal of vagueness about his early life, whether near Clarkdale, Mississippi, where he was born in 1917 or 1918, the children, or in Memphis or Cincinnati, where he had spent his younger years. In the Delta his stepfather taught him guitar, including the open G tuning he would employ to such resonant effect. He also listened intently to the obscure Chicago bluesman Tony Hollins, from whom he derived one of his early successes, Crawlin’ King Snake (late 1949) but most of his highly personal conception of blues-singing and playing appears to have come from within him, like in Hoo Blues (early 1949). I’m In The Mood (still on Modern), a characteristically skewed reconstruction of the pop song I’m In The Mood For Love, gave him another hit in 1951, but the day the solo bluesman was passing (ending his last Detroit period with some combo recordings). In 1955 he signed with a new label, the Chicago-based Vee-Jay, and began to work with small backing groups. The other musicians flattened his more barnboard rhythm changes and some of the hectic excitement was lost, but the success of Dimples (1956) proved the change of setting was commercially astute. While maintaining his name in the name in the latter years his name in the name of the era record-stores he also, exceptionally, developed a parallel career as a “folk blues” artist, playing without amplification and reciting songs from an earlier, more rural era of the blues. “I have created abou

**Phase I: 1948-1955**

The Definitive Johnnie Lee in Detroit (Modern Records)

The Legendary Modern Records 1948-1954


Here are some of the best blues classics, a cross section of the Modern singles with several original early Ms - simply a must. The very best of vintage Hooker - 24 (classic) CD is compiled by Ray Topping with nice radio comments by Dave Bar at the end (1991) and backcover images of early Modern singles (one of them showing the original 78 rpm spell of “Sally Mae”). And no more impossible pirate recordings, the best CD is “The Boogie Man”.

Tracks 1: 4CD set of 80 tracks with 24 of them Hooker in disguise.

**Phase II: 1955-1965**

Coast-to-Coast (ABC Records)

The Best of John Lee Hooker 1955 to 1974


Phase III: 1965-1975

Coast-to-Coast (ABC Records)

The Best of John Lee Hooker 1955 to 1974


Phase IV: 1975-1985

Live Wilderness (The "Tomato" Years)


Joh努, and His Coast To Coast Blues Band, recorded live for a Tomato 2-LP at The Keystone in Palo Alto, California in September, 1977 – reissued on Tomato CD, but especially this 2CD set on Shout!, featuring liner notes by Clive Anderson with 15 original tracks, including “Boogie Oh” with extended track time, plus five bonus tracks recorded live in Chicago in October.

**Phase V: 1986-1999**

Fresco Blues (The "Rosebud" Years)


Tracks: Boogie Chillen’ (6981) - A Trip To The Waterfront (49091) - Boom Boom (8/92) "I’m In The Mood (1948) - Burnin’ Hell (5/98) - Baby Lee (10/87) - It’s About That Time (Things Gonna Change) (4/91) - Baby Lee (10/87) - Dimples (9/96) - Chillin’ Out (Things Gonna Change) (4/91) - Boogie Chillen (6/98) - One Bourbon, One Scotch One Beer (Chess, 1960)."
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

from The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnsch. http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

The World's Greatest Blues Singer

THE EDITOR’S SPECIAL FAVORITE CDs!

Check for more details of these favorites at amazon and disogs!

Travelin’ (Charly CDGR 284, 1999 / Charly SNAP 145, 2003) rec 1960 (plus bonus tracks 1958); Live at the Café au Go-Go (MCA 11537, 1996) rec 1966 (plus Soliadon Prison bonus 1972);

Burnin’ (Charly CDGR 298, 2000 / Charly SNAP 041, 2003) rec late 1961 (plus bonus tracks 1962); Blues Kingpins-Blues Immortal (Virgin 82741, 2000) with Modern tracks 1948-1955,

Don’t Turn Me From Your Door – JLH Sings His Blues (Atco/Atlantic 82365, 1992, 16 tracks) recorded 1953 and 1961;

Free Beer And Chicken (BGO 123, 1991) rec 1974;

# Hooker's Original Billboard R&B Hits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Song title</th>
<th>Label, cat no. (master)</th>
<th>R&amp;B peak</th>
<th>Chart entry</th>
<th>Weeks charted</th>
<th>Weeks at #1</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td><em>Boogie Chillen'</em></td>
<td>Modern 20-627B (7006)</td>
<td># 1</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Recorded in September 1948, issued on Nov 3. Entered the Race Records Juke Box and Best Seller Charts in January 1949. Most of the releases had no apostrophe'*' (7006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Hoogie Boogie</td>
<td>Modern 20-663B (7036-A)</td>
<td># 9</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recorded at Hooker's second Besman session in February 1949. Originally the B-side of &quot;Hobo Blues&quot; (7036-A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Hobo Blues</td>
<td>Modern 20-663A (7008-B)</td>
<td># 5</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>One of Hooker's most famous &quot;folk blues&quot; recorded at the same session as &quot;Boogie Chillen&quot; (7008-B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Crawlin' King Snake</td>
<td>Modern 20-714A (B-7012)</td>
<td># 6</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hooker was given his very first guitar around 1926 from this song's originator, Tony Hollins. Recorded at the first mastodont session (although often listed as February, 1949) (B-7012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Huckle Up Baby</td>
<td>Sensation 26 (B-8014)</td>
<td># 15</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hooker's own &quot;free&quot; rendition of the 1949 huge instrumental hit &quot;The Huckle-Buck&quot;. Recorded late 1949 (B-8014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>I'm In The Mood</td>
<td>Modern 835 (1636)</td>
<td># 1</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Based (very loosely) on Billy Eckstine's 1946 hit &quot;I'm In The Mood For Love&quot; (originally a #1 Pop hit by Little Jack Little in 1935). Wikipedia at the moment lacks Hooker's song in their encyclopedia (1636)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>I Love You Honey</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 293 (58-927)</td>
<td># 29</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Most likely featuring original &quot;Funk Brother&quot; Joe Edward Hunter on piano (58-927)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>No Shoes</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 349 (60-1384)</td>
<td># 21</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>A hit single from Hooker's fine and classic &quot;Travelin&quot; LP of 1960 (60-1384)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Boom Boom</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 436 (61-2204)</td>
<td># 16</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>The hit single from the &quot;Burnin'&quot; LP of 1962 (recorded in November, 1961). Reached US Pop #65 position (61-2204)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra notes: In June 1964 *Dimples*, recorded in 1956, hit the UK Pop Chart #23. *Dimples* is a re-recording of the original 1956 Vee-Jay single. In January 1959 for his very first album "I'm John Lee Hooker" (issued ca August, 1959). "Boogie Chillen" was now titled "Boogie Chillun". All four Vee-Jay versions also issued on single *Hooker discography at wikipedia*
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

from The Great R&B Files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

John Lee Hooker at the end of six decades

1949

1959

1969

1979

1989

1999

17  The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
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The Definitive Early Hooker  (center image: 1954)
BOOGIE CHILLEN´

Well, my Mama she didn´t allow me, just to stay out all night long, ... ooh, Lord!
Well, my Mama didn´t allow me, just to stay out all night long,
I didn´t care if she didn´t allow me, I was boogie-woogie´n´ anyhow.

When I first came to town, people, I was walkin´ down Hastings Street,
I heard everybody talkin´ ´bout the Henry Swing Club.
I decided to drop in there that night, and when I got there,
I say, yes people, they we´re really havin´ a ball, yes I know ..... 
... boogie, chillen´!

One night I was layin´ down, I heard Mama and Papa talkin´,
I heard Papa tell Mama: So let that boy boogie woogie,
´cause it´s in him and it got to come out!
Well, I felt so good, and I went on boogie-woogie´n´ just the same, 
... yes ..... 

- by John Lee Hooker

John Lee Hooker`s Memorial Program

This is an original program handed out at John Lee Hooker´s memorial on June 27th, 2001 at the Mormon Temple in Oakland, California. This was handed out to about 300 guests at the family service. The Program includes the order of service, participants, pallbearers and letters from John Lee Hooker´s children
Zakiya, Diane, Karen, John Jr., Robert, Shyvonne, Lavetta and Frances, which were written to him in his honor. It also has a a discography on the last page.
Hobo Blues - Drifting from door to door

Hooker left Mississippi and moved to Memphis in 1933-34, first staying at an aunt’s and later working at the cinema "New Daisy" (and possibly also the W.C. Handy Theater) on Beale Street. Johnnie claimed that he during his Memphis stay worked with Robert Nighthawk, Eddie Love (brother of pianist Willie) and the pianist Joe Willard. He soon "hoboed" again - this time he spent a period in Knoxville, Tennessee and arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio in circa 1935. In these early years Hooker sings the blues and works with gospel groups like the Big Six, the Delta Big Four, and the Fairfield Four in the evenings - and in factories, theatres-cinemas and warehouses during daytime. The years between 1939 and 1943 are unaccounted for (except for a short spell in the army - stationed near Detroit; Hooker even may have travelled to the South).

It got to come out - Boogie Chillen’

Hooker started his career (eventually leading to become the world’s foremost "traditional blues" singer) via his arrival in Detroit in circa 1943, first working at a receiving hospital and later at Dodge and Comco Steel (possibly also as a janitor at the Chrysler car plant and "sweeping up" at the Ford Motor Company). He first married Alma Hopes - one daughter, Frances - but they soon parted and he later married Sarah Jones. In late 1944 he met Maude Mathis, married her and had two sons and four daughters (after her separation with Maude in 1950, when John moved back to California, he was married to Millie Strom for a while). In the evenings of the mid 1940s John got small jobs at the clubs around Hastings Street (like Forest Inn and Club Basin). Legend has it: T-Bone Walker handed Johnny Lee the first electric guitar, as John became T-Bone Walker's "manager". He was working in Detroit during 1946-48. "Johnny Lee" (as most of his friends called him) invented his own "unique" style (non-rhyming, sometimes out-of-rhythm) and was introduced in 1948 to Bernie Besman (of Sensation Records on Woodward Avenue; and co-owner with John Kaplan of the Pan American Record Co.) by Elmer Barbee, Hooker's original "manager", who spotted Hooker playing with his Blues Aces at the "Apebar" on Monroe Street (although "legend" says Besman "discovered" Hooker at Lee Sensation's bar "Russell & Orange" - or at the "Monte Carlo"). Barbee continued to promote Johnnie as his "manager" - after the Besman introduction - for other record labels up to late 1951, mostly recording in Barbee's record shop at 609 Lafayette Street, but the main records of Hooker’s up into 1952 were recorded by Bernie Besman at United Sound Systems Recording Studios Inc. at 5840 2nd Blvd. Besman leased several tracks to the Bihari brothers (Modern - of Hollywood) and soon issued others on the Detroit label Sensation. A total of eight Besman-recorded Modern singles were issued from November 1948 - December 1950 and seven on Sensation (and Regal) from November 1949 – October 1950, plus a further seven on Modern from 1951 - October 1952. Almost a hundred alternates, variations and extras were "kept in the can" and later issued on album compilations.

First recordings - When my first wife left me

Hooker’s first recording was done for manager Elmer Barbee in Detroit June 12, 1948 - "Rocks" (a more "natural" title would have been "Miss Sassy Mae") - and shortly thereafter he cut demo recordings around August 1948, "Leavin’ Chicago" (aka "Highway Blues") and "Wednesday Evening Blues". These three recordings were originally unissued, but released in Britain 1990 on a KrazyKat LP "Boogie Awhile". Also cut was the combo recording "Miss Sadie Mae", and demos of "When My First Wife Left Me”. That song was issued in a new version as "Drifting From Door To Door" on Modern in 1949.

Charles Shaar Murray’s book "Boogie Man"  
Jas Obrecht’s Complete Living Blues Interviews
John Lee Hooker's Early Time-Line

Version 1: Born August 22, 1912

JLH is born on August 22, 1912 in Tutwiler, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi (not far from Clarksdale, Coahoma County), son of preacher and sharecropper William Hooker (born 1871) or possibly a bit earlier; died some time after 1930. Minnie, his mother to Moore's farm in Lambe, Mississippi, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie County, states that Johnie (sic) Lee Hooker was born in Glendora, Tallahatchie 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The session details in this discography are based on Les Fancourt’s Hooker-entry in "The Blues Discography 1943-1970" - The Classic Years - (revised and expanded 3rd edition) by Les Fancourt and Bob McGrath, Eyeball Productions, printed in January 2019 (all editions are reviewed). - checked in detail (with corrections), updated, and completed with representative LP and CD issues by Claus Röhnisch.

"Boogie Chillen" - a guide by Les Fancourt, and information from Scott Pell, Neil Slaven, Dave Sax, Mike Rowe, Charles Shaar Murray, and Gary Hearn has also been valuable; and inspiration from Frank Scott, Alan Balfour, and Colin Escott, The Michael J. Sweeney and Robert Fruter discography in Goldmine has been studied. The four volumes of the second edition of "The R&B Indies" by Bob McGrath have also been very useful. Original master numbers are given after track title (when known). Master/matrix numbers, which lack sufficient discographical significance, are not noted. All 101 tracks from Hooker’s singles on Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay 1948-1962 are featured on Acrobat ACQC7103 4CD-set “Singles Collection”, issued on August 5, 2016 (none of the Sensation/Regal recordings and no pirate recordings). Records issued on Shout!Factory 4CD Box 856693-101918 "HOOKER" (2006) listed for overview (SFBox), and are the tracks of Craft Recordings 5CD CR00015 (2017) "King of the Boogie" marked (CB). The tracks of Charly 4CD "digibook" DIG 5 "The Boogie Man" (1994), featuring 15 tracks out of 19 (marked (D)), The tracks of Simply John Lee Hooker 2CD 05 (2006) not in order of Body & Soul chronological CD issues (revised by Claus Röhnisch) are listed. The tracks of Simply John Lee Hooker 2CD 05 (2006) are not CD). All tracks of Charly CDGR 176 "Rare Hooker" (1997) are listed. The tracks of the British INTROTCD01 "The Very Best of The King of Blues Guitar" on UnionSquare 3CD (2008) are marked (U) for overview, and 2CD "Simply John Lee Hooker" on Union Square SIMPTNCD026 (2016) marked (UT). For the tracks of the three best "whole career" double-CDS, "The Ultimate Collection" (Rhino), "Gold" (Hip-OUniverse), and "Anthology: 50 Years" (Shout!Factory), see (Part II) page 137.

Part One: John Lee Hooker 1948 - 1955 Johnnie Lee’s Definitive Detroit

Tracks - not in order of Body & Soul chronological CD issues - but based on the Les Fancourt discography - revised by Claus Röhnisch. This means the tracks are not in the playing order in the six “public domain” Body & Soul “The Complete John Lee Hooker” double CDs, but in a revised and more accurate chrono-order. The Body & Soul CDs (issued 2000-2005), produced by Gilles Pétard, are packed in nice traditional 2CD-sets with extensive inlay booklets including comments and discography by Neil Slaven (and in track order based on the LeadBitter/Slaven "Blues Records" discography 1987). Each session in this part of the discography starts with producer and date of recording - with original vinyl issues and representative CDs. aoa = alternate of above. Crown LP 5157 reissued on Kent LP 5157 “The Greatest Hits of..., ... All tracks on Bernie Besman’s DCC LP/CZ DLZ 042 “40th Anniversary Album” (reissued on Demon FEND LP and CD 154 “The Detroit Lion”) are indicated due to the reeditions (that album also includes “Blues For Abraham Lincoln” from Besman’s 1961 California session). The 33 tracks of Krazy Kat KK LP 200 “Boogie Awhile” (1990) are noted with the tracks not on the later KrazyKat CD 05 marked (not CD). All tracks on United Artists LPs UALA-127 (3-set) and 5512 also on Capitol CD 33912-2 “Alacntr Boogie: Early Studio Recordings”. The tracks on the highly recommended Proper 4CD box PROPERBOX 111 “The Boogie Man” (2006) are indicated (P) for overview. The tracks of the “bootleg” LPs on Advent “And His Guitar” and Red Lightnin’ (RL) “No Friend Around” are listed, but not those on Danish Official (except for “Rock Me Mama”). The 26 tracks on the nice “public domain” Southern Routes CD SR 2505 “The Great John Lee Hooker” (2016) are marked (SR). The 52 tracks compiled by Neil Slaven and Bob Fischer on Jasmine 2CD JASMC01 3084 “Gotta Boogie Gotta Sing” (2017) are marked (J). All Modern singles up to (and incl) 823 had a 20-prefix. All entries/songs recorded in Detroit, unless otherwise indicated. Besman’s sessions done at United Sound Systems with Joe Sracuce, engineer.

Elmer Barbee demo, rec. June 12, 1948 w. unk,pno; prob J. Scarber,gt
Rocks (aka Miss Sassy Mae) - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT
Note: "dupree" with Scarber, vol also recorded at this session.

Barbee demos, rec. ca August/September, 1948
Leavin’ Chicago (aka War Is Over) - KK LP 200, UT
Wednesday Evening Blues - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT
Note: Hooker also recorded demos of "(When) My First Wife Left Me" at the above session, listed as "When My Wife Quit Me" and "When My First Wife Left Me", German 10CD Box-set "Portrait" lists "My First Wife Left Me" and an alternate of "Do The Boogie" from later session - "My First Wife Left Me" is the Vee-Jay/Prestige recording of 1960 (also issued on several other public domain CDs). "War Is Over" and "She Was in Chicago" below are reworks of the two above.

Barbee "demo", rec. in Toledo, Ohio 1948 (or poss early 1949 - or even later)
w. James Watkins,pno; Curtis Foster,drms
(Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby’s Hair (Miss Sadie Mae) - Fortune 846, Fortune LP 3002*, CB
Note: This is possibly the "combo" recording Besman rejected when Barbee presented it to Besman. It is listed as a 1949 recording on the Craft book-box (around the Dancellad recordings). It may have been recorded even earlier. The Fortune single was issued in 1958 (with flip "609 Boogie") – see 1954. Hooker said in an interview in NME in 1982 that “Guess I’m On My Own” for Staff Records was his very first recording (no trace found).


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Bernie Besman session, September 3, 1948 (leased to Modern. Modern 627 issued on November 3)

Sally Mae

"Sally Mae" or There Is A Day Coming

Bally" aka Sally Mae (to Modern 627, Crown LP 5535, UA LP 127**, Rhino CD R2 10572**, Ace CD 799*, J

Sally Mae (aoa - Sally May” aka Sallie May) 3-13 - Crown LP 5517, Modern/Oldies 45 MX44, prob, Kent LP 5025, Ace CDCHD 405, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBox, CB

War Is Over (Goodbye California) (originally Highway Blues, aka Highway 51) (B 7004) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, UT

See, See Baby (aoa) - GB LP 3130

She Was In Chicago (originally Wednesday Evening Blues) (B 7005) - UA LP 5512, P

Crazy 'Bout That Woman (aoa) - GB LP 3130, UT


Henry's Swing Club (aoa - totally different) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Johnny Lee's Original Boogie (aoa - prob the first take - very different) - UA LP 127, UT

Note: The original single version, "Sally May" which was the plugside of Modern 627, has an early 1949 guitar solo and the phrase "there's a day coming", the alternate on the first Crown LP 5517 does not have that phrase. The flip of that record reissued with echo recordings is "Poor Slim" on Grand 109 and Modern 893 with "I Tried" (B 7034) by Sylvester Cotton on its flip. On the original album with the original spelling of (Chillen) are the rhino anthology, the audio fidelity CD, and the "Hooker" and "King of the Boogie" CDboxes. Eleven of the 15 tracks on DCC LP/CD also on Audio Fidelity CD AF 000 Boogie Chillen’, which also has further tracks from Mainstream CD, marked AF). All tracks of Kent LP 5025 also on Ace CDCHD 530 Original Folk Blues Plus, also including listed bonus tracks below. Mainstream CD Half A Stranger, SPCD 7018 Graveyard Blues also on Ace CDCHD 421, CDCHD 315 The Legendary Modern Recordings, CDCHD 405 Blues Brother - 24 Vintage Sensation Recordings, CDCHD 799 House Rent Boogie, Virgin CD Blues Kingspins-Blues Immortal. Most tracks of Greene Bottle LP GBLS 3130 Johnny Lee 2-let not issued on any regular US CD. "Boogie Chillen" originally intended for Sensation Records (none found) with the title "Boogie Woogie". Sensation was then owned by John Kaplan and Besman.

Drifting From Door To Door (Driftin' From Door To Door)* aka When My First Wife Left Me) (B 7007)


- Hobo Blues (T008-B) - Modern 663, Crown LP 5157, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCHD 315*, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBox, CB

- Long, Long Way From Home (aoa) - UA LP 127, UT

- Numbers Blues (aka Playin The Numbers) (B 7009) - Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul

- She Ain't Good For Nothin (aoa) - GB LP 3130

- Alberta (B 7010) - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

- Howlin Wolf (I'm A Howlin Wolf) (B 7011) - Modern 730, Crown LP 5533*, Modern 45 MX9,2

- Crawlin' King Snake (Crawling King Snake* or Crawling Kingsnake** aka Crawling King Snake Blues) (B 7012)

- Modern 714, Crown LP 5517, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903*, Ace CDCHD 315*, Virgin CD 82741, P*, UT, SR, J, SFBox

I Rule My Den (aoa) - UA LP 127, UT

Note: "Drifting..." and "Hobo Blues" may be Barbee recordings from mid 1948 handed over to Besman. When Besman sent his first tapes to Modern in September 1948 he offered the "Boogie Chillens" -session plus the tracks above. Some evidence point to the fact that the alternate of "Numbers Blues", "Well I Got To Leave" (see session from November 1948) is actually the alternate of the above and the alternate listed here is from the 1949 session. The CDCHD 405 lists James Taylor as lead gr on "Alberta". The nine recordings listed here often reported as recorded February 18, 1949 - see below. The sound quality on Mainstream CD MDCD 903 is superb (mostly mastered from original acetates).

Barbee, rec. ca early November 1948 (sold to Joe Von Battle, resold to Savoy in December)

Mercy Blues (D 1100) - KK LP 200, UT, Boogie Woogie (D 1101) - KK LP 200, J

Helpless Blues (D 1102) - Regent 1001, RL LP 003, P, UT, CB

Good Business (D 1103) - KK LP 200, UT

Goin' Mad Blues (D 1104) (aka Mad Boogie) - Regent 1001, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, DIG, P, UT, CB

Grievin' Blues (D 1105) - Savoy LP 2255

Low Down Midnite Boogie (Lowdown Midnight Boogie* or Lowdown Midnite Boogie** aka Talking Boogie) (D 1106) - Savoy 5558, RL LP 003, Savoy LP 2255*, Charly CDGR 176**, DIG*, P, UT**, J

Landin' Blues (D 1107) - Savoy LP 2255, Savoy LP 2255, P, UI

Twister Blues (D 1108) - Savoy LP 2255, J

Shady Groove Blues (D 1109) - Savoy LP 2255, J

Goin' Home Blues (aka Goin' Down Slow) (D 1110) - Savoy LP 2255, UT

Like A Woman Blues (aka Just Like A Woman Blues) (D 1111) - Savoy LP 2255, UT

Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor Slim". All twelve tracks issued on Savoy/Jazz-Atlantic CD 09310 and Savoy 1708 Savoy Blues Legends -Detroit 1946-1949, and on Metro Doubles CD METCD0052 Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions, which also features Hooker's twelve 1961 recordings for Savoy (Check for detailed info on the Savoy/Atlantic CD)

Barbee, rec. November 1948 (or poss ca December - sold to Battle and resold to King)

Stomp Boogie (Flub*) (K 5590 / K 5594) - King 4283, King 4504, LP 859*(v,a), RL LP 003, Polydor LP 2310 256, P, J

Who's Been Giving You (K 5591) - King LP 885, Pol LP 2310 256, P, UT, CB

Blues Kingpins (K 5592) - King 4283, RL LP 003, Pol LP 2310 256, P, UT, SFBox, CB

Poor Joe (K 5593) - King LP 885, Pol LP 2310 256, UT

Note: King 4283 was the first release of JLH pastrummary recordings (issued around December, 1948 - as by "Texas slam". Originally planned to be issued by "Poor Joe & His Boys" and later intended for King LP 727 John Lee Hooker Sings Blues - Everyone A Pearl (the "Texas Slam* recordings). The American original LP had four Earl Hooker recordings incl "Race Track" together with the other 12 "Kingspins"; "Flub" credited to Memphis Slim on LP 859, and the "Kingspins" instrumented (aka K 5594 on Collectables CD 2877). That CD lists "Black Man's Blues" as "Black Man's Blues" and the CD suggests the King 4504 issue actually has "Slim's Stomp" from the Battle session below, re-titled "Stomp Boogie", LP 885 is a Memphis Slim LP of 1964. All 16 King tracks on Polydor YLP 2303 Stomp’s and on Variscope & Sanabas CD SX702572 7's A Boogie Man. Other track "confusions" appear on several presentations of LP 727 and on the public domain issues on Real Gone and Soul Jam in 2014.

Same session or poss. as below

Shake Your Boogie (AoA) - African Folk Society (Fr) LP 452, KK LP 200, UT

Poor Slim - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT

Poor Slim (aoa) - KK LP 200, UT

Down So Long - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT

Note: The last track includes conversation with Barbee (and the first track below features a Barbee speech). The first track originally issued on a French bootleg album Down South Blues (v.a.) in the '70s. The two sessions above listed as the first pirate recordings in early Hooker discographies.
Barbee, rec. prob. ca February 1949 (or poss. ca December 1948)

Miss Pearl Boogie (JB 1402) - KK LP 200, J
Morning Blues (JB 1403) (aka Stittin' And Thinkin' JB 1408) - Acorn 306, RL LP 003, KK LP 200, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P
Boogie Awhile (JB 1407) (aka Boogie Baby JB 1460) - KK LP 200, P, J
Tuesday Evening (Tuesday Evening Blues aka Miss Lorraine version 1) (JB 1461) - KK LP 200, P, UI
Miss Lorraine (U 1943) - Chance 1108, Advent LP 2851, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P
Note: Hooker calls himself "Slim" (incl. "Miss Lorraine") and plays acoustic guitar. The first four tracks also have Savoy and Metro Doubles CDs (with JB 1441 titled Tuesday Evening Blues). The alternate titles on this session and next are unissued speeded-up versions. Charly CD GR176 Rare Hooker, JB 1403 unedited on KKLP and Savoy. Last track listed for Fancourt as an alternate of "Tuesday Evening Blues" (as recorded ca. February, 1949 - wrong matrix U 1948). Thanks Dave Sax for the info on the Savoy sessions.

Barbee, rec. prob. ca February 1949 (or poss. ca December 1948)
w. James Watkins.pro; Curtis Foster.dms.
Do The Boogie (JB 1404) - Acorn 309, RL LP 003, KK LP 200, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P, UI, J
Christmas Time Blues (aka Hard Luck Blues JB 1406) - KK LP 200
609 Boogie (Six O' Nine Boogie) (U 2060) (aka Alabama Boogie and After Hours Blues JB 1405) - Chance 1122, Constellation LP 6, Pointblank CD 40116, DIG, P.
Road Trouble (U 2061) (aka In My Father's House JB 1401) - Chance 1122, Constellation LP 6, DIG, P.
Notes: Hooker calls himself "(Poor) Slim" - tracks planned to be issued as "Alabama Slim". Elmer Barbee is featured with vocal comments on some of the above two sessions. All titles also on Savoy and Metro Doubles CDs (with unedited versions of 200/2061). "Six O' Nine Boogie" (take 1) and (take 2) on Pointblank CD 40116 are identical unedited versions. An alternate version of "Do The Boogie" is listed together with the above on the 10CD box set "Portrait" (Past Perfect 10CD 205565 - German bootleg). Eight tracks from the last two sessions sold to Joe Von Battle (see "JB masters"), and purchased by Savoy.

Barbee demos, rec. early 1949 (sold to Joe Von Battle)
w. James Watkins.pro
Cotton Pickin' Boogie - KK LP 200, Pointblank CD 40116
Low Down Boogie - KK LP 200 (not CD)
We Gonna Make Everything Alright - KK LP 200 (not CD), UT
Must I Wait Til Your Man Is Gone (Must I Wait Til Your Man Has Gone -KK CD05) - KK LP 200
Roll Me Baby - KK LP 200 (not CD)
Don't Trust Your Woman - unissued
Note: "Cotton..." found on an Audiosdisc demo record. Hooker calls himself "Poor Tony".

Barbee, rec. ca February or poss March 1949
Wayne County Ramblin' Blues - Danceland 403, KK LP 200, Pointblank CD 40116, UT
Grievin' Blues (1949 Grievin' Blues – Part One*) - Danceland 403, KK LP 200 (not CD), Pointblank CD 40116.
Note: The Danceland issues are speeded-up. No Hooker vocals on "Grievin' Blues".

Idessa Malone - Prize session, early 1949
Miss Rosie Mae - Prize 704, Staff 704, KK LP 200 (not CD), UI
Miss Rosie Mae (aoa) - Prize 704 (repressing), (kk lp 200), UI
Highway Blues - Prize 704, Staff 704, KK LP 200, UI

Besaman session, prob. February 16 or 18, 1949 (also see note)
Whistlin' And Moanin' Blues (Whistling And Moaning or Hummin' The Blues***) (7033)
- Modern 688, Crown LP 5157, Kent LP 5025, UA LP 1277, P, J
Hoogie Boogie (7036-A) - Modern 663, Crown LP 5157, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, SR, J, SFBox, CB
Hastings Street Boogie (aoa) - Specialty LP 2117, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, UT
My Own Boogie (aoa) - GB LP 3193,
Snap Them Fingers Boogie (aka Rhythm No. 2) (aoa) - UA LP 127
Build Myself A Cave - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7018, UT, J
Build Myself A Cave (aoa) - Ace CD 799 (not on Body&Soul)
Momma Poppa Boogie - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018
Graveyard Blues - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018
Black Cat Blues - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7018, UT
I Had A Dream - (aoa) - UA LP 127
Notes: Last three titles poss. April 2, 1951 recordings. John T. Smith or Sylvester Cotton are listed as guitarist on some Besaman reissues (although the latest information is James Taylor).

Besaman session, poss as above - or March/April 1949
w. Eddie Burns.hce-1, Andrew Durham, James Taylor or John T. Smith.gtr-2
Miss Elsie (Miss Elsie, Miss Elsia) -1 (B-7039) - Sensation 34, Regal 3295, Advent LP 2801, UA LP 5512*, P, J
Burning Hell -1 (B-7040) - Sensation 21, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, UT, CB
Sailing Blues -1 - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018
Black Cat Blues -1/2 - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7018, UT
I Had A Dream -2 (aoa) - UA LP 127
Note: Last three titles poss. April 2, 1951 recordings. John T. Smith or Sylvester Cotton are listed as guitarist on some Besaman reissues (although the latest information is James Taylor).

Barbee - Chance recordings, early 1949
Talkin' Boogie (aka Slappin' The Boogie) (U 1949) - Chance 1108, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P, J
I Love To Boogie (aka Boogie Baby) (U 1948) - Chance 1110, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P, UT
I Love To Boogie (aoa) - KK LP 200, P, UI
(1986 titled Love To Boogie) on original 78 rpm Chance 1110
Graveyard Blues (U 1987) - Chance 1110, Advent LP 2801, Charly CD GR176, DIG, P.
Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor John". All chance tracks appear on Charly LP 1067 "Chicago Blues Masters Vol. 3".
w. Bernie Besman, alternate percussions -1


My Baby She`s Long And Tall (aa0) - 1 - UA LP 127

Miss Sadie Mae (B-7054) - Sensation 21, Specialty LP 2127, SPCD 7018

Forgive Me - UA LP 5512, P

Sometime - UA LP 127, P

Sail On Little Girl (Sail On Little Girl Sail On*) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Albetta Part 2 - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, UT

Note: Modern 688 issued in July, 1949. *Albetta Part 2* noted as recorded February 18, 1949 or February 27 on some specialty issues. *Sail On Little Girl Sail On* also listed as recorded February 27, 1950.

Joe Von Battle - King session, ca August 1949

Nightmare Blues (K 5769) - King 4323, LP 727, P, UT

Late Last Night (aa0, K 5770-3) - King 4366, LP 727, Federal 12377, P

Wandering Blues (K 5771) - King 4334, LP 727, P, SFB

Don`t Go Baby (K 5772) - King 4334, King 6289, LP 727, P

Devil`s Jump (K 5773) - King 4315, LP 727, P

I`m Gonna Kill That Woman (K 5774) - King 4323, LP 727, P, SFB

Moaning Blues (Moaning And Stomping Blues*) (K 5775-2) - King 4377, King 4504, King 6289*, LP 727, P, CB

The Numbers (K 5776) - King 4315, LP 727, P

Note: Drums dubbed on Federal and several later issues, including Pulse PLS CD 349, which has all 16 Texas Slim recordings. All 16 King tracks on Varese Sarabande CD 302066597-2 I`m A Boogie Man. Echo added to LP 727 and reissues, except on the UK Polydor LP 310 256 Slim`s Stomp.

Battle - King session, ca September 1949

Heart Trouble Blues (K 5790) - King 4329, LP 727, P, UT

Slim`s Stomp (K 5791) - King 4329, LP 727, P, J

Note: Hooker calls himself "Poor Slim". Fancourt notes these two King sessions may be Barbee recordings, sold to Battle.

Besman session, ca December 1949

No Friend Around (TB`s Killing Me*) (B8010) - Modern 746, RL LP 003, UA LP 127*, P, UT, SR*

Wednesday Evening (She Left Me On My Bended Knee* or She Left Me!*) (B8011) - Modern 746, Crown LP 5322*, Crown LP 5333**, UA LP 127 (edited versions - see note), Ace CDCHD 315, P, J

Canal Street Blues (B-8012) - Sensation 26, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018

Playing The Races (Dream A Number*) (B-8013) - Modern 730, Kent 9006, GB LP 3130*, Ace CDCHD 315, P, UT, SR

Well I Got To Leave (aa0) - UA LP 127

Huckle Up Baby (B-8014) - Sensation 26, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018, P, SFB, CB

Note: B 8011 issued in two edited versions on UA LP 127 as "Baby Please Don`t Go" and "I Was Beggin` My Baby". Above session definitely late 1949, since "Huckle Up Baby" was released in December, 1949. "Huckle Up Baby" and "Canal Street Blues" noted as recorded February 8, 1950 (and February 27, 1950) on Specialty issues.

Johnny Lee Sings the Blues: Detroit 1950

The Third Body & Soul CD volume, the Crown LP 5232 "Sings The Blues" (1951), the Custom CM 2048/KCS 1046 (1966 and 1972 reissues) and the United reissue US-7710 (in 1969) of the Crown LP - now titled "Detroit: The Blues King". Later issued on British Ember. 3371 in 1966 in the UK also. The Ace CDCHD 315 version imaged above is from a late 1940s Barbee recording. "Sail On Little Girl (Sail On)" from the "Johnny Lee" BLPS 0310 (note the different title). The United Artists / The World`s Greatest Blues Singers of the 1940s BSX 7053, BSX 7054 and the Greene Bottle BSX 7055 "Sail On Little Girl (Sail On)" also recorded late 1949.

Besman session, poss. February 8 or 27, 1950

w. James Watkins, pro-1

Let Your Daddy Ride (Slow Down Your Chatter Baby*) - 1 (B8017) - Sensation 30, UA LP 127*, P, UT, SFB

Let Your Daddy Ride - 1 (aa0, B-8017) - Modern 790, Crown LP 5523, Kent LP 5025, Ace CDCHD 315, SR

Goin` On Highway 51 (Goin` Down Highway 51* or Goin` On Highway #51*) (B-8018) - Sensation 30, Specialty LP 2127*, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7018*, UT, CB**

The Moon Above - GB LP 3130

She Left Me By Myself - UA LP 127, P

No Mortgage On My Soul - 1 - UA LP 127, P, UT

Note: All tracks on Kent LP 5025 (except possibly the Modern single version of above) also on Ace CDCHM 530 (which has B-8017 listed as an alternate). The Blockus tracks on the Ace CD are listed separately. The More About You pass a recording from c. Sept. 49 or even 1950/53. "Goin` Down Highway 51* listed as recorded February 27, 1950 on Specialty issues and titled "Goin` On Highway #51* on the Craft Recordings box.

Malone - King recordings, ca March 1950 (sold from Staff to King in August)

Thinking Blues (K 5809-2) - King 4377, LP 727, P

Don`t You Remember Me (K 5891-1) - King 4366, LP 727, Federal 12377, P, SFB

Note: Drums dubbed on Federal and several later issues including Pulse PLS CD 349. John calls himself "Johnny" (prob intended to be issued as by Johnny Williams).

Battle - Gone recordings, prob. early-mid 1950

Mad Man Blues - Gone 60/61, Chess 1462, LP 1454, Chess MCD 09391, DIG, P

Boogie Now (Hey Boogie*) - Gone 60/61, Chess 1462, LP 1454*, Chess MCD 09391*, P, J

Note: Hooker calls himself "Sam". Echo added on Chess LPs. Intro on "Hey Boogie" omitted on LP 1454.
**Besman session, April 28, 1950**

- **My Baby’s Got Somethin’** (B-8035) - Sensation 33, RL LP 003, Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCCHD 405, SPCD 7019, P
- **Decoration Day Blues** (Lord Taketh My Baby Away’) (B-8036) - Sensation 33, RL LP 003, UA LP 5512*, P, SR*
- **Boogie Chillin’ #2** (I Gotta Be Comin’ Back* aka Boogie Chillin 2) (B-8037) - Sensation 34, Regal 3295, Advent LP 2801, Specialty LP 2125, UA LP 127*, Ace CDCCHD 405, P, SR*

- **1 Boogie (aka) - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCCHD 405, SPCD 7018, J**
- **Jump Chillin (aka) - GB LP 3130**
- **Roll ‘n Roll** (I Cried The Whole Night Long*) (B-8040) - Modern 767, RL LP 003, GB LP 3130*, Ace CD 799
- **Rollin’ Blues** (aka) - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCCHD 405, SPCD 7018

- **Crying All Night** (aka) - UA LP 5512, P
- **One More Time** (Let’s Talk It Over* or Come Back Baby** aka Let’s Think It Over) (B-8042) - Modern 790, Crown LP 5300*, UA LP 5512*, P, J

- **Three Long Years Today** - Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P
- **Strike Blues** - Specialty LP 2127, SPCD 7035, P
- **Welfare Blues** (aka) - UA LP 5512

- **Lord What More Can I Do (aka)** - UA LP 127
- **Turnin’ Gray Blues** - UA LP 5512, P

Note: B-8037 has first line omitted on LP 2125, “Do My Baby Think Of Me” and its alternate listed at April 2, 1951 session below. Session date on Body & Soul incorrect. “My Baby’s Got Something” noted as recorded February 8, 1950 and as April 28, 1950 on different Specialty issues. Greene Bottle LP 3130 Johnny Lee, 2-set, never issued on CD. Regal is a New Jersey label. Several of the given Specialty recording dates seem very approximate (but DCC has been more accurate).

**Besman session, ca August, 1950**

- **Give Me Your Phone Number** (It’s A Crime And A Shame*) (B-8047) - Modern 767, UA LP 127*, P, SR*
- **You Sure Look Good To Me** (aka) - GB LP 3130

- **Notority Woman** (No Place To Stay*) (B-8048) - Regal 3304, GB LP 3130*, J, SFBbox
- **Throw This Old Dog A Bone** (aka) - UA LP 5512, P
- **Never Satisfied** (Just Like A Woman*) (B-8049) - Regal 3304, UA LP 5512*, P, SR*, J
- **The Story Of A Married Woman** (aka) - UA LP 127, P

- **Moon Is Rising** - UA LP 5512, P
- **Please Have Mercy** - GB LP 3130

Note: Session date on Body & Soul incorrect; Modern 767 issued in August...

**Malone - Staff recordings, ca October, 1950**

- **Wandering Blues** - Staff 710, Gotham 506, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, Collectables LP/CD 5151, DIG
- **House Rent Boogie** - Staff 710, Gotham 506, RL LP 003, Charly CDGR 176, Collectables LP/CD 5151, DIG, P

Note: Gotham 506 issued in December, 1950. There is a Johnny Williams single on Staff 711 with Sunnyland / Bull Headed Woman rumoured to be John Lee Hooker recordings.

**Besman session, November 16, 1950**

- **John L’s House Rent Boogie** (House Rent Boogie* or Out The Door I Went** aka John Lee Hooker’s House Rent Boogie) (B-9001) - Modern 814, CLP 5157*, Modern 45 MX52, UA LP 127**, SR*, J, SFBbox, CB

- **House Rent Boogie** (Hey, *The House Rent Boogie**) (aka) - DCC LP 042**, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCCHD 799, (the alternate not on Body & Soul)

- **Queen Bee** (B-9002) - Modern 814, Crown LP 5157, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903, Ace CDCCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, SR, J

- **Don’t You Remember Me (Can I Say Hello)** - Crown LP 5232, UA LP 127**, P, SR*, J

- **You’ve Got Another Man** (Hello Baby**) (aka) - GB LP 3130, DCC LP 042(not AF)

- **Grinder Man** - Specialty LP 2127, Ace CDCCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P

- **If You Need My Lovin’ Baby** (aka) - GB LP 3130

- **I Met The Grindin’ Man** (aka) - UA LP 127

- **Nobody To Talk To Me** (aka Mean Old Train) - UA LP 127, Ace CD 799

- **Walin’ This Highway** - Specialty LP 2125, SPCD 7035

Note: “Grinder Man” noted as recorded on February 8, 1950 on the Specialty issues. Last title may be of slightly diff. date. Specialty SPCD 7035 Everybody’s Blues also on ACE CDCCHD 474.

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**Original House of the Blues: Detroit 1951**

The fourth Body & Soul CD volume, the first Chess LP 1438 “House of the Blues” (1959), the Kent LP 5025 “Original Folk Blues” (1967), the UA 3-Past UA-LA 127-23 “John Lee Hooker’s Detroit” (1973), the United US-7746 reissue of the Kent LP (released ca 1972), and the British Ace CH 37 LP “John Lee Hooker volume one” (1981) – see tracks. There was not to be a volume two.

**Prob Detroit, for Gotham, ca March 1951 (possibly Battle recordings; often listed as recorded in Philadelphia)**

- **Questionnaire Blues** (BL-1) - Gotham 506, Advent LP 2801, P
- **Real Gone Gal** (aka Real Gone Guy) (BL-2) - Gotham 509, Advent LP 2801, P
- **Little Boy Blue** (BL-3) - Gotham 513
- **My Daddy Was A Jockey** (BL-4) - Gotham 513, Advent LP 2801, P
- **Mean Old Train (BL 6-1)** - Gotham 515, Advent LP 2801
- **Catfish** (aka Cat Fish) (BL 7-1) - Gotham 515, Advent LP 2801, P

- **Feed Her All Night** - KK LP 816
- **Feed Her All Night** (aka) - unissued
- **How Long Must I Be Your Slave** - KK LP 816, J
- **Ground Hog** - KK LP 816

- **Union Station** - Jail House Blues – Looking For My Baby – unissued

Note: Gotham is a Philadelphia label. Neil Slaven lists these as 1950 recordings. Gotham 509 issued in early 1951 and 515 in March, 1952. All the 9 issued titles (plus the earlier Gotham single) are featured on Krazy Kat KK LP 816 (the British Detroit Blues 1987), and on Collectables CD 5151 in 1998 - Gotham Golden Classics / The Rare Recordings – 11 tracks; and on UK Flyghty FLYCD 23 in 1990 Detroit Blues, which also features Eddie Burns and Baby Boy Warren – 19 tracks. KK LP 816 with extra tracks by Eddie Burns, is identical to Collectables CD 5316 – 16 tracks. “How Long Must I Be Your Slave” has 7" in title on Jasmine.

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**The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:**

From The Great R&B site Created by Claus Röhnisch: [http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info](http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info)

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26 **The World’s Greatest Blues Singer**
Malone – Staff recordings, ca early 1951 (or possibly late 1950)

w. Vernorn “Boogie Woogie Red” Harrison, pno; Curtis Foster, dms

Prison Bound – Staff 718, SwingTime 266, Polydor (v.a.) LP 423242, KK LP 200 (not CD), Charly CD GR176

Bumble Bee Blues – Staff 718, SwingTime 266, LP 423242, KK LP 200 (not CD), Chkly CD GR176.

Note: There is a Polydor LP, “All Star Blues”, which mistakenly credits two West Texas Slim recordings as by John Lee Hooker, and the Staff single 717 (“I Got Lucky”) by Johnny Williams is Baby Boy Warren with Harrison and Foster (not Hooker). LP 423242 (1967) titled “California Blues”.

Besman recordings, prob. April 2, 1951

My Baby Think Of Me? – Specialty LP 2125, DCC LP 042, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035, P

I Don't Be Welcome Here (aoa) – UA LP 127, P

Note: Date above given on Besman’s DCC LP – and probably correct, although Slaven, Tax and Fanchot list the tracks together with the “Strike Blues” session of 1950. “Do My Baby Think Of Me” wrongly noted as recorded April 2 (and April 28), 1950 on some Specialty issues.

Besman session, April 2, 1951

w. Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1

Women In My Life (Four Women In My Life) -1 (1560) – Modern 829, Kent LP 9006, Specialty LP 2127*, Ace CDCHD 315, J, P

I'm Going Away (Four Women In My Life) -1 (aoa) – UA LP 127, DCC LP 042*

Tease Me Baby (Tease Your Daddy) – Modern 829, Crown LP 5353*, Ace CDCHD 315, J, P

I Need Lovin' (aoa) – Specialty LP 2125, Ace CDCHD 405, SPCD 7035

Tease Me Baby (aoa) – GB LP 3130

Looking For Romance (Movin' On Down The Line) –1 (1561) – Kent 9006, GB LP 3130

Streets Is Filled With Women -1 (aoa) – UA LP 5512

Reach My Goal (Find Me A Woman) – Kent LP 9006, Specialty LP 2127*, Ace CDCHD 405, DCC LP 042*

Me And A Woman (I'm Gonna Get Me A Woman) (aoa) – UA LP 127, DCC LP 042*

Whistle Done Blown -1 – UA LP 5512

Note: The Specialty edition of the first track has an intro not on the earlier issues; and the last track may be of slightly diff. date.

Chess session, Chicago April 26, 1951

w. Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1

Louise -1 (U 7326) – Chess 1482, Modern 852 (BS 7551), Chess LP 1438, DIG, P

High Priced Woman (U 7327) – Chess 1505, LP 1438, DIG, P

Union Station Blues (U 7328) – Chess 1505, LP 1438, DIG, P

Just Me And My Telephone (aka Me And My Phone) -1 (U 7329) – Chess LP 1454, DIG, SFBox

Ground Hog Blues (U 7330) – Chess 1482, Modern 852 (BS 7550), Chess LP 1438, DIG, P

Leave You My Wife Alone (U 7331) – Chess 1467, LP 1438, DIG, P, J, SFBox

Ramblin' By Myself (U 7333) – Chess 1467, LP 1438, DIG, P, J

Dreamin' Blues (U 7334) – Chess LP 1454, DIG

Note: All Chess recordings issued on MCA/Chess CD MCD 09391 The Complete 50's Chess Recordings.

Besman session, August 7, 1951

w. Hooker extra dubbed gtr on -1, and Little Eddie Kirkland, second gtr (plus vols on -2

How Can You Do It? -1 (1635) – Modern 835, Crown LP 5353, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, J

I Work For Her Every Day (Baby How Can You Do It?) -1 (aoa) – GB LP 3130, DCC LP 042*

Throw My Money Around (undubbed version of above) – UA LP 127 (not on Body & Soul)

Johnny Lee's Mood (Original One Voice aja I'm In The Mood) – UA LP 5512, J

Two Voice Original Mood – UA LP 127

I'm In The Mood -1 (Three Voice Original Mood) – Modern 835, Crown LP 5157, Kent 45:332, Modern 95234, UA LP 127*, Ace CDCHD 315, Virgin CD 82741, P, UT, SR, SFBox, CB

I'm In The Mood -1 (aja – one voice) – DCC LP 042, Mainstream MCDX 103

I'm In The Mood (with Hooker hca dub on MM 1636) – Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul)

Anybody Seen My Baby (Johnny Says Come Back*) (1637) – Modern 847, Crown LP 5157, UA LP 127*, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741

I Did Everything (aoa) – UA LP 127

Turn Over A New Leaf (This Is 19 and 52, Babe* aka 1952 Blues) – Modern 847, Crown LP 5232, DCC LP 042* (not AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, J

Let's Talk It Over -2 – Modern 935, Crown LP 5259, Kent LP 5025, DCC LP 042 (see note), Ace CD 799, J

Note: Dib track Hooker vols on original issues (triple on 835), also dib track vols (both Hooker and Kirkland) on original 78 of Modern 935 July, 1954. That last title often listed as a 1952 recording together with the “Rock House Boogie” session or as May 22, 1952; but listed as being recorded as above on DCC LP - and has the title “Let's Talk It Over (One More Time)” on Audio Fidelity CD (which also has a comma on "Baby, How Can You Do It?").

Gene Delich private recordings, August, 1951 Pleasant Ridge, Michigan (not on Body & Soul)

Two sessions in Detroit – one of the sessions listed as August 16 (the original statement was October 18, 1949) (issued on Flyright FL/YCD 257 – “The Unknown” – and reissued on Eagle CD 20024 as ”Jack O' Diamonds”.

First session:

In The Evenin' When The Sun Goes Down

Guitar Blues Instrumental

Old Blind Barnabus

Two White Horses

Moses Smote The Water

Trouble In Mind

Spoken Interlude (Thinking About Death)

Catfish Blues

Rabbit On The Log

John Henry

Come And See About Me

How Long Blues

Second session (with audience):

Ezekiel Saw The Wheel

33 Blues (God Knows I Can't Last Long!)

Jack O' Diamonds

She's Real Gone

Water Boy (Bring That Water Round)

Unfilled Slow Blues (aka Anybody Seen My Baby)

Six Little Puppies And Twelve Shaggy Hounds

Unissued from first session: John Henry (2nd version), Child's Prayer, I Wonder (1st version), and unknown title. “Catfish Blues” and “Moses Smote The Water” issued on SFBox. “Two White Horses” and “33 Blues” issued on CB.

27 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
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John L. Plays & Sings Folk Blues: Detroit 1952

The fifth Body & Soul CD volume, the second Chess LP 1454 "Plays & Sings the Blues" (1961), the Crown LP 5295 "Folk Blues" (1962), the United Superior US-7729 reissue of "Folk Blues" (ca 1971), with the later re-covered United issue, and the Savoy v-a 2 LP 526 "Southern Blues" including seven early Barbee produced Hooker tracks (issued 1981).

Besman session, ca January, 1952
w. Bernie Besman (or poss Buddy Johnson); and dubbed extra vcls (Hooker) and instruments (xylophone on -1)

Cold Chills All Over Me (Cold Chills" or I Got Drunk") - Modern 862-1, Crown LP 5157*-1, GB LP 3130**, UT**
Cold Chills (aoa or poss unedited "take 3") - Ace CDCHD 530; **above titled "I Got Drunk (Sonny Boy's Cold Chills)" on UT Rock Me Mama (Good Rockin' Mama) - Modern 862, Crown LP 5232*, GB LP 3130, Official CD 86065
I Came To You Baby - UA LP 127

Someone To Love - UA LP 127 (w. dubbed extra gtr)
Note: "Cold Chills" and "Rock Me Mama" issued in three editions each on GB LP 3130 (titled take 1,2,3) and "Someone To Love" issued in alternate editions on UA LP 127 - take 1 and 2. Body & Soul Vol 5 has all versions.

Chess session (prob. Detroit), April 24, 1952
with extra track and extra dubbed (speeded-up) gtr and poss dms on -1 Walking The Boogie (Walking' The Boogie**) -1 (U 7432) - Chess 1513, LP 1438*, P*

Walking The Boogie (unedited) - Chess LP 8203, LP 9102, DIG, J
Sugar Mama (J 7433) - Chess 1513, LP 1438, DIG, P, UT, CB
I Don't Want Your Money - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P, UT, CB
Hey, Baby - Chess LP 1454, DIG
The Journey (aka Sentimental Journey) - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Bluebird (aka Bluebird Blues) - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P
Love Blues - Chess LP 1438
Apologize - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Lonely Boy Boogie (aka New Boogie) - Chess LP 1454, DIG, J
Please Don't Go (aka Baby Please Don't Go) - Chess LP 1454, DIG
Worried Life Blues - Chess LP 1454, DIG, P
Down At The Landing - Chess LP 1438, DIG

Note: All Chess recordings issued on MCA/Chess MCD 09391. "Lonely Boy Boogie" has a slightly longer ending - and "The Journey" a longer intro than that CD (unedited). Jasmine has the spelling "Walking The Boogie".

Besman session, May 22, 1952
w. Little Eddie Kirkland,gtr (and vcl-1); Bernie Besman,org-2
It Hurts Me So -1/2 - Modern 876, Crown LP 5353, DCC LP 042
I Got Eyes For You (Yes, Baby, Baby, Baby* or Yes, Baby, Baby**) - Modern 876, Crown LP 5353, DCC LP 042*, Audio Fidelity CD AF X005*, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, CB
I Got Eyes For You (aoa) - Ace CDCHD 799 (not on Body & Soul)
Key To The Highway -1/2 - Modern 886, Crown LP 5353, UT
I Got The Blues (aka) (Key To The Highway) -1/2 - DCC LP 042 (not AF), Ace CDCHD 799*, J Bluebird Blues (Bluebird, Bluebird Take A Letter Down South* or Bluebird, Take A Letter Down South** Bluebird Blues*** - Modern 886, DCC LP 042*, Audio Fidelity CD AF X005**, Ace CD 799**

Note: Double-track voice on several issues of the above titles.

By "Little" Eddie Kirkland, vcl/gtr with Hooker guitar
It's Time For My Lovin' To Be Done - RPM 367, Kent LP 9006
That's All Right - RPM 367, Kent LP 9006

Besman recordings, 1952
w. Bob Thurman,pno; Eddie Burns, dbd hca-1; Hooker or Kirkland extra gtr-2; unkn dubbed bs-3; unkn celeste (no prob, no hca) - 4
It's My Own Fault (aka It's My Fault)* - 3 - Chess 1562, LP 1438, Chess MCD 09391 [video]
It's My Own Fault -1 (unedited version of above) - Fortune LP 3002
Baby I Prone My Love To You (unedited version of above) - GB LP 3130
Blues For Big Town -2 - Fortune LP 3002, Chess LP 8119, Chess MCD 09391, DIG, P, SFBox
Juke Bug -1 (instrumental) - Fortune LP 3002
You Have Two Hearts -4 - Chess MCD 09391 (not on Body & Soul)
Note: 'It's My Own Fault" has dbd track vcl on Chess/MCA issues; hca dubbed on Fortune issue; GB issue no double track and no hca (unedited original recording) the alternate versions not on Body & Soul.

Fortune Records, ca 1952 (sold to Chess)
w. Bob Thurman or Boogie Woogie Red,pno; unknown,gtr (poss overdubbed or Eddie Kirkland); prob Tom Whitehead,dms
Women And Money (aka Money And Women) - Chess 1562, LP 1438, Chess MCD 09391

Joe Bihari - Joe Sircusace productions, December 3, 1952
w. Johnny Hooks,tens; Boogie Woogie Red,pno; Jimmy Turner,dms; (dbd track vcl on-1)
It's Been A Long Time Baby -1 - Modern 897, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741
Ride 'Til I Die - Modern 907, Ace LP 37, Ace CDCHM 539
I Tried Hard -1 - Modern 935, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741

Bihari - Sircusace productions, 1952
w. Eddie Kirkland,gtr
Rock House Boogie - Modern 897, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, J
It's Stormin' And Rainin' - Modern 901, Ace CD 799, J
Cool Little Car - Modern 942, Ace LP 37, Ace CDCHM 539
Lookin' For A Woman - Modern 978, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHM 539
Note: Dbd track vcl on Modern 897, 901, 978 singles - the Mainstream CD has the original unedited masters.

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The Great JLH Sings His Blues: Detroit 1953 – 1955

Bihari - Saracuse productions, June 26, 1953
w. Boogie Woogie Red, pno; Eddie Kirkland, gtr; Tom Whitehead, dms
Love Money Can’t Buy  - Modern 908, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741, J
Please Take Me Back  - Modern 908, Ace CDCHD 315, SR

Henry Stone session, prob. Cincinnati (or poss Miami), July 1953
w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1 (and sec-vcl-2)
Please Say You’re Mine  (GR 15117)  - unissued (poss. not Hooker)
My Baby Don’t Love Me  (15118) - Delux 6046, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877
Blue Monday  (I Ain’t Got Nobody)* -1 (15119) - Rockin’ 524, Deluxe 6004, Chart 614*, Atlantic LP 7228, Collectables CD 2877
Mischbelieving Baby (My Baby Put Me Down*)  (15120) - Chart 614, Atlantic LP 7228*
Love My Baby (aqa)  (15121) - Atco LP 151
Wobbling Baby -1  (15122) - Chart 609, Atlantic LP 7228, CB
Pouring Down Rain (Wobblin’ Baby)*  -1 (aqa)  (15123) – Rockin’ 525, Deluxe LP 6032, Atco LP 151*, J
Goin’ South  (15124) - Chart 609, Atlantic LP 7228
Real, Real Gone  (15125) - DeLuxe 6046, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877
Lovin’ Guitar Man (Guitar Lovin’ Man)  -1/2 (15126) – Rockin’ 524, Deluxe LP 604*, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877, J
Stutterin’ Blues (Stutterin’ Blues)*  (15127) - Rockin 525, Delux 6032, Atco LP 151, Collectables CD 2877*, SFBox, CB
Hook’s Boogie (I Ain’t Got Nobody?*)  (A 5626) - Atco LP 151*  (see note)
Sleepy Blues (Mischbelieving Baby)* (A 5627) - Atco LP 151*  (see note)
Note: Rockin’ and DeLuxe matrix prefix GR, Chart prefix C. Last two tracks are instrumental most certainly recorded in 1961 (listed here due to overview of mistitlings). All 12 tracks issued on Atlantic LP 7228 Detroit Special (1952 - imaged above) and on Atco CD 7-82365-2 Don’t Turn Me From Your Door. Collectables COL CD 2877. I’m The Boogie Man has 15 of the 16 Texas Slim recordings, and also the three DeLuxe recordings from below plus the tracks listed above.

Bihari - Saracuse productions, ca August 1953
w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr
Too Much Boogie  - Modern 916, Ace CDCHD 315, J
Need Somebody  - Modern 916, Ace CDCHD 315, P

Battle recordings, September 1953
w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr
I Came To See You Baby (GV-2-113) – DeLuxe 6009, Collectables CD COL2877
I’m A Boogie Man (I’m The Boogie Man*)  (GV-2-114) – DeLuxe 6009, Collectables CD COL2877*, J, CB
My Baby Left Me (GV-2-115) – originally unissued, COL CD2877, Vance Sarabande CD 30(1)(065577-2
Note: Last track unissued on Collectables and Vance Sarabande. Vance I’m A Boogie Man has all the original 16 Texas Slim recordings plus the three recordings above. Last track not on Body & Soul. 113 and 114 also issued on the French version of Krazy Cat KD 05.

Battle recordings, ca mid/late 1953 (rec prior to above acc to Dave Sax - in some files listed as rec ca May, 1955)
w. Jimmy Miller, tpt; Johnny Hooks, tms; Joe Woods, pno; Tom Whitehead, dms
Boogie Rambler (SO-48)  - JVB 30, KK LP 200, DGC
No More Doggin’ (SO-49)  - JVB 30, KK LP 200
Note: JVB single issued either late 1953 (R&B Indies and KK) or ca 1955 (Fancourt).

Bihari - Saracuse productions, late 1953
w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr
Down Child  - Modern 923, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream CD MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR, SFBox, CB, J
Gotta Boogie (Boogie Boogie)  - Modern 923, Crown LP 5295*, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF)*, Ace CDCHD 315, SR, J
Bad Boy  - Modern 942, Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF), Ace CDCHD 315, P, SR
Note: Louisiana Red reported to be present on “Down Child” according to (early) Les Fancourt. “Boogie Woogie All Night Long” on Crown LP 5232 is by Louisiana Red (calling himself Rockin’ Red on that track, and prob features John on guitar – recorded 1953).

Bihari - Saracuse productions, February 6, 1954
w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr-1
I Wonder Little Darling  - Modern 931, Ace CDCHM 530
Jump Me (One More Time) -1  - Modern 931, Ace CDCHM 315, Ace CDCHM 530, SR

Johnny Vincent session (Esquire Rec. Studios) - Specialty, May 12/13, 1954
w. Johnny Hooks, tms; John Griffith, pno; Tom Whitehead, dms
I’m Mad  - Specialty 528, SPCD 0735
I Been Done So Wrong  (tk 1)  - Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013
I Been Done So Wrong  (tk 2)  - PeaVine (J) PCD18545 (not on Body & Soul)
I Been Done So Wrong (aqa)  - Specialty SPCD 7035 (not on Body & Soul)
Boogie Rambler  - Specialty SPCD 7035, SFBox
I Keep The Blues  - Specialty SPCD 7035
No More Doggin’ aka No More Foolin’  - Specialty SPCD 7035
I Do Like I Please  – Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013 (not on Specialty CD, only on Body & Soul)
w. Roosevelt, b, Whitehead, dms
Anybody’s Blues (I Love You Baby)  - Specialty SPCD 7035
Everybody’s Blues  - Specialty 528, Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013, SPCD 7035
Locked Up In Jail  (aka Prison Blues)  – Sonet/Specialty SNTF LP 5013, SPCD 7035, UT
3CD TIN (54 tracks), f. Newport bootlegs. The CD was later
From Detroit to Chicago 1954
(UK 1996)
(Baby You Ain’t No Good (Baby, You Ain’t No Ugly Good*) - Crown LP 5295, Mainstream MDCD903, CB
She’s Long, She’s Tall… from Square
Rare Hooker on
Simply John Lee Hooker
Charly LP 5096, MDCD903*, Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741,
609 Boogie
w. Johnny Hooks, tens, Eddie Kirkland, gtr/leadgtr; Tom Whitehead, dms; Devora Brown, intro speech
609 Boogie – Fortune 846, HQ 5018X, (Body & Soul Vol 3)
Fortune recordings, ca 1954
w. Otis Finch, tens; Bob Thurman or John Griffith, pno; Eddie Kirkland, gtr/leadgtr; prob. unknown bs; Tom Whitehead, dms; Devora Brown, intro speech
Big Fine Woman – HQ 5018, Elmor 303, Fortune LP 3002, Chess MCD 09391, DIG
Cry Baby (Cry Baby Cry*) – Fortune 853, Chess MCD 09391*, DIG
Love You Baby (Tell Me, Baby*) – Fortune 853, Chess MCD 09391*, DIG
Blues For Christmas – HQ 5018, Elmor 303, Chess MCD 09391
Note: Last four not on Body & Soul. “Big Fine Woman” unedited on Chess. “609 Boogie” may be of an earlier date; and was reissued as flip of some Hi Q 5018 “Blues For Christmas” releases (see Singles Discography).
fortune recordings, prob. mid 1955
w. Otis Finch, tens; Bob Thurman, pno; unknown b; Tom Whitehead, dms
Hug And Squeeze (Hug And Squeeze You*/ Hug & Squeeze**) – Modern 966, Crown LP 5232*, Mainstream MDCD 903*; Ace CD 799, Virgin CD 82741
I Love You Baby (I Love Ya Baby*) (aoa) – Crown LP 5232, Mainstream MDCD 903*
The Syndicater (The Syndicate* aka Backbiters And Syndicadors) - Modern 966, Crown LP 5232*, Kent LP 5025, Mainstream MDCD 903(AF), Virgin CD 82741
The John Lee Hooker Session Discography - revised and compiled by Claus Röhnisch

The session details in this discography are based on Les Fancourt's Hooker entry in "The Blues Discography 1943-1970 - The Classic Years" (revised and expanded 3rd edition) by Les Fancourt and Bob McGrath, Eyeball Productions, printed in January 2013 (all editions are reviewed). - checked for duplicate entries, updated, and compiled with representative LP and CD issue by Claus Röhnisch.

"Boogie Chillin'" - a guide by Les Fancourt, and information from Scott Fell, Neil Staven, Dave Sax, Mike Rowe, Charles Spearman, and Gary Heam has also been valuable; and inspiration from Frank Scott, Alan Bathour, and Colin Escott. The Michael J. Sweeney and Robert Pruter discography in Goldmine has been studied.

Four volumes of the second edition of "The R&B Index" by Bob McGrath have also been very useful. Mastering numbers, which lack sufficient discographical significance, are not recorded. Listings issued on ShoutFactory 4CD Box 826663-10198 "HOOKER" (2006) listed for overview (SFBox), and so are the tracks of Craft Recordings 5CD CR900015 (2017) "King of the Boogie" marked (CB). The tracks of Charly 4CD "skogbk" DIG 3 "The Boogie Man" (1994), featuring 1948-1966, are marked (DIG). That box is not identical to the Propertbox 4CD (2006) with the same title (featuring 1946-1995). All tracks of Charly CDCR 176 "Rare Hooker" (1997) are listed. The tracks of the British INTROTCD01 "The Very Best of The King of Blues Guitar" on 3CD UnionSquare (2006) are marked (UT) for overview, and 2CD "Simply John Lee Hooker" on Union Square SFMPTYCD026 (2016) marked (UT). Original master numbers are given after track title (when known). All 101 tracks from Hooker's singles on Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay 1948-1962 are featured on Acrobat ACCD7103 4CD set "Singles Collection", issued on August 5, 2016. (none of the Sensation/Regal recordings and no private records).

John Lee Hooker, wigtin plus accom as shown. For pseudonym credits, see "Singles Discography."


Original title followed by master number. Only original vinyl issues are listed (e.g. Charly and DJM tracks listed when not on any previous VJ album). Please note that the discography not has the completely identical track order of the 6-Chet set CD RED Box 6 "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964" (1996), although most of the tracks are included in that CD-box (126 titles). The first four Vee-Jay LPs (1007, 1023, 1033 and 1043) reissued on Charly CDGs 298 (1998), 294 (1999), 300 (2000) and 298 (2000) - stereo - and with bonus tracks as noted (reissued with SNAP catalogue numbers in 2003). Nine of Hooker's Vee-Jay LPS also reissued on Collectables CDs. All tracks on tomato 2CD-set TOM 89067 "The Early Years" (1994) are marked (TOM) for overview. All tracks on Charly 3CD-set SNATL 705 CD "Testament" (2001) are listed, (Te), and the tracks of the Fruitee 2CD-set 8941 "Giants of Blues" (2002) are marked (F). All 40 (F)-marked tracks also on "Testament" (Te), which has a total of 60 tracks. Tracks on the 3CD Metro TIN METRTN014 "The Essential Collection" (2010 - 60 tracks) are marked (MT). Tracks on MetroDoubles 2CD METRDCD644 "At His Very Best" (2010 - 50 tracks), which are not on the TIN-set are marked (MD). Unless otherwise indicated, all recordings done in Chicago - mostly Universal Recording Studios, produced by John Lee Hooker (produced by Ewart Abner) early on, but especially with Calvin Carter and soon Al Smith (mostly engineered by Bernie Clapier). The 16 tracks on Vee-Jay/Craft CD03058 "Whisky & Wimmen - John Lee Hooker's Finest", issued in May, 2017, listed (VJC).

Original singles marked in red. Note: Starting in 1959 Hooker also recorded several "folk sessions" for other labels - see part Three.

I'm John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay


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Vee-Jay LP 1967 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (1959, released on Collectables CD 7109) in 2000, the British DJM 2-set LP 20020 "Complete of 1955-1958, Vee-Jay CD NDV2-713 "On Vee-Jay 1955-1958" (issued 1993), and two late 1958 nearly 1960 LPS on Top Rank, TEP 130 "I'm John Lee Hooker" (Sweden very rare), and the French RES 136 "John Lee Hooker".

October 19, 1953
w. Jimmy Reed hca; Eddie Taylor,gt; George Washington,b; Tom Whitehead,dsms
Unfriendly Woman (aka Stop Now) (336) - VJ 265, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDCR281, Te, MT, CB (see note)
Wheels And Deal (337) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, MT
Mambo Child (aka Mambo Children) (338) - VJ 164, DJM LP 28023, MD, UI, UT, CB
Time Is Marching (Time Is Marching On or Time Is Marching*) (339) - VJ 164, LP 1007, LP 8502, TOM*, DIG, Propertbox111**, FF*, MT, UI, UT, VJC, CB
Note: 336 presented as an alternate take on the Craft book-box as 3:28 (not issued on single - but it is the same 2:50 as on Charly and Te). The DJM-version is presented as 2:13, and the single is presented as 2:48.

March 27, 1956
w. Taylor, Washington, Whitehead
I'm So Worried Baby (443) - VJ 233, VJCDD 713, Charly CDCR176 (not on RED 6)
I'm So Worried Baby (I'm So Worried, Baby) (oa) - DJM LP 28026, VJ Japan Box, (and on CD RED 6), CDGR281, F
Baby Lee (444) - VJ 205, LP 1007, TOM, DIG, F, MT, UI
Dimples (445) - VJ 205, LP 1007, TopRank TEP 130, LP 1049, Stateside 45 SS297 (1964), Trip 169, TOM, DIG,
Chameleon LP 74794, F, UI, UT, MT, SFBox, VJC, CB
Every Night (446) - VJ 188, LP 1007, DIG, Te, SFBox
The Road Is So Rough (aka When I Started Hoboing) (447) - VJ 233, TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, MT
Trouble Blues (448) - VJ 188, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDCR281, F, MT
Note: There are two alternates of "Dimples" listed (a piano and an instrumental version) on a JLH 22 track bootleg CD on Members Edition issued in 2002.

June 7, 1956
w. Otis Finch, teno; plus unknown pno; Taylor, Washington, Whitehead
Done Got Tired (479) - unissued
Stop Talking (480) - DJM LP 28026, Vee-Jay CD NDV2-713, MT
Time And A Half (481) - unissued
Lonely Blues (482) - unissued
March 1, 1957
w. Taylor, Quin Wilson,b; Whitehead
Everybody Rockin' (633) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, F, MD
I'm So Excited (634) - VJ 245, LP 1007, TOM, DIG, F, UI, SFBox
I See You When You're Weak (635) - VJ 245, Vee-Jay CD 713, Charly CDCR 176 (not on RED 6), UI
I See You When You're Weak (I Can See You When You're Weak) (oa) - DJM LP 28026, VJ Japan Box (and on CD RED 6), MT
Crawlin' Black Spider (aka Mean Old Snake) (636) - TopRank EP RES 136, DJM LP 28026, Te, MD
June 23, 1957
w. Frankie Bradford,pno; Taylor,gt; Everett McCray,b; Richard Johnson,dsms
Little Wheel (717) - VJ 255, LP 1007, LP 1049, F, MT, UI, CB
Little Fine Woman (718) - DJM LP 28026, Te
Rosie Mae (aka Nothing But Trouble) (719) - VJ 255, DJM LP 28026, Te, MT
You Can Lead Me Baby (aka Lead Me On) (720) - VJ 255, DJM LP 28026, Charly CDCR281, Te
June 10, 1958
w. Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Taylor, McClary, Johnson
I Love You Honey (I Love You, Honey) (207) - VJ 293, LP 1007, TEP 130, DIG, F, MT, UI, SFBox, VJC, BC
You've Taken My Woman (928) - CJ 293, DJM LP 28026, Te
Mama You Got A Daughter (Mama, You Got A Daughter) (929) - VJ CD 713, DIG, Charly CDGDR776, Te, MT, UI
I Gonna Love You (830) - unissued
Note: 20 original tracks of above (including the three here with the single versions of the alternates; and none of the Devil's Tunes tracks) issued on Vee-Jay CD NVD2-713 in 1995. Master 929 not on RED Box 6. Some files note Bob Porter as pianist (prob incorrect).

"rehearsal" session, prob for Vee-Jay on June 10, 1958 (no master numbers) prob w. McClary and Johnson
Mama, You've Got A Daughter (Mama, You Got A Daughter) - DJM LP 28026, Charleem LP 74794, MD, The Devil's Tunes LP/CD002* (wrongly listed as master 929 on RED 6)
Nightmare - Charly LP 1029, CDGDR284, Charleem LP 74784, Te, MT
House Rent Boogie - Charly LP 1004, TOM, Charleem LP 74794, Te, MT
Trying To Find A Woman - Charly CD RED Box 6
Drive Me Away - Charly LP 1029, CDGDR284, Te, CB
I'm Goin' Home (I'm Going Home) - Instant LP 5009, The Devil's Tunes LP/CD002*
Love Me All The Time - Charly LP 1029, CDGDR284
Lou Delta - Instant LP 5009, MT
Bundle Up And Go - Charly CD RED Box 6, CDGDR284
Wrong Doin' Woman - Charly LP 1029
All ten above issued on The Devil's Tunes LP002 (with accompdate as above and with track titles as on '+') plus 927-928 above added as bonus tracks on the CD. Les Fancourt lists the recordings as from ca 1958/60.

January 22, 1959 (produced by Calvin Carter and Jimmy Bracken)
w. Eddie Taylor, trp; Carl Phillips, dms-2
Maudie -1,2,3 (1067) - VJ 308, LP 1007, TopRank TEP 130, F, MT, CB
Tennessee Blues -1,2 (1068) - VJ 319, Charly LP 1029, MT
I'm In The Mood -1 (1069) - VJ 308, LP 1007, LP 1049, Trip 167, DIG, F, MT, UI, VJC
Boogie Chillin' (Boogie Chillin' **) (1070) - VJ 319, LP 1007, LP 1049, Trip 167, DIG, Charly CD 74794, F, MT, UI, VJC
Hobo Blues (The Hobo Blues'-front cover) (1071) - VJ 331, LP 1007, LP 1049, DIG, F, MT, UI, VJC
"rehearsal" (prob New York City) w. unknown dms and poss. bs (prob a Riverside Febr. 1960 recording)

When I Lay My Burden Down - originally unissued, Craft 5CD box-book (from April 1959-February 1960 Hooker was "leased" to Riverside)

Travelin' the Best


March 1, 1960 (prob. Al Smith, producer – and poss also Calvin Carter)

"callout only on -1 w. William "Lifty" Bates, Jr; Sylvester Hickman, b (not -2); Jimmy Turner, dms
I Wanna Walk (aka I Want To Walk) (1373) - VJ LP 1023, TOM, Charleem LP 74794, MT
Canal Street Blues (1374) - VJ LP 1023, MD
I'll Know Tonight (1375) - VJ LP 1023
I Can't Believe (1376) - VJ LP 1023, F
Goin' To California (1377) - VJ LP 1023, MT

Whiskey And Wimmen (Whiskey & Wimmen aka Whiskey And Wimmen) (1378) - VJ LP 1023, LP 1049, LP 8502, Goldion 45 2451 single 1973, TOM, Charleem LP 74794*, Te, MT, UI, SFBox, VJC (some later issues slightly longer ending)
Run On (1379) - VJ LP 1023
Solid Sender (1380) - VJ LP 1023, F, MD, UI
Sunny Land (aka Notoriety Woman) (1381) - VJ LP 1023, F
Dusty Road (aka Big Road) (1382) - VJ LP 1023, LP 1049, Stateside EP SE 1008, TOM, DIG, F, MT, UI, CB
I'm A Stranger (1383) - VJ LP 1023, Te
No Shoes (1384) - VJ LP 1023, LP 1049, TOM, DIG, Charleem LP 74794, F, MT, UI, SFBox, VJC, BC
Note: VJLP 1023 later issued in stereo, some with SR-prefix. Stateside EP (1962) has 2 tracks by Jimmy Reed on A-side.

The Folk Lore of the World's Greatest

The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker

Purchased from Prestige, supervised by Esmond Edwards, rec. NYC April 29, 1960 (JLH, vcl/gtr)
Sally Mae (as Sadie Mae) (1772) - Charly LP 1029, Charly LP 1081*, F, UI
I Like To See You Walk (1773) - VJ LP 1033
Take Me As I Am (1774) - VJ 397, LP 1033
You’re Looking Good Tonight (1775) - VJ LP 1033
Movin’ Blues (1776) - Charly LP 1029, DIG, Charly CDGR300, Te, MT, UI
Wednesday Evening Blues (1777) - VJ LP 1033, LP 8502,
You’Gonna Miss Me When I’m Gone (1793) - Charly LP 1029, CDGR300
Dirty Ground Hog (1794) - Instant LP 5009, Charly CDGR300, F, MT
Blues Walkin’ (aka unfiled instrumental) (1795) - unissued (2206)
Five Long Years (1796) - VJ LP 1033, Te, MT, UI
My First Wife Left Me (1797) - VJ LP 1033, DIG, Te, MT, UI, CB
She Loves My Best Friend (1798) - Charly CD RED Box 6
Come And Ride With Me (aka Automobile Blues) - unissued (2210)
My Heart’s In Misery (aka My Heart In Memory) - unissued (2211)
Note: There is an acetate on United Artists Music Group, featuring the three unissued tracks plus an alternate, shorter Sallie Mae (2198A?). The acetate features four JHL and four Sonny Terry tracks. Thanks for this info, Scot. 12 of above (Prestige masters 2198-2209) remastered by Vee-Jay in 1961 (1772-77 / 1793-98 series).

Purchased from Vanguard, rec. Newport, June 25, 1960
w. Bill Lee.

The Holo (Hobo Blues) * aka Dusky Road) (1622) - VJ LP 1033, Vanguard LP 2087*, Vanguard CD 79703*, MT, CB*
Maudie (1623) - Vanguard LP 2087 (v.a.), VJ LP 8502, Charly CDGR300, Vanguard CD 79703, CB
Tupelo (aka Backwater Blues) (1624) - VJ 366, LP 1033, LP 1049, Vanguard LP 2087, Te, MT, UI

I’m Mad Again (1962) - John Lee Hooker recorded a specific and unique version of this song for Paul Oliver’s Deca compilation LP 4664 Conversation With The Blues, given the title “Somewhere Down The Line” (issued 1965).

Bootleg recordings, live Newport, July 3, 1960 (Vee-Jay not involved)

w. the Muddy Waters band: James Cotton, hca, Otis Spann, pno, Pat Hare, gtr; Andrew Stephens, b; Francis Clay, dms
My Own Fault - Charly DIG 5
Maudie - Charly DIG 5
I Wanna Walk - Charly DIG 5

I Wish You Were Here (aka Ain’t Nobody Home) - Charly DIG 5
Note: Above not on Charly CD RED Box 6, but all five on Charly CDGR 176 “Rare Hooker” (1997). Stefan Grossman’s ‘Rare Performances 1960-1964’ DVD features tracks one and five as “It’s My Own Fault” and “Come Back Baby”, wrongly recorded as on July 28.

Detroit, ca July, 1960 - Fortune Records (not Vee-Jay)
Vernon “The Hoagy Woogie Rez” Harris, pno, Little Eddie Kirkland or poss. Roy Hooker, gtr; Tom Whitehead, dms

Crazy About That Walk - Fortune 855, D Gry, Charly CDGR 176, CB
We’re All God’s Chillin’ - Fortune 855, D Gry, Charly CDGR 176, SFBox

Have Mercy On Poor Me - Fortune LP 3012, Charly DIG 5
Note: above not on Charly CD RED Box 6. “Have Mercy On Poor Me” has instrumental intro omitted on DIG 5.

I’m Mad Again (Hooker only vs g/v(gtr)) - unissued

January 4, 1961
w. William “Lefty” Bates, hca-1/gtr; Quinn Wilson, b; Earl Phillips, dms; poss. Pops Staples, gtr.

Want Ad Blues (1715) - VJ 397, LP 1033, LP 8502, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, CB
With The Circle Be Unbroken (1716) - Dynasty DST 4501 single 1973, LP 7301, MT, CB
I’m Going Upstairs (aka I’m Goin’ Upstairs) (1717) - VJ 379, LP 1033, TOM, F, UI, SFBox, VJC, CB
I Left My Baby - (1718) - Charly LP 1081
Hard Headed Woman - (1719) - VJ LP 1023, TOM
I’m Mad Again (1720) - VJ 379, LP 1033, DIG, F, UI, MT
Note: Jimmy Reed definitely not on any of the above (Hooker sings “blow Lefty blow” on 1718).

Burnin’ Gold


November, 1961 (prob Calvin Carter, producer)
w. Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Hank Cosby, tens; Andrew “Mike” Terry, bars;
Larry Veeder, gtr; James Jamerson, b; Benny Benjamin, dms
Process (2201) - VJ LP 1043, Collectables CD COL7107, F, MT
(above track listed on LP 8502 but does only appear on later reissues. It should really have been titled “Cross Headed Fool”)

Thelma (2202) - VJ LP 1043, TOM
What Do You Say (2203) - VJ LP 1043

Boom Boom (Boom, Boom*) (2204) - VJ 438, LP 1043, LP 1049, LP 8502, Trip 168, Goddess 2461, TOM, DIG, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UI, UT, SFBox, VJC, CB
Blues Before Sunrise (2205) - VJ LP 1043, LP 8502, F, MT, CB

Lost A Good Girl (I Lost A Good Girl –RED 6) (2206) - VJ LP 1043, TOM
She’s Mine (Keep Your Hands To Yourself) (2207) - VJ 453, LP 1043*, Stateside EP SE 1023, TOM, UF, SFBox, CB

Keep Your Hands To Yourself (slightly aa.) - SRLP 1043, Charly CDGR298
I Got A Letter (I Got A Letter This Morning –RED 6) (2208) - VJ LP 1043, F
A New Leaf (aka 1962 Blues) (2209) - VJ 453, LP 1043

Let’s Make It (2210) - VJ LP 1043, poss VJ 438 on some later pressings , TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, Te, MT
Drug Store Woman (2211) - VJ 438 (on early and most pressings), LP 1043, LP 1049, Trip 168, DIG, F, MT


33 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
The Big Soul on Campus

C:a early, 1962
w. accomp as above
Old Time Shimmie (2651) - VJ LP 1058, TOM, Charly CDGR298
Onions (2652) - VJ LP 1058, TOM, Charly CDGR298, UI
You Know I Love You (2653) - VJ LP 1058, Charly CDGR298
Send Me Your Pillow (Send Me The Pillow*) (2654) - VJ LP 575, LP 1058, TOM*, DIG, Charly CDGR298, F, UI

January 28, 1962
w. Joe Edward Hunter, pro/orig. Hank Cosby, tenor, unknown tpt; plus accomp. similar to above; and Mary Wilson plus The Andantes, vcls (feat. Jackie Hicks, Marlene Barrow and Louvain Dempis)
Big Soul (2798) - VJ LP 1058 (ms vcd by Hooker)
Frisco Blues (San Francisco or Frisco**) (2799) - VJ 493 (on later pressings), LP 1058, Trip 169, Chameleon LP 74794**, UI, SFBox, VJC, CB
She Shot Me Down (aka Boom Boom Boom) (2800) - VJ LP 1058
Take A Look At Yourself (2801) - VJ 493, LP 1058, Charly CDGR298, Te
Good Rockin’ Mama (Good Rockin’ Mama*) (2802) - VJ LP 1058, TOM*, Chameleon LP 74794, CB
I Love Her (2803) - VJ 493 (on early pressings), VJ LP 1058
No One Told Me (aka People Are Talking) (2804) - VJ LP 1058

Ca early, 1963
w. unknown, dms
Don’t Look Back (3104) - unissued (listed on Charly CD RED 6 box, but does not appear)
I Had A Friend (3105) - unissued
One Way Ticket (3106) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, DIG, F, MT
Half A Stranger (3107) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, DIG F, MT
Bottle Up And Go (3108) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, MT, UI
My Grindin’ Mill (3109) - VJ LP 1066, TOM
I Want To Ramble (3110) - VJ LP 1066, TOM
Sadie Mae (3111) - Charly CD RED Box 6 (also listed on Charly LP 1081, but “Sally Mae”, 1960 appears there)
This Is Hip (aka This Is It) (3112) - Charly LP 1004, DIG, F, MT, UI

Mid, 1963
w. accomp. similar to “Frisco”-session, although poss. Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, vcls and Memphis Slim, pro.
Poor Me (3306) - VJ LP 1066
I Want To Shout (3307) - VJ LP 1066, TOM, UI
Love Is A Burning Thing (3308) - VJ LP 1066
I Want To Hug You (3309) - VJ LP 1066, TOM
I’m Leaving (3310) (I’m Leavin’ or I’m Leaving Baby** - RED 6) - VJ LP 538, LP 1066, Stateside 45 SS297 (1964), Oldies 45 324, TOM*, Te*, MT**, CB
Birmingham Blues (3311) - VJ LP 538, LP 1066, Oldies 45 324, DIG, F, MT, UI, SFBox, CB
Don’t Look Back (3312) - VJ LP 575, LP 1066, DIG, F, UI
Note: Mono edition of last track on Charly CD RED Box 6 plus stereo version, “title 127” of that box.

At Concert in Person


Purchased from Vanguard; rec. Newport, July 27, 1963
JLH vocal: unknown, b-1
I Can’t Quit You Now Blues (3822) (I Can’t Quit You Baby) - VJ LP 1078, MT
Stop Baby Don’t Hold Me That Way (3823) (Stop Now Baby) - VJ LP 1078, MT
Tupelo (3824) - VJ LP 1078 (listed as Tuplo on original pressings)
Bus Station Blues (3825) - VJ LP 1078
Freight Train Be My Friend (Freight Train To My Friend – RED 6) (3826) (Hobo Blues) - VJ LP 1078
Boom Boom Boom (3827) (Boom Boom) - VJ LP 1078
Boom Boom Boom (alternate) - Vanguard CS 79703-2 (not on RED 6)
Talk That Talk Baby (3828) (introduction, 4 times on Vanguard) - VJ LP 1078, LP 8502
Sometimes Baby You Make Me Feel So Bad (3829+3830) (Sometimes You Make Me Feel So Bad) - VJ LP 1078 (no original VJ LP the above track issued as being two tracks)

The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
You've Got To Walk Yourself (You're Gonna Need Another Favor) - (3831) - VJ LP 1078, Dynasty LP 7301*, CB
Let's Make It - (3832) - VJ LP 1078
The Mighty Fire - (3833) (Great Fire Of Matches) - VJ LP 1078, LP 8502, CB
Note: The listings appear on the Vanguard CD 79703 “Live At Newport”, issued in 2002 (also including two of the three titles from Vanguard/Vee-Jay 1960 - “Tupelo” of 1960 not on that CD, although mentioned as such).

Chicago, mid 1964 (prob. Al Smith, producer)
w. unknown gtr (poss. Wayne Bennett); b, dms
Big Legs, Tight Skirt (aka Big Legs Tight Skirts) (c.1947) - VJ 670, Charly LP 1004, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794, F, MT, UK, SFBox, VJC, CB
Flowers On The Hour (4428) - VJ 708, Dynasty LP 7301, MT
It Servess Me Right (It Servess Me Right To Suffer) or It Servess Me Right To Suffer - *aka It Serve Me Right To Suffer* - (4429) - VJ 708, LP 7301*, DGT, F, MT*, UK, SFBox, VJC, CB
Ain't No Big Thing Baby (You Ain't No Big Thing*) - (4430) - Dynasty LP 7301, TOM, Chameleon LP 74794*
She Left Me One Wednesday (4431) - Charly LP 1029
You Can Run Baby (You Can Run) - RED 6) (4432) - Dynasty LP 7301
New Sally Mae (4433) - Dynasty LP 7301, MT
Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine (4434) - VJ 670, Dynasty DST 4501, LP 7301, F
She's Long, She's Tall (4435) - Dynasty LP 7301, MT
You're Mellow (4436) - Dynasty LP 7301
Note: All tracks above reissued on RPM CD 208 “The Complete 1964 Recordings” (also featuring the 1964 London session).

Special note: The Tomato album “The Early Years” (featuring Vee-Jay tracks) has “1 Bourbon, 1 Scotch, 1 Beer” included as a 31st track (a live recording from Chicago in 1977 - also issued on Albert King’s CD “I'll Play The Blues For You” - Tomato 96142). Album sessions and other recordings 1959-1964 not listed in Part Two – see below: Part Three.

**Discography - Part Three: Sir John Lee Hooker’s Album Sessions - The Sixties: Coast-To-Coast**

Some of the best original 1960s LPs - “That’s My Story” (Riverside, reissued on Fantasy/OBC) - “That’s Where It’s At”...

A Travelin Blues Giant - See full track lists on pages 38-41 for 1959 – 1969 LPs
Listed below are all John Lee Hooker sessions up to and including 1969, not presented earlier. John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr.

Note: Several albums have been reissued on dlft labels thruout the years, only some notables are mentioned.

Detroit (United Sound Systems), April, and April 20, 1959 (Bill Grauer, prod; Bill Hevron, eng)

New York City, February 9, 1960 (Onn Keeneyes, prod)
vcl/acgr with Sam Jones Jr.; Louis Hayes, dms (from the Cannonball Adderley band) – two tracks only vcl/acgr
“That’s My Story - J.L.H Sings The Blues” (Riverside LP 12-321 issued 1960; stereo LP 1175), Reissued on Ace LP CH 298; also on Batts LP 6114 as “How Long Blues”, Original LP reissued on Fantasy/OBC 542* - 12 tracks. Released on UK Ace CDCDH 927: “That’s My Story/The Folk Blues of...” (11” Story+10 “Folk” tracks). Note: LP 12-321 and 12-328 reissued on Fantasy 2 LP 34722 “Black Snake” 1977. All three albums reissued on Fantasy/Original Blues Classics CDs. “I Need Some Money” (“), “Democrat Man”, and “No More Doggin” (“) from this session issued on SFBox, “No More Doggin” (“) also on Vee-Jay/Craft of 1971 (with “...Doggin” wrong list as the 1964 Specialty recording.

Culver City, California, March 9, 1961 (Bernie Besman, prod)
J.L.H. vcl/gtr “John Lee Hooker” (Galaxy LP 201*; stereo 8021 “Lost My Job”/LP - 12 tracks, issued 1963) (Galaxy single 5727 - A side titled “I Lost My Job” - from the stereo LP has dubbed sax, b, dms; which may indicate the stereo LP also had the dubs). Note: All twelve tracks from this LP (marginal right) have been reissued (and re-recorded) on Charly and Galaxy singles and on United Artists and Greenbottle LPs – with seven tracks reissued on Capitol’s 3 CD 39312-2 “Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings”. Stereo LP reissued on Soul Jam CD 69078 “The Galaxy LP” (w. dubs - all 10 tracks) in 2016. Galaxy’s “I Lost My Job” issued on CB.

Miami, Florida, ca July, 1961 (Henry Stone, prod) logged on July 7, 1961 - 15 total tracks + the instrumentals (details and full track lists on page 39) with Earl (Hooker)?; gtr/bgs (on 14 tracks), unk “Tingertop”
“Don’t Turn Me From Your Door - John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues” (Atco LP 33-1514* issued 1963)
J.L.H. vcl; b, gtr; “You Lost A Good Man”, “Drifting Blues”, and “Talk About Your Baby”, plus 2 Instrumental LP, also featuring: six 1953 recordings for Henry Stone (DeLuxe), Reissued on Atlantic LP 7228 “Detroit Special” with four extra bonus tracks from DeLuxe.
That’s Where It’s At!” (Stax LP 2013, issued 1969, and reissued SCD 4142-10 further tracks) Four of the tracks previously issued on GuestStar (with two songs changing titles), Steve Allen’s version on 1 track, prof rec ca 1960.
“Teachin’ The Blues” (Guest Star LP 1902, issued 1966) – 5 tracks with “Talkin’ Bout My Baby” not on above, but issued on King of the Boogie Craft CD book-box as “Meat Shakes On Her Bone”. At this session the instrumentals from Atco LP 151 prod were recorded (listed in 1953 Stone sessions). The tracks of Atco reissued on Atlantic LP SD 7228, retitled “Detroit Special” with extra bonus tracks (now mostly correctly titled) from 1953 (reissued as “Don’t Turn Me From Your Door” on Atco/Polka Dot LPs 33-2635). The original Atco and Star LPs reissued on CBs Collectables CDs 7900 and 3143. “Teachin’ The Blues” “You Lost A Good Man”, and “Don’t Turn Me From Your Door” from this session issued on SFBox. “Don’t Turn Me From Your Door”, “Grinder Man” and “Meet That Goin’ Man” issued on Crib LP, “Big Legs Tight Skirt” (4433) - Dynasty LP 7301, MT, UK, SFBox, VJC, CB

**35 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer**
Newark, New Jersey, ca late 1961 (Savoy Records, Fred Mendelsohn, prod) (F Hancock later has noted these recordings as ca 1961) with Eddie Kirkland, gtr on 2 tracks; plus unknown b, dms (all 10 tracks) "Sittin' Here Thinkin' " (Muse LP MR 5205, issued 1979) plus "My Wife Quit Me" with Kirkland, gtr - from Savoy v.a. MGLP 16000 (1963) "Living with the blues" (issued and titled "When My First Wife Quit Me" on the SFB) Muse LP reissued (with same cover) as "Sad And Lonesome" on Muse CD 6009 5 in 1989 and as "Sittin' Here Thinkin' " on 32Blues CD 32134 4 (1999), both including "When..." - 12 total tracks. All 12 tracks also reissued on Early Years – The Classic Savoy Sessions on MetronDobles 2CD METRDC 532 together with 20 early 1949 1950 Savoy recordings in 2004.

Hamburg, Germany, October 18, 1962 (originally recorded for Brunswick, prod Horst Hohenboken) with T-Bone Walker, pno; Willie Dixon, b; Jump Jackson, dms (recorded in studio with live audience) "The Original American Folk Blues Festival" (Brunswick LP 109012, Decca LP 4392, and Polymer LP 852502 issued 1962, 3 tracks) JLH vcl/gtr; 

"Let's Make It (Baby)", "The Right Time" (aka Night Time Is The Right Time), "Shake It Baby", plus "Need Your Love So Bad" on Excello LP 8029 (1972). All tracks issued on Charly DIG 5. "Let's Make It" issued on SFB, and "Shake It Baby" on CB.


San Francisco live, November 2-3, 6, 8-10, 1962 (Sol Weiss & Jim Easton, prods) JLH vcl/gtr; "Live At Sugar Hill" (Galaxy LP 8205, issued 1963/stero 1968, and Ace LP CH 287, 1990; plus Volume 2 (Ace LP CH 296, issued 1990 - ten more tracks) - 20 total tracks "Boogie Chillun" (Fantasy 2-set 24706 - 20 tracks issued 1974; CD 76322 3, 1989 19 tracks, reissued on Ace CD CHD 936 287 1966 as "Live At Sugar Hill Volumes 1 & 2" (1990) "Live at Sugar Hill vol. 2" (Fantasy FCD 7714-2 19 comp) new Nov. 6 & 9 tracks issued 2002 [image shown page 38] "Boogie Chillun", "Bottle Up And Go" and "Crawlin' King Snake" from this session on CB.

IBC Studios London, England, mid-November, 1964- [as "featuring" from Vee-Jay with Calvin Carter, supervisor with Tom Parker, pno/org; Tony McPhree, pno; Pete Cruickshank, b; Dave Boorman, dms - "... And I'll Sleep Nights" - Verve-Folkways (Forecast) FT 8003, issued 1965; (also on XTRA LP 1114 1971) - 11 tracks, reissued with brass/horns as "On The Waterfront" on Wand LP 689 2 1969, - with the Groundhogs - titled "The 1965 London Sessions" on Sequel CD NECID657 1 (also with brass/horns duet); and on Impulse Verve 2926 3 1966 without brass as "Hooker & The Hogs". Note: A Cleave issue wrongly states John Mayall is on this. All unboxed tracks reissued on RPM CD 208 "The Complete 1964 Recordings" (also featuring Hooker's last Vee-Jay session). 4 tracks from this album on Classic DJs "I'm Lost You" (unissued); and "Cover The Waterfront" (stubbed) issued on SFB, "Nia Life" issued on CB. (Jerry Shaarbaum, producer of the VLP. Some discographies list it as a pos. May-June 1965 session).


Hamburg studio, Germany, October 8, 1965 with Buddy Guy, gtr; Fred Below,dms "The American Folk Blues Festival 1965 - Live In Hamburg" (Fontana LP 681529, issued 1966) featuring 2 tracks: "King Of The World" and "Della May". There are two alternates of "Della May", both titled "Della Mae" issued on a German ACT CD 9204. "King Of The World" issued on SFB.

New York City, November 23, 1965 (Bob Thiele, prod) with Dickie Wells, bn; Barry Galbraith, gtr; Milt Hinton, b; Panama Francis, dms "It Serve(s) You Right To Suffer" (Impulse ALP 9103 / AS9103 issued 1966 - 8 tracks) Reissued on MCA CD 12025 with "Serves" spelling. "Sometimes I Wonder" unissued from this session. "Bottle Up and Go" issued on SFB, "Money", on CB.

Los Angeles live, February 17, 1966 JLH vcl/gtr; unissued session (11 tracks produced by Gil Novak)

Chicago, May, 1966 (Ralph Bass, prod) (full track lists on page 40) with Lafayette Leake, pno/org; Eddie Burns, gtr, unk and bmb; S.P. Leary or poss. FredBelow, dms "The Real Folk Blues" (Chess LP 1508, issued 1966, reissued 1984, 10 tracks with several Missing); seven as "The Folk Blues"

"More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" (MCA/Chess CD CHD9329 11, issued 1991) - 9 tracks Note: These two albums reissued on one CD titled "The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions" in Europe on MCA MCD-18335 (1991) and "The Real Folk Blues / More Real Folk Blues" in US on MCA/Chess 112821 (2002). "One Bourbon..." issued on DIG 5, SFB and CB, "Let's Go Out Tonight" issued on SFB.

New York City, August 20, 1966 (Bob Thiele, prod) (full track list on page 41) (prob recorded in studio with audience present) with Otis Spann, pno, Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther "Snake" Johnson, gtrs; Mac Arnold,b; Francis Clay,dms; (George Smith, hca listed on label - but not present) "Live At Cafe au Go Go" (Bluesway LP 6002, issued 1967 - 8 tracks, reissued on British BG0CD39) "I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" appears here for the first time. Reissued on Universal CD 11537 (1996) with bonus tracks from "Live At Soldad Prison". "I'm Bad Like Jesse James" issued on SFB and CB.

Chicago, September 26, and November 27, 1967 (Al Smith, prod) (full track list on page 41) session one: Wayne Bennett and prob Buddy Guy, gtrs; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor, bassgtr; Al Duncan, dms session two: Louis Myers, hca; Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor, gtrs ; Phil Upchurch, basgtr; Al Duncan, dms "Urban Blues" - Bluesway LP 6512 2, issued 1968; plus "Want Ad Blues" single track (included on BGO CD 1212 reissue 1991) - 12 total tracks. Reissued on MCA CD 10760 in 1993 (11 tracks + unissued bonus tracks from 1969 "If You Miss 'Im"-session. "Think Twice Before You Go" issued on SFB, "The Motor City Is Burning" on CB.

New York City, September 17-18, 1968 (Bob Thiele, prod) (tracks – see page 40) Hete Rosenthal, hca; Ernie Hayes, pno/organ; Wally Richardson, gtr; William Fowle, b; Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, dms "Simply The Truth" (Bluesway LP 6023 1) issued 1969 - 8 trats Reissued on BGO CD 40 (1991) and poss. MCA CD 21236 (1994). "Mean Woman" issued on SFB and CB.

Cologne, Germany, live October 14, 1968 (prob Al Smith for "American Folk Blues Festival") Big Walter Horton, hca; T-Bone Walker, pno; Eddie Taylor, gtrs; Jerome Arnold, b; Jessie Lewis, dms 4 unissued tracks Note: JLH recorded several sessions in Cologne (Germany), and Europe during late 1958-early 1969, which were not issued at the time but are available today on a couple of bootleg CDs. 

36 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
Montauban, France, live March 26-28, 1969 (Jazz Odyssey LP 005 and LP 014)
JLH, vol.14
3 tracks: “When My First Wife Quit Me”, “Boogie Chillun” and “Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive”. Note: First two tracks reissued on Jazz Odyssey CD JOCDD02 and the third track is also planned to be issued on CD.

Los Angeles, May 29, 1969 (EdMichel, prod) (tracks – see page 40)
Jeff Carp, hcl; Johnny ‘Big Moose’ Walker, pno; Earl Hooker, Paul Asbell, gtrs; Geno Skaggs, b; Roosevelt Shaw, dms.
“If You Miss ’Im...I Got ’Im” (Blueseway LP 6038 14, issued 1969) - 9 tracks; reissued on MCA CD 13561 and BGCD392, plus 3 originally unissued tracks.

Poss California or France, live ca 1969 with the Chicago Stars / Blues Band
Sunnyland Slim, pno; Johnny Shines, gtr; Willie Dixon, b; Clifton James, dms.

Paris, France, October, 1969 (a total of 22 songs recorded)
with Lowell Fulson, gtr; Carey Bell, b; S.P. Leary, dms.
“I Feel Good” (Carson / Calumet LP 3662 14, issued in Europe 1970), reissued in US on Jewel LP 5005 13 (1971) - 9 tracks; plus with two plus three plus three extras on Blue Moon CD 070 71 “Nothing But The Blues” 1991. No CD is found of the America LP below.
“I Wanna Dance All Night” (America LP 6101 15, issued 1970) - 10 tracks; plus “Boom Boom” from v.a. Black And Blue v.a. LP 950500. The two LPs above reissued on Diques Festival 2LP-set 186 72 “Black Rhythm ‘n’ Blues” 1975.

Paris, France, November 30, 1969
JLH, vol.15
“Get Back Home In The USA” (Black And Blue LP 333023 16v, issued 1971) - 10 tracks; reissued with 6 extra tracks on B&B CD 59023 22 as “Get Back Home” (1988), also on Evidence (re-recorded below - all 16 tracks) and in 1999 on B&B BB4232ND210 (same cover as 59023) with “Boom Boom” from above as extra track.

Images right (from top 18-22): LPs Carson/Calumet 3662 “I feel Good”, “I wanna dance all night” and “Black Rhythm ‘n’ Blues”, plus CDs “Nothing but the Blues”, and “Get Back Home”. General note: Singles from most of above LPs have been issued.
see Singles Discography. See also John Lee Hooker’s Original Vinyl Albums. There are several private bootleg “live” LPs, CDs and DVDs not listed in this discography (from the 1970s, 80s, 90s, and beyond). Images left – “The Original American Folk Blues” LP of 1962 on Brunswick 198012; and in US on Excello 8029 in 1972 (also including “Need Your Love So Bad”).

Three Each from Eleven Top CD Favorites

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>I'm In The Mood</td>
<td>Chess</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>I'm Bad Like Jesse James</td>
<td>BluesWay</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Leave It All Alone</td>
<td>Chess</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>The World's Greatest Blues Singer</td>
<td>Chess</td>
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*Four Great CDs covering Classics of 1948 – 1996:
“Get Back Home” (1996-1999) on Universal CD MCA 10760 “Urban Blues” (issued as bonus on Universal CD MCA 10760 “Urban Blues”)

*37 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer*
JOHN LEE HOOKER LP TRACK LISTS

with tracks in alphabetical order from Jarlvi’s Hooker discography. See pages 35-37 for discographical details. Find full track lists of the Henry Stone sessions on page 39, the Chess 1966 sessions on page 40 and the first two BluesWay albums on page 41.

**Riverside LP 12-838**

Detroit April, 1959 (issued Nov 1959)
- The Country Blues of John Lee Hooker
- Behind the slow
  - Black snake
  - Bundle up and go
  - Church bell tone
  - Good mornin’, lil’ school girl
  - How long blues
  - I rowed a little boat
  - I’m prison bound
  - Pea vine special
  - She’s long, she’s tall, she weeps like a willow tree
  - Tupelo blues
  - Water boy
  - Wobblin’ baby

Released on Original Blues Classics Fantasy OBCCD 538 (1991) and with LP 638 on Fantasy in 1977

**Riverside LP 12-321**

Detroit April, 1959 (issued Nov 1959)
- The Country Blues of John Lee Hooker
- Behind the slow
  - Black snake
  - Bundle up and go
  - Church bell tone
  - Good mornin’, lil’ school girl
  - How long blues
  - I rowed a little boat
  - I’m prison bound
  - Pea vine special
  - She’s long, she’s tall, she weeps like a willow tree
  - Tupelo blues
  - Water boy
  - Wobblin’ baby

Released on Original Blues Classics Fantasy OBCCD 538 (1991) and with LP 638 on Fantasy in 1977

**Galaxy LP 201**

Culver City, CA March 9, 1961
- John Lee Hooker (issued 1962)
  - Ballad to Abraham Lincoln (*) (He Got Assassinated)
  - Deep down in my heart
    - (How Long Can This Go On)
  - Fire at Natchez
    - (The Great Disaster of 1930)
  - I lost my job
    - (Tell Me All the Story)
  - Left my wife and my baby
    - (The Winding Highway)
  - Mad with you baby
    - (I’m Gonna Whip Ya Baby)
  - Mojo hand
    - (R牢! Sun! Sun! Louisiana, Voo Doo)
    - (Louisiana Blue)
  - My mother-in-law moved in (% Troubles in My Home)
  - Shake it up and go
    - (The sweetest girl I know)
    - (Shake It)
  - Some day and night
    - (She Quit Me)
  - TB is killing me
  - This world (No Man’s Land)
  - You gonna miss me
  - I was standing by the wayside
  - You live your life and I’ll live mine

Note: Same session as LP 12-806

Released on Original Blues Classics Fantasy OBCCD 555 (1990)

**Riverside LP RM 008**

Detroit April 20, 1959
- Burning hell
  - (1964)
  - Baby please don’t go
  - Blues for my baby
  - Burning hell
  - Graveyard blues
  - How can you do it
  - I don’t want no woman if her hair ain’t
  - longer than mine
  - I rolled and turned and cried the whole night long
  - Jackson, Tennessee
  - Key to the highway
  - Natchez fire
  - You live your life and I’ll live mine

Released on CD MCAD 298 (1990)

**Galaxy LP 8205**

San Francisco November 2-3/18-10, 1962
- Live at Sugar Hill (issued 1963)
  - Driftin’ and driftin’
  - I can’t hold on (Just Can’t Hold On Much Longer)
  - I love (like) to see you walking
  - I’m gonna keep on walking
  - It’s you I love, baby
  - Run on babe (Run On)
  - TB is killing me
  - This world (No Man’s Land)
  - The things I used to do
  - Third degree
  - What I’d say
  - What’s the matter baby
  - You don’t miss your water
  - You torture my soul

Released on seven pages released on RP 1330 Volume 1, 1960

**Impulse ALP 9103**

New York City November 23, 1965
- It Serve You Right To Suffer
  - (1966)
  - Bottle up and go
  - Catfish blues
  - Come back baby (Let’s talk it over)
  - Crawlin’ king snake
  - Five long years
  - how can you do it
  - I can’t hold on
  - I love one but my baby
  - Jelly jelly
  - Let’s get it
  - Sinner’s prayer
  - Taxi driver
  - That’s all right
  - Talk to me (I’m Gonna Whip Ya Baby)
  - The things I used to do
  - Third degree
  - What I’d say
  - What’s the matter baby
  - You don’t miss your water
  - You torture my soul

Released on CD MCAD 1205 (1999)

**Verve-Folkways FT 3003**

London, England mid November 1964
- ... And Seven Nights (issued 1965)
  - Bad luck and trouble
  - Don’t be messing (Around with my bread)
    - (I lost everything)
    - (You live your life and I’ll live mine)
    - (It’s a crazy mixed up world)
    - (I can’t hold on)
    - (Sometimes I Wonder)
  - I’m gonna whip ya baby
  - I was standing by the wayside
  - You don’t miss your water
  - You torture my soul

Note: Later reissued “It Serve You Right To Suffer” (on inside label)
- “Sometimes I Wonder” is unused from this session

Released on CD MCAD 1205 (1999)

**Impulse ALP 9103**

New York City November 23, 1965
- It Serve You Right To Suffer
  - (1966)
  - Bottle up and go
  - Catfish blues
  - Come back baby (Let’s talk it over)
  - Crawlin’ king snake
  - Five long years
  - how can you do it
  - I can’t hold on
  - I love one but my baby
  - Jelly jelly
  - Let’s get it
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  - Talk to me (I’m Gonna Whip Ya Baby)
  - The things I used to do
  - Third degree
  - What I’d say
  - What’s the matter baby
  - You don’t miss your water
  - You torture my soul

Released on CD MCAD 1205 (1999)
The Henry Stone Sessions on original Albums

**Recorded in Cincinnati (or poss Miami), July 1953**

w. Eddie Kirkland, gtr; bs; unk. "fingertap"; -1 instrumentals; with Steve Alaimo, vcl/gtr on track marked (#), prob rec. ca 1968

- My Baby Don’t Love Me (15118) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on DeLuxe in 1954
- Blue Monday -1 (15119) - Atlantic LP 7228
- My Baby Put Me Down (15120) - Atlantic LP 7228 - titled Misbelieving Baby on Chart in 1956
- Love My Baby (aoa) (15121) - Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on single
- Wobbling Baby -1 (15122) - Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on Chart in 1956
- Pouring Down Rain (Wobblin’ Baby*) -1 (aoa) (15123)
- Goin’ South (15124) - Atlantic LP 7228 - issued on Chart in 1956
- Real, Real Gone (aoa) (15125) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- Guitar Lovin’ Man -1/2 (15126) - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- Meat Shakes On Her Bone (alternate of Talk About Your Baby)
- Drifting Blues - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- Talk About Your Baby - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- You Lost A Good Man - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228

*Note: All but 15121 were originally issued on DeLuxe and Stone’s own labels Rockin’ (which was before DeLuxe) and Chart (1953-1956). On “Teachin’ The Blues” below Hooker sings (talks) of 1953 as if the recordings below were done that year. Right: UK Atlantic release 590003 of 1967.*

**Recorded in Miami, Florida, ca July 1961**

with Earl (Hooker?), gtr; bs; unk. "fingertap"; -1 instrumentals; with Steve Alaimo, vcl/gtr on track marked (#), prob rec. ca 1968

- Hook’s Boogie (I Ain’t Got Nobody*) -1 (A 5626) - Atco LP 151*, Atlantic LP 7228
- Sleepy Blues (Misbelieving Baby*) -1 (A 5627) - Atco LP 151*, Atlantic LP 7228
- Don’t Turn Me (Away)* From Your Door - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228*
- Drifting Blues - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- Talk About Your Baby - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- You Lost A Good Man - Atco LP 151, Atlantic LP 7228
- Baby Please Don’t Go (Please Don’t Go)* – Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013*
- Stand By Me Baby (I Need You)* – Guest Star LP 1902, Stax LP 2013*
- Teachin’ “Bout My Baby (Meat Shakes On Her Bone)* - Guest Star LP 1902, Craft CD CR00015* (alt of Talk About Your Baby – see below)
- Talkin’ “Bout My Baby, Meat Shakes On Her Bone (alternate of Talk About Your Baby – issued on the Craft book-box, and identical to Talkin’ “Bout My Baby), You Got To Reap What You Saw (alt of You Lost A Good Man), and the instrumental Stoned Blues. All these may or may not be identical to the Atlantic/Guest Star tracks.

***Images above: Stone, Kirkland, Earl H, John H, and Steve Alaimo.***
Hooker’s “Real Folk Blues” sessions 1966 (and the 1968 & 1969 Bluesway sessions)

Recorded in Chicago, May 1966 - Ralph Bass, producer; Marshall Chess, supervision
featuring Hooker, vcl/gtr; Lafayette Leake, pno/org; Eddie Burns, gr; unkn, b and tamb; S.P. Leary or poss. Fred Below, dms
(Imaged below: Leake, Ralph Bass, and Burns) – All albums only issued in mono

“The Real Folk Blues” Chess LP 1508, issued 1966 – with 9 tracks, reissued on CHC 9271 in 1987 several reissues - even one as “More Real Folk Blues”.


These two albums reissued on one CD titled “The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions” in Europe on MCA MCD-18335 in 1991 and “The Real Folk Blues / More Real Folk Blues” in US on MCA/Chess 112821 in 2002.

Tracks: (The 18 tracks have master numbers U 14761 through U 14778; although not in track order as below) I'm In The Mood / Let's Go Out Tonight / Peace Lovin' Man / Stella Mae / I Put My Trust In You / You Know, I Know / I'll Never Trust Your Love Again / One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer / The Waterfront / Lead Me (You Can Lead Me Baby) / Nobody Knows / Deep Blue Sea / I Can't Quit You Baby / Mustang And GTO / House Rent Blues / Catfish Blues / Want Ad Blues / This Land Is Nobody's Land

Please note the STEREO mark on Chess LP 1508 above right (which actually also was labelled Checker on some stereo issues - possibly a bootleg)

Hooker’s two original BluesWay LPs

BL/BLS-6002 - Live At Cafe Au Go Go - early 1967
Recorded in New York City, August 20, 1966; Bob Thiele, producer (prob recorded in studio with audience present).
Otis Spann,pno. Muddy Waters, Sammy Lawhorn, Luther “Snake” Johnson,gtrs; Mac Arnold,bsg; Francis Clay,dms; (plus George Smith,hca – not audible. Cover title: “Live at cafe au-go-go”.

Tracks:
I’m Bad Like Jesse James / She’s Long, She’s Tall (She Weeps Like A Willow Tree) / When My First Wife Left Me / Heartaches And Misery // One Bourbon, One Scotch And One Beer / I Don’t Want No Trouble / I’ll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive / Seven Days
(These was Hooker’s very first attempt at “I’ll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive”. Reissued on BGO LP/CD 39 in 1989 (imaged right).
Also reissued on MCA Universal CD11537 (1996) with John’s tracks from “Live at Soledad” as bonus (see track list above).

BLS-6012 - Urban Blues – early 1968
Recorded in Chicago, September 26, and November 27, 1967: Al Smith, producer

* session one: Wayne Bennett and prob. Buddy Guy,gtrs; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor,bsgtrs; Al Duncan,dms
session two: Louis Meyers,hca; Eddie Kirkland and Eddie Taylor,gtrs; Phil Upchurch,bsgtr; Al Duncan,dms

Tracks:
Cry Before I Go * / Boom Boom Boom * / Backbiters And Syndicaters (later known as Back Bilters And Syndicaters) / Mr. Lucky / My Own Blues / I Can’t Stand To Leave You / Think Twice Before You Go / I’m Standing In Line / Hot Spring Water (Pt. 1 & Pt. 2) / The Motor City Is Burning * / Want Ad Blues * -1
Note: Several of the songs were issued on BluesWay singles in the late 1960s incl “Back Bilters And Syndicaters”. -1 is a bonus track from the flip of BluesWay single 61010, issued on a BGO LP/CD 122 (1991, imaged right). A second reissue on MCA, MCAD 10763 in 1995, has 3 other bonus tracks – from 1968 “If You Miss ‘Im” session (see tracks list above).
**Discography - Part Four:** From 1970 – on **Frisco Blues**

The original albums 1971 - 2016 - (most LPs 1971-81 later reissued on CDs) - **John Lee Hooker Session Discography 1981–2001**

---

**1971**


- f. Alan Wilson, hca/gtr with Canned Heat (also Rhino 2LP RND A 71105 as "Infinite Boogie"; and on a.o. EMJ Mobile Fidelity: Best Goes On, and with bonus tracks on French Magic 2CD 3953023-2 in 1992)

**1972**

**Kabuki Wuki** – Blueline LP 6052 (live S.F., August 14, 1971) Prod: Ed Michel

- f. The Coast To Coast Blues Band (Hooker's road band) (reissued on BGO CD 1129 in 2013 c/w CD B768)

**1974**

**Free Beer And Chicken** – ABC LP 838 (rec in S.F. and L.A. May 14-23, 1974) Prod: Ed Michel

- f. John Hooker Jr and the Coast To Coast Blues Band (reissued on ABC CD 897 in 2009 c/w CD B768)

**1976**

**Still Alone** – Live in New York Vol 2 - MMG LP 640005  (aka "Alone Again").

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**1977**


**1977**

**The Cream** – Tomato 2LP 7009 12 (rec Palo Alto, Calif. September, 1977) Prod: Kevin Eggers – f. The Coast To Coast Blues Band a.w.o. John Garcia, Ron Thompson and Larry Martin (Charly CD SNAD 542) 64 bonus tracks from Tomato

**1978**

**Live In Well** (at 1977 Telluride Blues And Jazz Festival) - (rec Colorado, August 26, 27, 1978) 7 tracks. Prod: unknown, Hooker solo (also on JSP LP 1059 as "Hookered Out Blues" and Empero UK CD 805 in 1998 and JSP CD in 2001 as "The Real Blues - John Lee Hooker Live in Houston 1978")

**1981**


**1982**


**1985**


**1989**

**Albert King/John Lee Hooker: I'll Play The Blues For You** – Tomato CD 96142 19 - also RZ-70396 (Five Hooker tracks rec live in Chicago, October, 1977 – the five tracks also on Charly's edition of The Cream)

**1990**

**The Hot Spot** (soundtrack) - Anthilles CD 8752 (rec Hollywood May 7-10, 1990) also on CD 261140

**1991**


**1992**

**The Best of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974** – MCA MCAD-10359 (the best compilation, 16 tracks)

**1992**

**Boom Boom** – Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 12 (rec betw 1990 and August, 1992)


- It's A Shame To Be Rich – w. Lightnin' Hopkins – Gitane Jazz (rec Los Angeles, May 1992 by Ed Michel)

**1994**


**1996**

**Chill Out** – Virgin/Pointblank VPBCD 22 (rec April 1991 and July 1993 plus prob. 1995)


**1997**

**Hard Times – Carlton Sounds CD 30360 00962** (w. Lightrin' Hopkins on piano) (prob rec in Los Angeles or possibly San Francisco in ca 1973) - see details page 81

**1999**


**1998**


**2000**

**Face To Face** – Eagle ER 20023-2 (EAEGCD 265) (rec between ca 1987 and "dubs" ca 2001)

- Prod: Zakiya Hooker and Otis Christopher Bell (originally Roy Rogers and Mike Kappus)

**2000**

**Boom Boom – Live on Air 1976** – Laser media (bootleg LM 1801) (recorded Chicago October 1977)

- 14 tracks (5 previously on Tomato CD 96142) with John Garcia, gtr, Mike Milmood,bs; Larry Martin,dms

**2016**

**Various TV Shows Live 1970** – Bootleg DL OP DOR2086** Rec in Detroit (feat Robert Hooker) and in Paris (feat Carey Bell, hca) (details)

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**42 The World's Greatest Blues Singer**
## JOHN LEE HOOKER

### COMPLETE SINGLES DISCOGRAPHY

Compiled by Claus Röhnisch - updated April 7, 2019

Plug sides (A-B) on Modern were marketed 1948-49, later most singles had no "official" plug sides indicated on label.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue date</th>
<th>Label and cat.no.</th>
<th>Artist credits and tracks (original Aside – Bside)</th>
<th>JHL singles and EPs at discs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Bernie Besman Detroit recordings 1948-1952**

Note: "Let's Talk It Over" (Modern) and "It's My Own Fault" (Chess) recorded by Besman.

Modern 847 issued as John L. Hooker, and Modern 876 issued as John Lee Hooker and "Little" Eddie Kirkland.

- John Lee Hooker & His Guitar (on 20-627 and 663) or John Lee Hooker (on 20-688)
- John Lee Hooker and His Guitar (from 20-714)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Artist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-48</td>
<td>Modern 20-627</td>
<td>Sally May - Boogie Chillen'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-49</td>
<td>Modern 20-663</td>
<td>Hobo Blues - Hoogie Boogie (same issues as Rhythm No. 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-49</td>
<td>Modern 20-688</td>
<td>Whistlin' And Moamin' Blues - Weeping Willow Boogie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-49</td>
<td>Modern 20-714</td>
<td>Crawlin' King Snake - Drifting From Door To Door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-49</td>
<td>Sensation 21</td>
<td>Burnin' Hell - Miss Sadie Mae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-49</td>
<td>Sensation 26</td>
<td>Huckle Up Baby - Canal Street Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-50</td>
<td>Modern 20-730</td>
<td>Playin' The Races - Howlin' Wolf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-50</td>
<td>Sensation 30</td>
<td>Let Your Daddy Ride - Goin' On Highway 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-50</td>
<td>Modern 20-746</td>
<td>Wednesday Evening - No Friend Around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-50</td>
<td>Sensation 33</td>
<td>My Baby's Got Somethin' - Decoration Day Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-50</td>
<td>Sensation 34</td>
<td>Boogie Chillen' No. 2 - Miss Eloise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-50</td>
<td>Regal 3295</td>
<td>Boogie Chillen No. 2 - Miss Eloise (reissue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-50</td>
<td>Modern 20-767</td>
<td>Give Me Your Number - Roll 'n' Roll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-50</td>
<td>Regal 3304</td>
<td>Notoriety Woman - Never Satisfied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-50</td>
<td>Modern 20-790</td>
<td>Let Your Daddy Ride (alt.take) - One More Time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elmer Barbee Detroit productions 1948-49 and Fortune recordings later**

Note: King, Regent, Savoy, Acorn and Chance issues possibly obtained via Joe Von Battle. Barbee quit as Hooker's manager in late 1951. Hi-Q repressing, numbered 5018X, has "609 Boogie" c/w "Blues For Christmas". The dates of Hi-Q and Emlor issues not confirmed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Artist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-48</td>
<td>King 4283</td>
<td>Texas Slim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-49</td>
<td>Regent 1001</td>
<td>Delta John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-49</td>
<td>Savoy 5558</td>
<td>Birmingham Sam and his Magic Guitar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-49</td>
<td>Acorn 308</td>
<td>Do The Boogie - Morning Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-48</td>
<td>Chance 1108</td>
<td>Wayne County Ramblin' Blues - Greivin' Blues (flip has unknown vocalist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-52</td>
<td>Chance 1110</td>
<td>Miss Lorraine - Talkin' Boogie (John calls himself &quot;Lorraine&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-52</td>
<td>Chance 1122</td>
<td>I Love To Boogie (Love To Boogie - on 78) - Graveyard Blues (John calls himself &quot;Poor John&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-58</td>
<td>Fortune 846</td>
<td>John Lee Hooker (unknown prods)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-59</td>
<td>Fortune 853</td>
<td>Cry Baby - Love You Baby (recorded 1954)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-60</td>
<td>HiQ 5018</td>
<td>Blues For Christmas - Big Fine Woman (recorded 1954)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-61</td>
<td>Elmir 303</td>
<td>Blues For Christmas - Big Fine Woman (reissue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Fortune 855</td>
<td>Crazy About That Walk - We're All God's Chillun (recorded 1960, Devora and Jack Brown, prod)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

43 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
Joe Von Battle Detroit recordings 1949-50 and 1953

Note: The King titles may possibly have been recorded by Elmer Barbee and sold to Battle. The JVB issue may have been released early 1955.

**Texas Slim**
- Brown 8-49 King 4315 The Numbers - Devil’s Jump
- Brown 10-49 King 4323 Nightmare Blues - I’m Gonna Kill That Woman
- Brown 1-50 King 4329 Slim’s Stomp - Heart Trouble Blues
- Brown 2-50 King 4334 Wandering Blues - Don’t Go Baby
- Brown 5-50 King 4361 Don’t You Remember Me - Late Last Night (“Don’t…” prod by Idessa Malone)
- Brown 7-50 King 3477 Moaning Blues - Thinking Blues (“Thinking…” prod by Idessa Malone)

**John Lee Hooker**
- 12-51 King 4504 Stomp Boogie - Moaning Blues (reissue)
- 1950 Staff 710, Detroit 1950 (or possibly Philadelphia) 1950/51
  - Miss Rosie Mae - Highway Blues
  - Miss Rosie Mae - Highway Blues (reissue)
  - Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie
  - Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie (reissue)
  - Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues
  - Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues (reissue)

**Johnny Williams with Guitar Accomp** (Prize 704)
- or his Guitar (Staff 704, 710, Gotham 506)
- or Johnny Williams Sings (Staff 718, SwingTime 266)

**Idessa Malone Detroit productions 1949-1950**

Note: “Thinking Blues” and “Don’t You Remember Me”, on King above, produced by Idessa Malone in 1950. Prize 704 was reissued with an alternate, later take of “Miss Rosie Mae”, c/w an instrumental (not featuring Hooker).

**Staff 711 Sunnyland Blues / Bull Headed Woman by Johnny Williams may or may not be Hooker (although listed as such in “The R&B Indies”).**

**Gotham recordings (poss prod by Battle), Detroit (or poss Philadelphia) 1950/51**
- Staff 711 Sunnyland Blues / Bull Headed Woman by Johnny Williams or Johnny Williams (509/513) or John Lee (515)
- ca 3-51 Gotham 509 Questionnaire Blues - Real Gone Gal
- 1951 Gotham 513 Little Boy Blue - My Daddy Was A Jockey
- 3-52 Gotham 515 Catfish - Mean Old Train

**Chess recordings Chicago April 26, 1951 and (prob. Detroit) April 24, 1952**
- Staff 711 Sunnyland Blues / Bull Headed Woman by Johnny Williams or John Lee Hooker (509/513) or John Lee (515)
- 1951 Staff 710, 1952 DeLuxe 6004
  - Miss Rosie Mae - Highway Blues (reissue)
  - Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie
  - Wandering Blues - House Rent Boogie (reissue)
  - Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues
  - Prison Bound - Bumble Bee Blues (reissue)

**Henry Stone recordings Cincinnati (or Miami) July 1953**
- 1953 Rockin’ 524 John Lee Hooker
  - Blue Monday - Lovin’ Guitar Man
- 1953 Rockin’ 525 John Lee Hooker
  - Pouring Down Rain - Shuttering Blues
- 9-53 DeLuxe 6004 John Lee Hooker
  - Lovin’ Guitar Man - Blue Monday (reissues)
- 1-54 DeLuxe 6032 John Lee Hooker
  - Shuttering Blues - Pouring Down Rain (reissues)
- 3-54 DeLuxe 6046 John Lee Hooker
  - Real Gone Me - My Baby Don’t Love Me

**Specialty recordings Detroit May 1954**

**Bihari Modern recordings Detroit 1953-1955**

Modern 897 issued as John Lee Hooker and “Little” Eddie Kirkland.

**Bihari Modern recordings Detroit 1953-1955**

Modern 897 issued as John Lee Hooker and “Little” Eddie Kirkland.

- 1-53 Modern 897 John Lee Hooker
  - I’ve Been A Long Time Baby - Rock House Boogie
- 5-53 Modern 901 John Lee Hooker
  - Ride Till I Die - It’s Stormin’ And Rainin’
- 7-53 Modern 908 John Lee Hooker
  - Please Take Me Back - Love Money Can’t Buy
- 10-53 Modern 916 John Lee Hooker
  - Too Much Boogie - Need Somebody
- 2-54 Modern 923 John Lee Hooker
  - Gotta Boogie - Down Child
- 5-54 Modern 931 John Lee Hooker
  - Jump Me (One More Time) - I Wonder Little Darling
- 7-54 Modern 930 John Lee Hooker
  - I Tried Hard - Let’s Talk It Over (“Let’s Talk” rec. by Besman in 1951)
- 10-54 Modern 942 John Lee Hooker
  - Cool Little Car - Bad Boy
- 1-55 Modern 948 John Lee Hooker
  - Half A Stranger - Shake, Shaker And Run
- 5-55 Modern 958 John Lee Hooker
  - Taxi Driver - You Receive Me
- 8-55 Modern 966 John Lee Hooker
  - Hug And Squeeze - The Syndicator
- 10-55 Modern 978 John Lee Hooker
  - Lookin’ For A Woman (rec. in 1952) - I’m Ready

44 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Track Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>&quot;Time Is Marching&quot; - &quot;Mambo Chillen&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>&quot;Every Night - Trouble Blues&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>&quot;Dimples - Baby Lee&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>&quot;I'm So Worried Baby - The Road Is So Rough&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>&quot;I'm So Excited - I See You When You're Weak&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>&quot;Little Wheel - Rosie Mae&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>&quot;You Can Lead Me Baby - Unfriendly Woman&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>&quot;I Love You Honey - You've Taken My Woman&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>&quot;Maudie - I'm In The Mood&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 308</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>&quot;Tennessee Blues - Boogie Chillan&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 319</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>&quot;Hobo Blues - Crawlin Kingsnake&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>&quot;No Shoes - Solid Sender&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>&quot;Tupelo (Newport, purch. from Vanguard) - Dusty Road&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>&quot;I'm Going Upstairs - I'm Mad Again&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>&quot;Want Ad Blues - Take Me As I Am&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>&quot;Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman (Let's Make It) at Prestige&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>&quot;She's Mine - A New Leaf&quot;</td>
<td>Vee-Jay 473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>&quot;Take A Look At Yourself - Frisco Blues (I Love Her Easy Pressures)&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside SS 203 (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>&quot;Birmingham Blues - I'm Leaving&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside SS 297 (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>&quot;Don't Look Back - Send Me Your Pillow&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside SS 341 (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>&quot;I Love You Honey - Send Me Your Pillow (reissues)&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside SS 341 (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;I'm Leaving - Birmingham Blues (reissue)&quot;</td>
<td>Oldies 45 324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;Dimples - Boom Boom (reissue)&quot;</td>
<td>President PT 295 (UK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;I'm In The Mood - Boogie Chillun' (reissues)</td>
<td>Trip Oldies 167</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman (reissue)</td>
<td>Trip Oldies 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;Frisco Blues - Dimples (reissue)</td>
<td>Trip Oldies 169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;Will The Circle Be Unbroken - Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine (reissue)</td>
<td>Dynasty DST 4501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>&quot;Boom Boom (reissue) - Whiskey And Wimmen&quot;</td>
<td>Goldies 45 2451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;I Need Some Money - No More Doggin' (from LP 12-828)&quot;</td>
<td>Riverside 438</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;Mojito (Louisiana Voo Doo) - Ballad To Abraham Lincoln (from Galaxy LP 201)</td>
<td>Riverside 361</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;Lost My Job - Deep Down In My Heart (from Galaxy LP 201)&quot;</td>
<td>Riverside 362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;I Need Some Money - No More Doggin' (reissue)</td>
<td>Riverside 363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;I Lost My Job (Lost My Job on LP) - You Gotta Shake It Up And Go&quot;</td>
<td>Riverside 716</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;I'm In The Mood&quot;</td>
<td>Riverside 12883 (Germ)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;Mai Lee - Don't Be Messing Around With My Bread (from Verve LP FT 3003)&quot;</td>
<td>Planet 114 (UK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;Money - Bottle Up And Go (from LP 9103)&quot;</td>
<td>Impulse 242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>&quot;Let's Go Out Tonight (edited) - In The Mood (I'm In The Mood on LP) (from LP 1508)</td>
<td>Chess 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>&quot;The Motor City Is Burning (from LP 6012) - Want Ad Blues (from LP 6012 session)</td>
<td>BluesWay 61010</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>&quot;Mr. Lucky - Cry Before You Go (from LP 6012)&quot;</td>
<td>BluesWay 61014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>&quot;One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer - Stella Mae (from LP 1508)&quot;</td>
<td>Chess 169 523 (Fr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>&quot;In the Mood - Walkin' The Boogie (from Chess albums)&quot;</td>
<td>Chess 169 536 (Fr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>&quot;Think Twice Before You Go - Back Biters And Syndicet (from LP 6012)&quot;</td>
<td>Chess 169 61017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>&quot;Cry Before You Go - Boom Boom Boom (from LP 6012)&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside FSS 613 (Fr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>&quot;I Don't Wanna Go To Vietnam - Mean, Mean Woman (from LP 6023)&quot;</td>
<td>BluesWay 61023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>&quot;Grinder Man - Slow And Easy (from LP 4134)&quot;</td>
<td>Stateside FSS 613 (Fr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>&quot;Shake It And Go On Up (from LP 297 with overdub)&quot;</td>
<td>Goody 8005 (Fr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>&quot;I Feel Good - Dazie Mae (from LP 3662) - French single, two labels&quot;</td>
<td>Caruso / Calumet 1662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>&quot;I Wanna Dance All Night - Baby Don't You Wanna Go (from LP 6101)&quot;</td>
<td>America 17014 (Fr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>&quot;I Feel Good (parts 1 and 2) (from LP 5005 - extended?) (reissue)&quot;</td>
<td>Jewel 624</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>&quot;Stand By (parts 1 and 2) (from LP 5005)&quot;</td>
<td>Jewel 852</td>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>&quot;Roll And Tumble - Baby Baby&quot;</td>
<td>Jewel 856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>&quot;Boogie With The Hook - Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive (from LP 736)&quot;</td>
<td>ABC 11320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>&quot;Make It Funky - 714 Blues&quot;</td>
<td>ABC 11320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

The Best John Lee Hooker Anthology Collection:

John Lee Hooker

- Time Is Marching - Mambo Chillen
- Every Night - Trouble Blues
- Dimples - Baby Lee
- I'm So Worried Baby - The Road Is So Rough
- I'm So Excited - I See You When You're Weak
- Little Wheel - Rosie Mae
- You Can Lead Me Baby - Unfriendly Woman
- I Love You Honey - You've Taken My Woman
- Maudie - I'm In The Mood
- Tennessee Blues - Boogie Chillan
- Hobo Blues - Crawlin Kingsnake
- No Shoes - Solid Sender
- Tupelo (Newport, purch. from Vanguard) - Dusty Road
- I'm Going Upstairs - I'm Mad Again
- Want Ad Blues - Take Me As I Am ("Take..." New York City, purch. from Prestige)
- Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman (Let's Make It)
- She's Mine - A New Leaf
- Take A Look At Yourself - Frisco Blues
- Birmingham Blues - I'm Leaving
- Don't Look Back - Send Me Your Pillow
- I Love You Honey - Send Me Your Pillow
- Big Legs, Tight Shirt - Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine
- It Serves Me Right - Flowers On The Hour
- I'm Leaving - Birmingham Blues
- Dimples - Boom Boom
- I'm In The Mood - Boogie Chillun'
- Boom Boom - Drug Store Woman
- Frisco Blues - Dimples
- Will The Circle Be Unbroken - Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine
- Boom Boom (reissue)
- Whiskey And Wimmen

The Hooker Singles

60s - 70s

United Artists single as Canned Heat & John Lee Hooker

- I Need Some Money - No More Doggin'
- Mojito (Louisiana Voo Doo) - Ballad To Abraham Lincoln
- Lost My Job - Deep Down In My Heart
- I Need Some Money - No More Doggin'
- I Lost My Job (Lost My Job on LP) - You Gotta Shake It Up And Go
- Shake It And Go On Up (from LP 297 with overdub)
- Shake It Baby - Let's Make It Baby (from APBF 1962)
- Baby Don't You Wanna Go (from Polydor UK 52930)
- I'm In The Mood (from Liberty LP 2-35002) - also on Liberty 15463
- Doin' The Shout (from LP 2-720)
- I Wanna Dance All Night (from LP 736)
- Make It Funky (from LP 835)
Johnnie’s Very First Singles (Nov 1948 - Nov 1949)

November 1948

John Lee Hooker & His Guitar

*Modern 20-627*

issued 3 November 1948

rec 3 September 1948

*Sally May* (7003)

*Boogie Chillen’* (7006)

prod by Bernie Besman

December 1948

Texas Slim

*King 4283*

issued December 1948

rec early November 1948

*Black Man Blues* (5592)

*Stomp Boogie* (5590)

prod by Elmer Barbee

February 1949

Delta John

*Regent 1001*

issued February 1949

rec early November 1948

*Helpless Blues* (D1102)

*Goin’ Mad Blues* (D1104)

prod by Elmer Barbee

and sold to Savoy in December 1948
Johnnie’s Very First Singles (part two)

March 1949

John Lee Hooker & His Guitar
Modern 20-663
issued March 1949
A-side rec 3 September 1948 (or poss earlier)
B-side rec probably 16 or 18 February 1949
Hobo Blues (7008-B)
Hoogie Boogie (7036-A)
prod by Bernie Besman

March 1949

Birmingham Sam and his Magic Guitar
Savoy 5558
issued March 1949
rec early November 1948
Landing Blues (D-1107)
Low Down-Midnite Boogie (D-1106)
prod by Elmer Barbee

April 1949

The Boogie Man
Acorn 308
issued April 1949
rec ca February 1949
(or poss ca December 1948)
Do The Boogie * (JB-1404)
Morning Blues (JB-1403)
prod by Elmer Barbee
and sold to Savoy
* with James Watkins, pno
and Curtis Foster, dms
(note: Barbee’s recordings for King and the Savoy labels above possibly from diff sessions).
Johnnie’s Very First Singles (part three)

July 1949

John Lee Hooker
Modern 20-688
issued July 1949
A-side rec probably 16 or 18 February 1949
B-side rec ca July 1949
Whistlin’ and Moanin’ Blues (7033)
Weeping Willow Boogie *
(7053)
prod by Bernie Besman
* with Bernie Besman, perc

Mid 1949

Johnny Williams
with Guitar Accomp.
Prize 704
issued mid 1949
rec early 1949
Miss Rosie Mae (704-A)
Highway Blues (704-B)
prod by Idessa Malone

August 1949

Texas Slim
King 4315
issued August 1949
rec ca August 1949
The Numbers (5776)
Devil’s Jump (5773)
prob prod by Joe Von Battle
(or poss by Elmer Barbee)
Johnnie’s Very First Singles (part four)

October 1949

**John Lee Hooker and his Guitar**
- Modern 20-714
- issued October 1949
- rec 3 September 1948
  (B-side poss even earlier)

**Crawlin’ King Snake**
- (B-7012)

**Drifting From Door To Door**
- (B-7007)
  prod by Bernie Besman

October 1949

**Texas Slim**
- King 4323
- issued October 1949
- rec August 1949

**Nightmare Blues**
- (5769)

**I’m Gonna Kill That Woman**
- (5774)
  prob prod by Joe Von Battle
  (or poss by Elmer Barbee)

November 1949

**John Lee Hooker and his guitar**
- Sensation 21
- issued November 1949

**A-side**
- rec ca February
  - April 1949

**B-side**
- rec ca July 1949

**Burnin’ Hell**
- * (B-7040)

**Miss Sadie Mae**
- (B-7054)
  prod by Bernie Besman
  * with Eddie Burns, hca
All the Original Hooker Singles December 1949 - March 1952
The original A- or B-side singles (most label shots ctsy of Scot A. Pell)
(appr chron. order of issue)
Danceland 78 of (late?) 1949 right

50 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
All the Original Hooker Singles April 1952 – December 1957
- plus the alternate “609 Boogie” on Fortune (issued 1958, imaged right)
- Approximate chronology of issue.

A- or B-sides of the original singles (most label shots ctsy of Scot A. Pell). See next page for 1958-1970
THE 45 SINGLES 1958 – 1970 (slightly selected)
Plus some "selected" post 1970 at the end. - Appr chrono order of issue - The Fortune flip of the alternate "609 Boogie" (11/1958) shown below.
**EIGHT “MOODS” of JOHNNY LEE**

The LP and CD issues are the original albums. The songs were in most cases issued on several other LPs/CDs.

### Detroit 1951

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood</th>
<th>rec August 7, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Modern 835 (MM 1636 - issued September 1951)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker 3-voice vcl/gtr (plus prob extra dubbed gtr); Eddie Kirkland, sec gtr — also issued on Crown LP 5157 &quot;The Blues&quot; (1960), UA 3LP 127 &quot;John Lee Hooker’s Detroit&quot; (1973), and Ace CD 315 &quot;The Legendary Modern Recordings&quot; (1993). Also on Capitol CD 33912 (1995) as Three Voice Original Mood (titled so also on UA LP).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Johnny Lee’s Mood (Original One Voice)</th>
<th>rec August 7, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- on United Artists LP 5512 &quot;Any where Any time Any place&quot; (issued 1971)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker 1-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr — also issued on Capitol CD 33912 &quot;Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings&quot; (1995).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Two Voice Original Mood</th>
<th>rec August 7, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- on United Artists 3LP 127 &quot;John Lee Hooker’s Detroit&quot; (issued 1973)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker 2-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr — also issued on Capitol CD 33912.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood (alternate take)</th>
<th>rec August 7, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- on DCC LP/CD 042 &quot;40th Anniversary Album&quot; (issued 1989), and reissued on Demon LP/CD 154 &quot;The Detroit Lion&quot; (1990)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker 1-voice vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, second gtr — also issued on Mainstream CD 903 &quot;Half A Stranger&quot; (1991), and Audio Fidelity CD AFZ 005 &quot;Boogie Chillen&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood (with harmonica dub)</th>
<th>rec August 7, 1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MM 1636 with dubbed harmonica (poss Hooker himself).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chicago 1959

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood</th>
<th>rec January 22, 1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Vee-Jay LP 1007 “I’m John Lee Hooker” (issued ca August 1959) and Vee-Jay 308 (single, issued February 1959)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor, second gtr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chicago 1966

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood</th>
<th>rec May 1966</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Chess LP 1508 &quot;The Real Folk Blues&quot; (issued 1966) and Chess 1965 (single as In The Mood, issued June 1966) with Hooker vcl/gtr; unknown bs, poss tamb; S.P. Leary or poss Fred Below, dms (Lafayette Leake, pno and Eddie Burns, gtr not present here — unless Burns is playing the bs on this one).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### San Francisco 1988

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m in the Mood</th>
<th>rec April 1988</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Chameleon LP/CD 74808 “The Healer” (1989) and Chameleon 10137 (single, issued 1990) (both records reissued on Silvertone in 1990)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Hooker vcl/gtr; Bonnie Raitt, vcl/slide gtr; Roy Rogers, gtr; Scott Matthews, dms.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Detroit Years: 1948 – 1955

Note: The United releases pressed with slightly different album covers and issued on United / Superior or United labels. See session discography for CD reissues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Catalog</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chess 2CLP 5157</td>
<td>(early 1960)</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Blues (early Modern sides) reissued on United US 7725 in ca 1970; again reissued as The Greatest Hits of... on Kent 5099/KST559 in 1971, and on United 7769 ca 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King 172</td>
<td>(late 1960)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sings Blues – Everyone A Pearl (reissued as KLP-727 in 1968) – Battle rec. 1948-50, 16 tracks (with 4 actually Earl Hooker) reissued with 12 tracks, on Ember 3956 in 1984 – reissued 1970 on King KS-1860; on Arald 57102 CD; and on Dutch Biom 81031 as Moonin' and Stompin' Blues. Also issued on Charly CD, Sealfonex and King Masters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio Lab 1520</td>
<td>(ca 1960)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Highway of Blues (featuring six King sides plus &quot;Blinks&quot; McGhee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown LP 4545</td>
<td>(early 1961)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plays And Sings The Blues (1950-52) several re-issues incl Chess CH-1199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown LP 5333</td>
<td>(1963)</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Great (Modern sides) reissued on United US 7731 as The Great Blues Sounds of... in ca 1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune 3002</td>
<td>(1963)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Big Maceo &amp; John Lee (featuring one side each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent LP 5025 (KST525)</td>
<td>(1967)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Original Folk Blues (Modern/Crown rec) reissued on United 7746 in ca 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lightnin' RL003*</td>
<td>(1969)</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Friend Around (originally Advert 2804; early sides bootleg), also on Charly 30170 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty SPS 2125</td>
<td>(1970)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alone* (Bernie Besman, Sensation prod.) also issued on UK Sonet SNTF 5005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty SPS 2127</td>
<td>(1971)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Goin' Down Highway 51 (Besman)</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Artists UAS-5512</td>
<td>(1971)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coast To Coast Blues Band - Any where Any time Any place (Besman) reissued on BGOCD303*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greene/Bottle GBS 3130</td>
<td>(1972)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Johnny Lee (2-set Besman alternates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Artists UA-LA127-J3</td>
<td>(1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td>John Lee Hooker's Detroit (3LP-set Besman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess 2CH 60011</td>
<td>(1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td>John Lee Hooker &amp; His Guitar (British bootleg Sensation et al.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polydor 2310 256*</td>
<td>(1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Slim's Stomp (all 16 &quot;Texas Slim&quot; tracks from King; including the first four corrected; no dubbed drums)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savoy 2-2255</td>
<td>(1981)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Southern Blues (2-set album with v.a. - Barber 1948 Hooker rec. on one side)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ace CH 37*</td>
<td>(1981)</td>
<td></td>
<td>John Lee Hooker volume one* (British Modern reissues)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess PLP 6061*</td>
<td>(ca 1985)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blues For Big Town (various artists – Hooker Fortune tracks) - also on GCH 8119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collectables COL-5151</td>
<td>(1987)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gotham Golden Classics - Rare Recordings (rec. 1951)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official LP 6029*</td>
<td>(1989)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Boogie Chillen (Modern recordings, Danish bootleg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official CD 6065*</td>
<td>(1990)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cold Chills (rare Modern recordings, Danish bootleg poss only issued on CD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krazy Kat KX 200*</td>
<td>(1990)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Boogie Aahhie (British 2-set Elmer Barbee plus, 1948-53)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

54 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
From the R.A. Records Guide Created by Claus Réhmich:
http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

The Chicago Years: 1955 – 1964

Several of the original Vee-Jay LPs reissued on British Jay in 1964-65, and eight albums (including Dynasty, now with a Vee-Jay logo) reissued on Vee-Jay / Chameline (with samanque numbers – although with an -8 prefix – in 1965). Collector copies reissued have “Vee Jay albums” on the label. Discounted numbers (*): 7100, 7101, plus 7102 (the “Vee-Jay logo” on some discs). Discounted numbers (“Irritable” and “regular Vee-Jay logo” on different dates from the ’60s and on. See session discography for Vee-Jay CD reissues (and Part Three for others). The Discograph LPs have the Vee-Jay logo on label (with 65-56 matinee) but Discograph logo on cover (and are mastered stereo).

Vee-Jay LP 1007
(August 1959)
I’m John Lee Hooker (compilation 1955-59 – later also issued in fake stereo with diff label logo)

Riverside 12-38
(November 1959)
The Country Blues of (1959) also on UK Ace 262 and Riverside HB 8020 as The Folk Blues, 1963 on Battle BLP 6114 and Fontana 688.708* as How Long Blues. Later on Prestige 712258; Re-issued on Riverside 673202* Tupela Blues 1969. Reiss on Original Blues Classics CD 542 (The Country Blues of)

Vee-Jay LP 1023
(1960)
My Story – J.L.H. Sings The Blues (1960) also on Battle BLP 6113 The Blues Man 1963; reissued on Fontana 688.269* Blue!, and Riverside 673205* You’re Leavin’ Me Baby 1969. Also on Ace CH 259* as That’s My Story and reissued on Original Blues Classics CD 538

Vee-Jay LP 1033
(1961)
The Folk Lore of (”I’m Mad Again”) LP, 1960-61 also issued in fake stereo” SR 1033)

Vee-Jay LP 1043 /SR 1043
(March 1962)
Burnin’ (”Boom Boom”) LP, late 1961 mono and stereo) also on Topline 176

Vee-Jay LP 1059
(June 1962)
The Best of (comp) also on Buddah BGS-4002 The Very Best of also on Vee-Jay 1039

Trip 9504
(1973)
Whiskey & Wimmen (2-set Vee-Jay compilation low-price)

Dixie AY-7301
(1973)
In Person (Vee-Jay sublabel, featuring VJ recordings not on above LPs, mostly recorded 1964-1967)

Muse MR 5205
(1979)
Sittin’ Here Thinkin’ (Savoy rec 1961 – 11 tracks) reissued as Sad And Lonesome MCD 6099 – 12 tracks, 1989

Charly CRB 104* (1980)
This Is Hip (As I Am on label) (British Vee-Jay comp inc unissued)

Charly CRB 108* (1980)
Everybody Rockin’ (British Vee-Jay comp inc unissued)

Charly CRB 109* (1981)
Moanin’ The Blues (British Vee-Jay comp inc unissued)

Charly CRB 1081 (1981)
Solid Sender (Travelin’ + unissued bonus tracks)

Impala LP 1059 (ca 1965)
The Boogie Man (European Charly comp inc unissued)

Chameline LP/CD D1-74794
(1969)
The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie (licensed compilation)

Ace LP CD 2982
(1961)
Live At Sugar Hill Vol 2 (the ten extra tracks from the Sugar Hill sessions)

Vee-Jay LP 1097
(1963)
On Vee-Jay Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1958 (including tracks not on album)

Fantasy FCD 47714
(2000)
Live At Sugar Hill Vol. 2 (9 extra unissued tracks from Sugar Hill sessions)

The Devil’s Tunes LP/CDP002
(2014)
I’m Going Home (“rehearsal” session June 1958) with two bonus tracks on CD

Coast to Coast: 1965 – 1975, plus selected
(during the ’70s and early ’80s Hooker also "guested" on several other albums not listed)

Verve-Folkways FT-3003 / FTC-3003 (stereo)
(1965) ... And Seven Nights (rec Nov 1964) issued as John Lee Hooker on British XTRA 1114 (ca 1971) and New World 6003 (1972), also US Cleve LP 82871 as John Mayall and the Groundhogs; in 1996 as Hooker and The Hogs on Indigo IG0CD 2059; also on US WAND WDS 689 (1969) as On The Waterfront - with brass/ horns added, and on Sequel CD NEBCD67* (1993) as The 1965 London Sessions (also with brass/horns)

Impulse AS:9103
(1966) ... Serve(s) You Right To Suffer (rec 1965 – reissued on BGOCD339)

Ches LP 1508
(1966) The Real Folk Blues (”One Bourbon” LP rec 1966) – reissued on Chess CH-9271

Ches CHD 9239
(1967) More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album (rec 1966, comp new tracks)

Bluesway BLS 6002 (early 1967)
Live At Cafe Au Go Go (rec 1966 aka Live at the Cafe Au Go Go ) reissued on BGOCD39*

Bluesway BLS 6012 (early 1968)
Urban Blues (Al Smith prod, Chicago, rec 1967 – 11 tracks) reissued on BGOCD122 - 12 tracks

Bluesway BLS 6023 (early 1969)
Simply The Truth (rec September 17-18, 1968) – reissued on MCA022316 and BGOCD40*

Bluesway BLS 6038 (1969)
I Feel Mis __. ___ I Got Im (rec 1969) – reissued on BGOCD392*

Carson/Calumet 3662* (1970)
I Feel Good (1969 recordings) also on US Jewel 5005 in 1971

America 60100*
(1970) I Wanna Dance All Night (from same session as above) reissued on Musidisc 1361

Black And Blue 333203* (ca 1971) Get Back Home In The USA (French late 1969) also on SS51353, reissued with bonus tracks on CD 59023

Liberty 2-35002
(1971) Hooker ‘N’ Heat (2-set May, 1970) reissued as Crawlin’ King on Trip 3501, and as Infinite Boogie on Rhino; also on BGO CD 849

ABC S-270 (1971) Endless Boogie (2-set November, 1970) reissued on MCA 10413, and w lesser tracks on BGOCD70*

Bluesway BLS 6052 (1972)
Kabuki Wuku (rec live in L.A. 1971)

ABC X-736
(1972) Never Get Out Of Those Blues Alive (rec 1971 reissued on MCA31361 and SeeForMiles CDSEE 89* (also featuring ABC 736)

ABC X-838
(1973) Born In Mississippi, Raised Up In Tennessee (rec 1971, dubbed 1973)

ABC X-838
(1974) Free Beer And Chicken (”Homework” and more, rec 1974) – reissued on BGOCD123*

Bluesway BLS 2-186* (1975) Black Rhythm ‘n Blues (2-set reissue of Carson and America above)

MCA 1686* (1982) Tantalizing with the Blues (British ABC/Bluesway comp 1965-1971)

Tomato 269614 (1988)
I’ll Play The Blues For You (5 tracks live Chicago 1977- the others by Albert King)

Tomato 2696001 (2-set)* (1989) Alone (live solo, 1976); reissue of Labor LAB 4/MMG 64000 (1980/81) and of Still Alone MMG 64005 (1982); also on single CDs on Tomato as Alone Vol 1 and Vol 2 and reissued on Rhino/Tomato CD PG 70387

Tomato 7009 (2-set) (1978) The Cream (live rec 1977) reissued on German Tomato 269021 The Father of the Blues, with longer track time; and reissued as “The Cream” on Charly CD SNAD 542 with bonus tracks


55 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
Hooker’s Original LP Albums: 1959-1963

Thanks to Scot Pell for several of the cover images. Shown above are the 1963 Battle Records’ reissues of the first two Riverside LPs. “I Want To Shout The Blues” is a British re-packed “On Campus”, and top center the circa 1960 “Highway of Blues” with six Hooker tracks plus “Sticks” McGhee on Audio Lab (a King sub).

Check for Hooker’s original LPs at discogs

56  The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
Hooker’s Original LP Albums 1964-1969

Above: "No Friend Around" – on the original Advent label and bottom left is the Red Lightnin’ "official bootleg" RL 003 of 1969. Top right: The Fortune LP of circa 1964.

57 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
John Lee Hooker – Selected original LPs of the 1970s

Starting with 1970s LPs containing classic early recordings – and finishing with the new 1970s recordings.

Top right: Kent KST 559 of 1971 "The Greatest Hits of John Lee Hooker" (a reissue of "The Blues"), and the United version of 1974. The first four images below are United/Superior LPs and the fifth is a United LP (all with catalogue numbers US-7000-series).


The five great compilations featuring alternate Besman tracks – two on Specialty, one on United Artists, the Greene Built's LP and the triple LP set on United Artists (issued 1970-1973). "Detroit Special" on Atlantic (a reissue of Abo's "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" – this time with several bonus tracks of the 1950 session) issued 1972.

"Johnny Hogg" in the Great John Lee Hooker compilations.

The America (France) LP "I Wanna Dance All Night" (also recorded in October 1969 and issued in 1970); the Black & Blue (France) LP "Get Back Home In The U.S.A." (recorded in November 1969, issued ca 1971). Liberty 2-set LP "Hooker 'N Heat" (1971), ABC 2-set LP "Endless Boogie" (1971), Blueway "Kabuki Wuki", and the ABC album "Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive" (both issued 1977). The ABC albums "Live At Soledad Prison": "Born In Mississippi, Raised Up In Tennessee" (both 1973), and "Free Beer And Chicken" (1974). A double LP comprising the last session of the 1970s, the live "Cream" on Tomato - recorded in Palo Alto, September 1977 with Hooker's Coast To Coast Blues Band (issued 1978). "Ornament LP Live & Well" (issued 1977 and recorded in Germany in June 1976). Finally yet another live album – this time "Live in 1978" on Lunar2 (it is a rare album recorded in Colorado August 26) – and reissued several times with complete different dates and locations of recording and under different labels and titles. The "Aone" albums on Labor and MMG in 1976 (later Tomato) – see next page.

The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography
from The Great R&B Bits Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info
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JOHN LEE HOOKER – Selected original LPs of the 1980s
(with some extras at the end issued during the early “Healer” Rosebud period). Imaged right: the original Labor cover of “Alone Volume One” (issued 1980 and reissued on MMG in 1981), and “Still Alone” (vol Two) on MMG issued 1982.
They were live recordings done in New York in February 1976. Far right the Tomato (Netherlands) double LP (a 1989 reissue).

Five Charly Hooker albums, starting with a reissue of “No Friend Around” from the early 1980s - plus the Instant album “The Boogie Man” (from circa 1985) – the last live featuring Vee-Jay tracks – issued and unissued. The Savoy double LP “Southern Blues” with one set devoted to very early Elmer Barbee produced Detroit pirate recordings (issued 1981). The French double LP on Festival (“Black Rhythm & Blues” comprising the 1969 German and America LPs (possibly issued in the early 1980s).

The British Ace LP CH 37 “John Lee Hooker volume one” (issued 1981 featuring Modern tracks – there never was any volume two), Danish label Official LP 6029 with the “Boogie Chillen” LP of circa 1985 featuring rare Modern tracks. “Gotham Golden Classics – The Rare Recordings” on Collectables (circa 1987) and the British Krazy Kat album “Detroit Blues” (of 1987) – both albums featuring Hooker recordings for Gotham.


MCA (UK) LP 1686 issued 1982, featuring tracks from the Chessway years. “More Real Folk Blues – The Missing Album” on MCA/Chess in 1991 (featuring unreleased tracks from the 1966 Chess session); Chameleon (the “Healer” label) LP “The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie” with rare Vee-Jay tracks (issued 1989); and the revived Vee-Jay label with “John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955–1958” (a super interesting chronological anthology of 1993)
1950
Several Texas Slim recordings are issued on King (sold to the label by Joe Von Battle - with two of the tracks recorded by Idessa Malone). *House Rent Boogie* c/w a terrific rendition of "Wanderin Blues" (based on Charles Brown's classic "Driftin Blues" and which Hooker had recorded in several versions earlier), produced by Idessa Malone on Staff Records, is issued in December as by Johnny Williams and in March 1951 Modern release the Besman produced record of the boogie ("John L's House Rent Boogie"). Around the end of the year an obscure record on Gone Records surfaces as by John Lee Hooker and his Guitar, titled "Mad Man Blues", recorded by Joe Von Battle, where Hooker calls himself Sam (on previous pirate recordings Hooker had often called himself Poor Joe, Poor Slim, and Poor Tony). The single will be reissued during 1951 on Chess Records.

1951
JLH re-signs a contract with Bernie Besman up to February 29, 1952 (although Besman's last recording session for Modern is dated May 22, 1952). He records several titles as by Johnny Williams for Gotham in the early part of the year (or possibly in late 1950) - a Philadelphia label - although the recordings are done in Detroit - possibly by Joe Von Battle. The last Gotham single though, "Mean Old Train", issued with the obvious pseudonym John Lee in March 1952. Hooker records direct for Chess Records in Chicago on April 26, issued as John Lee Booker during the latter part of the year (a.o. "Leave My Wife Alone"). On some of the tracks Hooker is accompanied by Eddie Kirkland. The original "I'm In The Mood" (with again - Eddie Kirkland on second guitar) is recorded with multi-vocal-tracks on August 7 by Besman and becomes a great hit (reaching US Pop #30 and hitting the R&B Juke Box Chart #1 in November - the hit lasts into 1952). In October Chess Records issue "Ground Hog Blues" (a new version of an unissued recording originally done for Gotham) c/w "Louise" as by John Lee Booker. Several early Barbee-recordings appear on the Chicago-based label Chance during late 1951 and early 1952 as by John Lee Booker and his Guitar, including the fine "Talkin' Boogie". Barbee quilts as Hooker's manager around late this year.

1952
Modern Records (owned by the Bihari brothers Saul, Jules, and Joe; with their three sisters also working for the label, and eldest brother, Lester, heading Meteor Records) go to court, winning the right to reissue the Chess-recording "Ground Hog Blues" b/w "Louise" (now issued as by John L' Hooker in January), Hooker debuts as a radio DJ and tours with Eddie Kirkland and with Muddy Waters in the South. On April 24 Hooker waxes a second huge Chess session (this time probably in Detroit), "High Priced Woman" from the Chess productions of April 1951 is issued, followed by "Walking The Boogie" c/w "Sugar Mama" from the 1952 session - but most tracks from the second session, a.o. "The Journey", will not be issued until the LP market is hitting Europe during the early 1960s. During the summer Bernie Besman moves to Los Angeles and the Biharis decide to produce Hooker themselves from now on (with Joe Bihari travelling to Detroit to cut records - still with Bernie's engineer Joe Siracuse in the studio). Besman's last Hooker production will be "It's My Own Fault" (issued a couple of years later on Chess, featuring Bob Thurman, pro) and Modern Records' first Bihari-productions will result in the single "Rock House Boogie" c/w "It's Been A Long Time Baby".

1953
Eddie Kirkland is featured on most of the Hooker recordings of 1953 (one of the best Modern cuts is "Don't Child"), Hooker continues his pirate recordings - now making several singles, a.o. "Shoutin Blues", for Henry Stone on Rockin' (in Cincinnati or Miami) as by John Lee Booker (recordings from this session will also appear on DeLuxe 1953-54 and the Stone-associated label Chart in 1956).

1954
After having formed his new band, "The Boogie Ramblers" in 1953 he signs a contract with Specialty Records and makes recordings for that label at Esquire Recordings Studios in May, produced by Johnny Vincent (a.o. the single "I'm Mad" and a tough version of Hooker's JVB-single of late 1953, "Boogie Rambler", the Specialty version featuring Johnny Hooks, tens; John Griffith, pno; Theo Roosevelt, b; and regular drummer Tom Whitehead). A second Specialty session is held at United Sounds (where Besman had made his recordings) in October, produced by Besman's engineer Joe Siracuse. The recordings from that session will remain unissued until the 1970s. Although contracted to Specialty Hooker continues to record for Modern into 1955 (and records for Devora Brown's Fortune Records).

1955
Records his last Modern Detroit-recordings, "Hug And Squeeze" b/w "The Syndicator" (featuring Olis Finch, tenorsax), and the last modern single, "I'm Ready", is issued in October. Hooker signs with the Chicago label Vee-Jay Records, owned by Vivian Carter and her husband Jimmy Bracken - the first single, "Mambo Chillun", is issued in November (featuring Jimmy Reed, hca - and recorded at Universal Studios).

1956
The classic "Dimples" is recorded in Chicago for Vee-Jay in March (with a combined Chicago/Detroit rhythm section comprising Eddie Taylor, gtr; George Washington, b; and Whitehead, dms).

1957
 Becomes an established Vee-Jay artist, recording a.o. the fine "I See You When You're Weak" (although his label-mate Jimmy Reed is selling better).

1958
"I Love You Honey" on Vee-Jay Records hits the R&B Chart #29 in December (featuring Detroit-pianist Joe Edward Hunter on piano), Eddie Taylor, gtr; Everett McCrary, b; and Richard Johnson, dms).
1960
Hooker's first Crown budget album, "The Blues", hits the markets (including Hooker's Detroit-recorded classic Besman and Modern titles). In the years to come three more Crown albums will surface (later reissued several times on the Bihari's other budget labels United and Custom). A second Riverside album is recorded in February - the highly appreciated "That's My Story", with several tracks featuring a rhythm section (Sam Jones, b; and Louis Hayes, dms) is issued (including the great "Gonna Use My Rod", in later versions known as "I'm Mad Again" and "I'm Bad Like Jesus James"). In 1964 (but only in England) a third Riverside LP, "Burning Hell", from the 1959 session will be issued. Hooker waxes his wonderful Vee-Jay album "Travelin" in March, including a.o. the first version of "Whiskey And Wimmen" (with a trio led by guitarist Lefty Bates and featuring Eddie Kirkland's son John and Jimmy Rogers). Gary, Hooker and Muddy Waters are the true blues artists on the second annual Newport Folk Festival in June. In July one of the singles from the "Travelin" LP, "No Shoes", hits the R&B Hot Chart #21. JHL cuts several pirate tracks for Fortune in Detroit (who also had recorded him around 1954). King Records issue "John Lee Hooker Sings Blues" late this year, comprising 12 old Texas Slim recordings (with dubbed drums and echo on a couple of tracks - plus 4 tracks by Earl Hooker, wrongly credited John - although with the track titles as on the remaining Texas Slim recordings).

1961
The third Vee-Jay LP, "The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker" is issued, featuring a.o. a handful of tuft rhythm & blues originals with Lefty Bates, gtr & hca (not Jimmy Reed, but Lefty himself), Quinn Wilson, b; Earl Phillips, dms and possibly Pops Staples also present. The six recordings of January 4 (of which only four are included on the album) are nowadays all true classics: "Want Ad Blues", "Will The Circle Be Unbroken", "I'm Going Upstairs", "I Left My Baby", "Hard Headed Woman", "I'm Mad Again". Bob Dylan debuts in New York - opening for Hooker at Gende's Folk City. Hooker uses Eddie Kirkland to back him on an album recording for Savoy (Fancourt lists the session as 1959 recordings). The recordings stayed in the can and were not issued until more than ten years later as "Sittin', Here Thinkin'" on Muse - only one track, "When My Wife Quit Me", was to be issued on a Savoy various-artists LP in 1964. Hooker records his "Burnin" LP in Chicago in November for Vee-Jay with Detroit musicians including reeds (session-men: Joe Edward Hunter, pr; Hank Cosby, tens; Mike Terry, bar; Larry Veeder, gr; James Jamerson, bsg; Benny Benjamin, dms) after a long period of "folk blues" waxing.

1962
"Boom Boom" (from "Burnin", issued in March) hits US Pop #60 in July (and the Hot R&B Chart #16). In 2016 the single was inducted into the GRAMMY Hall of Fame. Vee-Jay issue "The Best of JHL" (a compilation of his 1955-1961 period in Chicago). Hooker tours Europe with the Original American Folk Blues Festival package (including T-Bone Walker, Memphis Slim and Willie Dixon).

1963
"The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker" album on Vee-Jay, featuring "Frisco Blues", is issued (with a female backing - not the Vandellas but Mary Wilson and the Andantes). Atco Records issue the album "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" in February (featuring Henry Stone DeLuxe tracks of 1953 and new recordings of 1961, the latter ones recorded in Miami), where one really can trace Hooker's guitarist roots (and in 1969 Stax Records find more Stone tracks of 1961 to issue on "That's Where It's At!" - some of them previously issued on Guest Star and Storyville). Hooker refers to the electric bass player featured on several of the tracks as "Earl". John Lee again uses the soon-to-be famous Detroit "Motown" musicians to back him on half of the tracks of the Vee-Jay "On Campus" album, featuring "Don't Look Back" (including reeds, rhythm - and brass - and this time possibly The Vandellas). Another classic from that LP is "Birmingham Blues". JHL cuts several tracks at the Newport Folk Festival originally issued on Vee-Jay ("Concert At Newport") and remixed at Vanguard Records in 2002 ("Live At Newport").

1964
Makes his last session for Vee-Jay Records in early/mid-year, including the original version of "It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)" (featuring a lead guitarist who may be Wayne Bennett). Hooker tours Britain with John Mayall and a UK issue of "Dimples" reaches UK Pop #23 and he plays it on "Ready Steady Go" TV. Hooker also waxes an album with Tony McPhee's Groundhogs in London in November. The album will appear on several labels under several titles years later, although the most well-known are "... And Seven Nights" on Verve-Folkways in 1965 and four years later the brass-dubbed "On The Waterfront" on Wand.

1965
Vee-Jay, who soon will go bankrupt, issue "Is He The World’s Greatest Blues Singer?" (covering ten years of Sir John Lee Hooker in Chicago). Johnnie tours The American Folk Blues Festival again (this time with a.o. Big Mama Thornton, Walter Horton, and Buddy Guy - and visits Britain for the fourth time) and later that year signs with ABC Records in the US - the first LP being "It Serve(s) You Right To Suffer" on the jazz-subsidiary Impulse Records, recorded in New York in November by Bob Thiele with a rhythm section comprising Barry Galbraith, gtr; Milt Hinton, b; and Panama Francis, dms.

1966
The legendary T-Bone Walker and Johnny Otis producer Ralph Bass (who produced several 1960s' Chess recordings and albums, and refused to cut in stereo) records Hooker for Chess in Chicago in May (including Lafayette Leake, pr; old Detroit friend Eddie Bums, gtr; unknown bg; and Fred Below or S.P. Leary, dms) and "The Real Folk Blues" is issued later that year (featuring the now famous "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer"). Almost 30 years later "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" from that same session is marketed.

1967
Kent Records (a Bihari label) issue "Original Folk Blues", comprising famous Modern tracks. The first ABC-Bluesway album by Hooker is issued, "Live at Cafe Au Go Go" (featuring the Muddy Waters Blues Band in August 1966, who back him on a.o. the first version of "I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive"). The British issue of "House of the Blues" (featuring 1951-52 Hooker Chess tracks) reaches UK Pop #34 - and Hooker visits Britain in June.

1968
The award-winning Bluesway album "Urban Blues" (including the original "Mr. Lucky") is issued, recorded in Chicago during September and November 1967 by Al Smith (musicians: Eddie Kirkland, Wayne Bennett and prob also Buddy Guy, guitar; Phil Upchurch and Eddie Taylor, bsgrs; Al Duncan, dms; and Louis Myers, hca). Galaxy Records (who already had come up with a Besman recorded Los Angeles LP, simply titled "John Lee Hooker" with "I Lost My Job") issue "Live At Sugar Hill", cut in November 1962 in San Francisco. A second volume will be issued on Ace Records in England in 1972 (the two volumes reissued on a Fantasy 2-LPset as "Boogie Chillin'" and in 2002 a true Vol. 2 with further unissued tracks appears on a Fantasy CD). Hooker tours Europe in October with the AFBF featuring Walter Horton, T-Bone Walker, Jimmy Reed and Eddie Taylor (a.o.).

1969
Another award-winning Bluesway album, "Simply The Truth", is issued (recorded in New York by Bob Thiele during September 17-18, 1968 with Ernie Hayes, pr; Wally Richardson, gtr; William Fields, b; and Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, dms; plus the unknown Hele Rosenthal, hca). The Stax LP "That's Where It's At!" hits the market with 1961 Henry Stone material plus one new-recorded track featuring blue-eyed soulster Steve Alaimo (who had helped Stone produce solo records in Miami from the mid 1960s), The Bluesway album "If You Miss 'Im ... I Got 'Im" is recorded in May in Los Angeles, where Hooker is backed by cousin Earl Hooker and his band with Jeff Capp, hca (Earl dies in Chicago on April 21, 1970). Hooker tours Europe again (which he has done every year since 1962), this time recording French material enough for more - some featuring a backing band supplied by Lowell Fulsom, gtr; Carey Bell, b (not hca) and S.P. Leary, dms. Back home in the U.S. he settles in Oakland, California (after separating from wife Maude, still his life-long friend).
1970
At lease from ABC Hooker finds himself recording - in May again - with Canned Heat in Los Angeles for Liberty (featuring the young harmonica-player Al Wilson - who dies shortly after - September 3). Hooker headlines the Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festival in August (with Buddy Guy and Johnny Winter). John marries Milie Strom from Canada in the early 1970s (separated as good friends in later years).

1974
Ed Michel produces the underrated, and last ABC album, “Free Beer And Chicken”, recorded in Sausalito and Los Angeles May 14-23 (this time with the brass direct behind Hooker - no dubs). Among the tracks: the funky “Homework” with Howard Roberts and Wah-Wah Watson, gns; Cliff Coulter, syntheisers and bsgr; plus Ron Beck, dms. The album also features Joe Tucker, vocals; Don “Sugarcan” Harris and Michael White, violins; and a.o. Robert Hooker and Luther Tucker. On September 17, Hooker performs at the Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival along with among others James Blood and B.B. King.

1975-1985
The days of “The Live Wildness” - Hooker spends most of his days touring and making live recordings. ABC-Bluesway had already come up with two live-albums issued in 1972 and 1973 (the last, “Live at Soledad Prison” recorded in June, 1972 featuring the debut of John Lee Hooker Jr.). Hooker (mostly solo) appears on several live albums recorded in New York (“Alone” featuring “Dark Room” - praised by Charles Shaar Murray), and Canada, Germany, Chicago, Colorado, and Oklahoma during the years 1976 to 1984.

1977
Vee-Jay International issue the “Gold” 2-set LP in a short-lived vintage series (it is actually a re-issue of two original VJ albums - “I'm John Lee Hooker” and “The Big Soul”)

1978

1980
Inducted into the Blues Foundation’s very first Hall Of Fame. Featured as one of many fine cameo artists in the movie “The Blues Brothers” (doing a simply great rendition of BB King’s “The Thrill is Gone”). Hooker tours the States and Europe with his Coast to Coast Blues Band featuring Josens, Osborn, Tim Richards, and differing bass-guitarists (mostly Larry Hamilton).

1984-1985
The Bihari’s sell their catalogue to Kamp Associates after a long legal dispute over the ownership of the John Lee Hooker Modern masters. Later the Duck Soup Music Group purchases the Modern catalogue. Today Ace Records in London have the rights to the Bihari labels (Virgin in the US) - although Besman’s (and even John Lee’s) estates have the rights to several early masters.

1986
The Spielberg movie “The Color Purple” features Hooker’s music and Hooker records “We’ll Meet Again” in Redwood City, California to be featured on the “Jealous” album.

1987
Krazy Kat in England issue the LP “Detroit Blues 1950 - 1951”, with nine Gotham tracks of 1951 (including three originally unissued) plus the Johnny Williams Staff single of 1950 (“House Rent Boogie” c/w “Wanderin’ Blues”, which had been reissued on Gotham) and five tracks by Eddie Burns. An album covering the Hooker tracks appears on U.S. Collectables “Gotham Golden Classics - The Rare Recordings”. Hooker records with Canned Heat again in January at Russian Hill outside San Francisco, and in April his recordings there feature Charlie Musselwhite, hca; Roy Rogers, gtr; Steve Ehrmann, bs; and Scott Matthews, dms. In October a re-rendition of “Baby Lee”, featuring Robert Cray, is produced by Roy Rogers, also recorded at Russian Hill with Samuel Lehmer as engineer (who will engineer most of Hooker’s later recordings). Several of these early “resurrection” recordings will be featured on “The Healer” album of 1989.

1988
Finds himself a new manager, Mike Kappus. The new association had started slow already in 1976 (when Kappus started to be Hooker’s agent) but - from now - incredible things will happen - with the Blue Rose organization (Kappus, Roy Rogers and LHJ) and the Rosebud Agency - giving Hooker a completely “new career” after more than 40 years in business. Roy Rogers produces several titles with guest artists including Carlos Santana, Bonnie Raitt, Los Lobos and George Thorogood in and around San Francisco during April and May - completing the album that in the year-to-come will make Hooker quite a rich man. The song “The Healer” was recorded on April 25, 1988.
1989

Bennie Besman issues "40th Anniversary Album" on DCC (comprising re-titlings of old Besman Detroit tracks). In the UK the album is issued a year later on Demon as "The Detroit Lion". Hooker waxed Jim Hendrix "Red House", featuring Booker T. Jones in March. In July Chameleon Records (who recently had issued "The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie", featuring 16 Vee-Jay tracks – several of them unissued in US – and who also had provided eight of the original Vee-Jay albums including "In Person" and "The Best of...") on CD issue the album "The Healer" from the sessions the years before (the title track featuring Carlos Santana). The album becomes a big seller – reaching US Pop #62 (staying on the albums survey for 38 weeks). Hooker performs at the 30th Newport Folk Festival. In September Hooker is featured on Pete Townshend's concept album "The Iron Man", and in December Hooker joins The Rolling Stones in an Atlantic City concert.

1990

"I'm In The Mood" (duet with Ronnie Raitt), from "The Healer" (recorded in early April, 1988), wins Best Traditional Blues Recording at the 32nd annual Grammy award's ceremony in February. "The Healer" album (on Silvertone, a British label) hits UK Pop #63. Hooker visits Britain in July. Krazy Kat issue a double LP, comprising 33 very rare recordings (including several unissued Barbee and Battle productions from 1948-1953), compiled by Dave Sax and titled "Boogie Awhile". In October Benson & Hedges promote "A Tribute To John Lee Hooker" at Madison Square Garden, New York City. The Mood" in an album titled "Boogie Chillen", featuring eleven Besman recordings included (actually "hummer & moaner") in "The Hot Spot" with music by Jack Nielasche. "Sure Thing" by St. Germain (issued in 2000) was a "remix" of some tracks on "The Hot Spot" ("Hurry's Philosophy"). British Ace reissues the first two Riverside albums (1959-1960) on CD, titled "That's My Story/The Folk Blues of...

1991

Cuts "Up And Down" with Johnnie Johnson (Chuck Berry's old pianist and bandleader) at the piano in May (or January - the recording will surface on a "Chill Out" promotion EP/CD several years later - and on the "Face To Face" CD of 2003). Hooker is inducted into the Rock 'N Roll Hall Of Fame on January 17, at the sixth annual dinner at Waldorf Astoria in New York. The Hooker back-up band "The Coast To Coast Boogie Band" of 1991: Vala Cupp, vocals; Deacon Jones - often substituted or supplemented by L iz Fisher, keyboards; Mike Osborn, lead guitar; Rich Kich, rhythm guitar; Jim Guyett, bass guitar; Bowen Brown, drums; and Kenny Baker, saxophone. Mainstream Records in the UK issue a super hooker CD, titled "Half A Stranger", which has 18 direct-from-tape digitally remastered Modern tracks - most of them concentrating on Hooker's later Modern years 1953-55 and "I'm In The Mood" in an alternate undubbed one-voice-take. Around the time of Bernie Besman's death in the year of 2003 an Audio Fidelity CD, titled "Boogie Chiller", featuring eleven Besman recordings included in the "40th Anniversary Album" plus nine Joe Siracuse-engineered Modern tracks from the "Half A Stranger" CD, is issued. Chess/MCA issue the CD "More Real Folk Blues - The Missing Album" with nine never-before-issued Hooker tracks from Chess "The Real Folk Blues session of 1966. Among the new tracks: a terrific version of "Turn Me From Your Door" album on CD (this time it features a total of 16 tracks, identical to the Atlantic LP "Detroit Special" of 1972). The album "Boom Boom" is Hooker's next seller (again on Pointblank). UK Charly Records issue a 6CD-box, titled "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964", comprising almost all his Vee-Jay recordings. MCA-Universal, who own Hooker's ABC/Bluesway and Chess material, issue the best of the many Hooker New York / California collections: "The Best Of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974" (compiled by Dave Booth with Colin Escott's fine track comments). Hooker joins Van Morrison to cut a studio version of "Gloria".

1992

Ace in UK issue the CD "Blues Brother – 25 Vintage Sensation Recordings 1948-1951" as a spin-off on Hooker's cameo appearance in the cult film "Blues Brothers". Atlantic Records reissue the "Don't Turn Me From Your Door" album on CD (this time it features a total of 16 tracks, identical to the Atlantic LP "Detroit Special" of 1972). The album "Boom Boom" is Hooker's next seller (again on Pointblank). UK Charly Records issue a 6CD-box, titled "The Vee-Jay Years 1955-1964", comprising almost all his Vee-Jay recordings. MCA-Universal, who own Hooker's ABC/Bluesway and Chess material, issue the best of the many Hooker New York / California collections: "The Best Of John Lee Hooker 1965 to 1974" (compiled by Dave Booth with Colin Escott's fine track comments). Hooker joins Van Morrison to cut a studio version of "Gloria".

1993

Hooker participates in a commercial by Lee Jeans and in an amusing one for Pepsi. The San Francisco club "The Boom Room", which Hooker opened and Hooker cuts a duet with B.B. King (Muddy Waters' old "You Shook Me"), Re-activated Vee-Jay issue the CD "John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay 1955-1956" (a chronology with all of the 22 songs Hooker made for the company during these years, including "Mama You Got A Daughter" with full rhythm accom)l. During 1992-1994 Ace Records in England (and Flair and Speciality in US) issue several CDs comprising Modern, Besman and Specialty originals, the most famous being the 1993 CD "The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954" - with Specialty's chronological "Graveyard Blues" (featuring Besman recordings 1948-1950) and "Everybody's Blues" (Besman 1950-1951 and almost all Specialty recordings of 1954) also truly worthwhile buys. Ten years later - in August, 2003 - Virgin/EMI in U.S. issue a great Modern compilation ("Blues Immortal") in their series "Blues Kingpins" featuring 16 chronological John Lee Hooker tracks for Modern, recorded during 1948-1955.

1994

The 1955-1964 Vee-Jay recordings are by now reissued on all the labels you can imagine and in packages you may not even have dreamt of (mostly bootleg though and no royalty to the Hook). Charly Records issue a great 4CD-bookset, "The Boogie Man", comprising his famous Vee-Jay tracks and several rare pseudonym recordings from 1948-1966.

1995


1996

Gets a Grammy award, Best Traditional Blues Album, for Virgin/Pointblank's CD-album "Chill Out". Hooker appears in the major charity event Free Tibet Concert in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Receives a Lifetime Achievement Award from The Blues Foundation on November 7.

1997

Celebrates 50 years of recording activities (Besman & Modern in Detroit 1948-1955, Vee-Jay in Chicago 1955-1964, ABC Coast to Coast 1965-1974, live & Virgin in Frisco 1975-1997) with around a hundred original albums to his credit.

1998

MCA in US and Universal in Europe (who had purchased Chess Records) issue a double-CD, "The Complete 50's Chess Recordings", comprising all of the 1950-1952 classics, previously issued on the two famous early 1960's Chess albums - this time completed with the alternate of "Walkin' The Boogie" and several Fortune recordings acquired by Chess (creating a chronological collectors' gem of 31 tracks). Hooker receives Grammy awards for the "Don't Look Back" album (produced by and featuring Van Morrison) - both Best Traditional Blues Album and Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals; and reissues "Boogie Chiller" for the last time (guested by Eric Clapton) - to be issued on his "The Best Of Friends" CD-album. Joerg Bundshuh starts shooting the film "John Lee Hooker - That's My Story" (in 2003 issued on Documentary DVD). Starting in 1998 Charly reissue the first (and best) four of Hooker's Vee-Jay albums - "I'm John Lee Hooker", "Travelin'", "The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker", and "Burnin'" (originally issued in 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962 - now including bonus tracks). These CDs will be reissued again in 2003 (SNAP cat.nos).

1999

Receives a Pioneer Award from the Rhythm and Blues Foundation on February 25. The original "Boogie Chiller" single is inducted into the GRAMMY Hall of Fame. Charles Shaar Murray's great biography on Hooker, "Boogie Man", is published in England (left image: the US version of 2000 ). The book was enhanced and reedited in 2011.
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

From The Great R&B-Info Created By Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

2000

Receives a Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement on February 22.


2001

Ace Records in UK issue “John Lee Hooker Presents his House Rent Boogie” CD early this year, comprising 22 rare Modern originals plus an alternate take of “House Rent Boogie” of November 1950 and a harmonica-dubbled version of the original 1951 recording of “I’m In The Mood”. Hooker records a duet in his last song in Palo Alto near his home (Los Altos) with Tommy Castro, “Guilty of Love” in May and makes his last concert appearance at Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa on June 16. He dies in his sleep at Los Altos (near San Francisco), California on June 21. Charly Records (who regularly had come up with some strange and some very interesting Hooker Vee-Jay compilations) issue a 3CD-set titled “Testament”, comprising his famous Vee-Jay tracks. Collectables Records in US reissue nine original Hooker Vee-Jay LPs plus the Gotham tracks in a 10CD-box titled “The Legend, The Man”. Charly (now often on the Snapper and RPM labels) continue their by now 20-year old tradition of releasing compilations and “full-session” issues of Hooker material (mostly Vee-Jay, but also several recordings from other labels - like the Tomato 1957 session and the London 1964 session).

2002

The John Lee Hooker Foundation (established right after Hooker’s death) gets international recognition. Zakiya Hooker and John Lee Hooker, Jr. keep Hooker’s tradition alive together with the whole Hooker Estate.

2003

An official John Lee Hooker web site - www.johnleehooker.com is founded, and 2003 is declared “The Year of the Blues”. The Besman/Siracuse “Boogie Chilien” CD is issued and later that year the Virgin/EMI CD series “Blues Kingspins” (one CD devoted to Hooker, “Blues Immortal”) hits the U.S. market (both CDs featuring Modern classics). In September Zakiya produces a completely new Hooker CD in co-operation with Eagle Records and the John Lee Hooker Estate Management. The album is titled “Face To Face”, featuring unissued Hooker recordings from the 1980s and 1990s, and including a re-mix of “Loving People”, featuring Deacon Jones and/or Duke Jethro.org; Dan Zelmen and/or Pete Sears,pro; Anthony Cook, Billy Johnson, and Robert Young, gtr; Joe Thomas and/or CC Bell; Marion Green and/or Kevin Williams, dms; Randie McBride, perc; and the voices of Terrance Kelly, Gail Benson, and Tina Bryant - the song written by Hooker, Zakiya and her husband, producer Ollan Christopher Bell – originally recorded with Zakiya in 1991.

2004

In April a 2CD-set on the British label Metro Doubles, titled “Early Years - The Classic Savoy Sessions” is issued comprising the Savoy Jazz/Atlantic early Elmer Barbee-Joe Von Battle recordings of 1948-49 plus the Savoy session of circa 1961. A terrific JLH DVD on Eagle is issued in May, titled “Come See About Me”. In June Collectables in the U.S. issue “I’m The Boogie Man” comprising 23 King / Federal / DeLuxe tracks from 1948-53 - including the never-before-issued “My Baby Left Me” from a Battle session of 1953 and 15 of the 16 Texas Slim tracks. All 16, undubbed Texas Slim tracks, are later issued on a Varèse-Sarabande CD titled “I’m A Boogie Man” - also including the three rare Battle DeLuxe tracks (truly the best Texas Slim compilation).

2005

The sixth and last of the 2CD-series “The Complete John Lee Hooker” is issued on Body & Soul. Now all of Hooker’s Detroit period (except for four Fortune tracks) is covered. The next “natural” chronological CD to include more than 20 recordings of Hooker’s career is the “John Lee Hooker on Vee-Jay, 1955-1958” CD (starting with one Vee-Jay single in 1955). During the original rock ‘n’ roll years of 1956-1958 Hooker had delivered a total of a further seven Vee-Jay singles. Hooker toured heavily during these years.

2006

In the early months the reissue label Hip-O releases a 20-track collection featuring recordings from Hooker’s long career (from “Boogie Chilien” to “The Healer”), titled “The Definitive Collection”, which serves as an almost perfect sample for a Hooker “beginner”. Hook-O follow up with a 2CD-set featuring a further more 15 classics in April, 2007, titled “Gold”. During the Summer Proper Records (ex-Charly) issue a nice little “public domain” 4CD-set titled “The Boogie Man”, featuring 98 recordings from the Detroit-period (including the Modern hits as well as the Baby titles and several pseudonym recordings). On October 31 a 4CD-box, titled “Hooker” is issued on Shout!Factory in co-operation with the Hooker Estate, covering the whole of Hooker’s career. The Box really has all the true gems and is definitely THE ULTIMATE HOOKER ANTHOLOGY (featuring 26 Detroit 48-55, 26 Chicago 56-64, 15 Coast-to-Coast 65-91 and 17 Frisco 92-98 recordings). The Box is reissued in Germany on Blue Label/SPV in 2009.

2007

Shout!Factory start to reissue CDs from Hooker’s Rosebud years - now with bonus tracks, and also reissue the legendary “I’m John Lee Hooker” album.

2008

32 tracks are included on the Shout!Factory 2-CD-set “John Lee Hooker Anthology - 50 Years” (with 30 tracks from the “Hooker” 4 CD-set plus “Jealous” and “Boogie from Russian Hill”).

Timeline edited by Claus Röhnisch
1948-1967 - 16 Great Tracks

**Boogie Chillen** - Sept 3, 1948
Modern 20-627 - Hooker's very first release, originally intended for producer Bernie Besman's co-owned tiny Detroit label called Sensation. But Besman offered and soon "leased" this and many other recordings from the first super-long session at the United Sound Systems Studios (with a young Joe Siracuse the engineer) to the Bihari brothers' Hollywood based Modern Records. The single was issued in early November with John Lee Hooker & His Guitar credited. The phrase "Boogie Chillen" was only expressed once, and on the alternates (which differ distinctly from the hit version) it wasn't cited at all. Original intended title was simply "Boogie Woogie".

**Crawlin' King Snake** - Sept 3, 1948
Modern 20-714 - Originally waxed by Clarksdale-born (childhood Hooker acquaintance) Tony Hollins (and by Big Joe Williams) in 1941. Both artists inspired other Hooker songs. This single, issued late 1949, was one of John's absolute favorites.

**Notoriety Woman** - ca August, 1950
R&B 2049 - Issued in October with roots in songs like "When My First Wife Left Me", Charles Brown's "Drifting Blues", his own "Hobo Blues", the great "Wandering Blues", and "Drifting From Door To Door" (flip of "Crawlin' King Snake"). Aka "No Place To Stay". It is from huge April and August sessions for Besman (who "leased" this rare one to Regal in New Jersey). The sessions also produced "Boogie Chillen #2" and John Lee William's "Decoration Day Blues" for Sensation.

**Bumble Bee Blues** - early 1951 or late 1950
Staff 714 - Issued as Johnny Williams in 1951 and produced by Idessa Malone with Vernon "Boogie Woogie" Reddix, pro and Curtis Foster, dms plus Hooker with a more "urbanised" blues and a "melodic" guitar. This song, originally recorded by Memphis Minnie, is very rare but truly interesting (with Leroy Carr's "Prison Bound" as flip). The single was reissued on Swung tempo in 1952.

**Just Me And My Telephone** - April 26, 1951
From Chess LP 1454 "Plays And Sings The Blues" of 1961 and often listed as a Detroit recording, but actually done in Chicago. Hooker is backed by his new-found friend, 1923 Jamaica-born and raised in Alabama, on second guitar. Unknown producer - Leonard Chess?, Joe Von Battle?, or even Bernie Besman?

**I'm In The Mood** - August 7, 1951
Modern 835 - Issued in September. This was one of Besman's last productions in Detroit. Hooker's voice is multi-dubbed and his guitar double-tracked (with Little Eddie Kirkland, second guitar, probably) at a second take. Around this time "Hooker-finder" Elmer Barbee (his first manager, who supervised so many early pirate recordings, "Stomp Boogie" a.o.), was out of the picture.

"Mood" was originally waxed in at least five versions (one-voice, one-voice alternate, two-voice, three-voice), plus one with harmonica dubbed on the single version (possibility hooked himself). The original single was also issued on the first Crown LP, and the alternates appeared on United Artists, DCC/Demon, Mainstream, and Ace. The song is based on the "I'm The Mood For Love" standard introduced by Frances Langford in 1935.

**Blues For Big Town** - 1952
From Fortune LP 3002 "Big Maceo and John Lee" issued in 1963 with Bob Thurman, pro plus Hooker (dubbed?) or possibly Little Eddie Kirkland, second guitar. Recorded in Detroit and inspired by Roy Brown's hit of 1951. Junior Wells did his rendition a bit later. A truly great track, which strangely enough never was issued as a single. Well, Hooker was busy with Modern after "I'm In The Mood".

**Baby You Ain't No Good** - late 1954
From Crown LP 5295 "Folk Blues" - A great under-rated album (with two songs not released on single). This budget-LP was issued in 1962. Although John was contracted to Specialty in 1954, he continued doing records for Modern as a "tuff story-teller" (with Kirkland). This track could be labeled "Dirty Mother" and is a song of the wrong attitude many men have towards women. This is probably not the way Hooker himself was, but it sure tells the problem.

The Syndicator - Prob mid 1955
Modern 966 - Recorded in Detroit, issued in August. This one (also known as "Odd's Against Me", "The Syndicate", and "Big Band and Syndicate") was the last recording for Modern. It has Hooker's Band The Boogie Ramblers (with Dit Finch, tenor; Bob Thurman, dms; known as Lirie B. and Tom Whitehead, dms) delivering a very neat and clean backing. The flip, "Hug And Squeeze", was originally recorded by Bull Moose Jackson in January.

**Dimples** - March 17, 1956
Vee-Jay 205 - Recorded in Chicago, issued in August. Still a resident in Detroit, Hooker became a Chicago blues singer. This classic was (like most Vee-Jay recordings) cut at the legendary Universal Recording Studios with Eddie Taylor, George Washington, and Tom Whitehead (who doubled as Hooker's car driver). Johnnie made his first European tour in 1962 and returned every year for several years to follow. As a result of these tours the song "Dimples" rocked the British charts on the State-side label in 1964.

**Hobo Blues** - January 22, 1959
Vee-Jay 332 - Issued in October (after the "Im John Lee Hooker" LP, where it was one of four makes of early Modern LP) - it's a very rare new version of the original from 1949 (which was recorded at the same session as the originals of "Boogie Chillen" and "Crawlin' King Snake").

**No Shoes** - March 1, 1960
Vee-Jay 349 - Issued in April. The very best of all the great stuff of the "Travelin" LP. The single hit R&B #2. Based on Eddie Kirkland's recording of July, 1953 for King. It's one of John's finest recordings, done at Vee-Jay's very first album session, with Calvin Carter probable producer. The rhythm section has Al Smith's favorite bandleader William "Lefty" Bates on rhythm guitar, Sylvester Hickman, bass and John's very early Detroit-drummer Jimmy Turner.

I'm Going Upstairs - January 4, 1961
Vee-Jay 379 - Issued in February. In absolute prime, Hooker shouts out this quasi-gospel (later known as "Younger Stud") in terrific style. Lefty Bates leads the backing with Quinn Wilson and Earl Phillips. Rumour has it - Pops Staples was involved (listen to "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" from this session!).

**Boom Boom** - November 1961
Vee-Jay 438 - Issued in April 1962 (and from the great "Burnin" LP session - the LP issued in March). It features an early lineup of Detroit's "Funk Brothers" moonlighting in Chicago, with Joe Edward Hunter and tenor saxophonist Henry "Hanik" Cosby leading the band (also comprising Andrew "Mike" Terry, baritone sax; Larry Veed, second guitar; James Jamerson, bass and Benny Benjamin, drums). "Boom Boom" was Hooker's best selling single of his prime years (and hit the US Pop #60 in July). Two other great ones from the mid '60s were "Frisco Blues" (aka "San Francisco" from the Big Soul LP) and "Birmingham Blues" (from the On Campus LP).

**It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)** - mid 1964
Vee-Jay 708 - Issued in November 1965 (a year after its recording), also issued on the "In Person" LP of 1973. Hooker's very first (and the best) "cover" of Percy Mayfield's "Memory Pain" (Percy wrote and recorded it in 1953). This version was recorded at Hooker's first session for Vee-Jay with most probably Al Smith the producer and an unknown rhythm backing (possibly featuring Wayne Benmam's guitar). Titled simply "It Serves Me Right" on single, but in Hooker's LP "It Serves Me Right To Suffer", and a Hooker standard today.

I'll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive - New York City August 20, 1966
From ABC BluesWay LP 6002 of early 1967. John's very first recorded attempt at this song, and many think it was not surpassed in quality. Bob Thiele produced this one. Hooker is backed by Muddy Waters and his band. The most famous of the songs on the album was "I'm Bad Like Jesse James", but this is even better.
For your notes
JOHN LEE HOOKER - ONE RECORD PER YEAR 1948 – 1967

67 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B Files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

JOHNNIE LEE GALLERY

Images top: Hooker in “The Blues Brothers” movie 1980, and in France 1969. CD covers: Seven of the several hundreds of bootleg and “public domain” CDs issued in later years - including Past Perfect 10-CD set “Portrait” (many early “pirate” recordings - box cover left and CD-paks center image). Center above: Documents’ first 10 CD-set “Blues Is The Healer”. In 2015 Documents issued a second 10-CD set covering 16 original albums (also see inside backpage), including Crown’s “The Blues”.

Several of the vinyl LP cover shots in this presentation, ctsy Scot Pell. Scot has also been kind to check through all details in this Discography and handing me corrections for the final draft – thank you Scot – your help is really appreciated.

Hooker links below (defunct or soon defunct):

Check http://jlhvinyl.com/ for images and tracks on all of the John Lee Hooker vinyls - singles and LPs, US and Europe (Scott A. Pell)
Check http://www.johnleehooker.info/ for track listings on Hooker’s albums with a database on all his recordings (Thomas Jarlvik)
Check http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters/hook/hooker.htm for track listings of several original Hooker CD (Richard W. Rinn)
Check http://www.keeponliving.at/artist/john_lee_hooker.html for an interesting Story Time-Line & Songs Index (Anita Pravits)
Check http://www.angelfire.com/mn/coasters for The Coasters and the Golden Years of R&B (Claus Röhnisch)
Check https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Lee_Hooker_discography for list of JLH album issues (greater part of it by this editor)
Four RARE Hooker Vee-Jay Albums – with interesting single features

**Vee-Jay LP 8502/VJS 8502 (early 1965)**
*Is He The World’s Greatest Blues Singer?*
Reissued on Exodus 325 in 1966, both with “Is He Really The World’s Greatest Blues Singer?” on label.

*Crawlin’ Kingsnake/ Blues Before Sunrise/ Process/ Want Ad Blues/ Whiskey And Wimmen/ The Mighty Fire (live) / Talk That Talk, Baby (live)/ My First Wife Left Me/ Wednesday Evening Blues/ Maudie/ Time Is Marching/ Boom Boom*  

**GNP Crescendo GNPS 2-1007 (1974)** *The Best of John Lee Hooker*
(Distributed by Everest Records 2-set LP; prob licensed by Vee-Jay - reissued on CD in 1987, D 31120)

*Talk That Talk/ Dimples/ Hobo Blues/ Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel/ Process/ Blues Before Sunrise/ Let’s Make It/ No Shoes/ Drug Store Woman // Boom Boom/ I’m In The Mood/ Maudie/ Crawlin’ Kingsnake/ Tupelo/ Whiskey And Wimmen/ I’m Goin’ Upstairs/ Want-ad Blues/ Five Long Years/ My First Wife Left Me*

Recorded in Chicago 1956 – November 1961 (“Talk” from Newport, 1963)

Liner notes by Leonard Feather

**Chameleon D2-75794 (CD 1989)** *The Hook – 20 Years of Hits & Hot Boogie* (Vee-Jay Hall of Fame Series) – Exclusive Vee-Jay License

*Whiskey & Wimmen/ I Wanna Walk/ No Shoes / House Rent Boogie*/ Dimples/ Let’s Make It/ Big Legs Tight Skirt*/ You Ain’t No Big Thing/ Boom Boom/ Crawlin’ Kingsnake/ Good Rockin’ Mama/ Frisco/ Boogie Chillun/ Mama You Got A Daughter*/ Want Ad Blues/ Nightmare*  
Recorded in Chicago 1956-1964

* denotes previously unissued on US albums.

**Vee-Jay single 308: Maudie/ I’m In The Mood (from LP 1007)**  
Released February 1959 (both recorded January 22, 1959)

**Vee-Jay single 319: Boogie Chillun / Tennessee Blues**  
Released June 1959 (both recorded January 22, 1959)


*Unfriendly Woman (aka Stop Now)/* Wheel And Deal/TR* Mambo Chillun**/ Time Is Marching/ I’m So Worried Baby****/ Baby Lee/ Dimples/ Every Night/ The Road Is So Rough (aka When I Started Hoboing)/** Trouble Blues***TR* Stop Talking**/ Everybody’s Rockin’*TR* I’m So Excited/ I See You When You’re Weak****/ Crawlin’ Black Spider (aka Mean Old Snake)/** TR*/ Little Wheel/ Little Fine Woman*/ Rosie Mae (aka Nothing But Trouble)**/ You Can Lead Me Baby (aka Lead Me On)**/ I Love You Honey You’ve Taken My Woman*/ Mama You Got A Daughter**

* Previous only issued on DJM LP, except *TR*, which were on a French Top Rank EP.
** Previously only issued on singles and British DJM 2-EP 29026 (“Dimples” 1977).
*** Previously unissued. This is not the same as the earlier issued DJM, Charly and Chameleon tracks – here you have a June 10, 1955 recording from the "I Love You Honey" session with full rhythm section, including Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Taylor, McCrary and Johns.
**** Not identical to the DJM tracks, which were alternates of the original single versions.

**Vee-Jay single 670: Big Legs, Tight Skirt / Your Baby Ain’t Sweet Like Mine (on Dynasty LP 7301)**  
Released May 1965 (both recorded mid 1964)

**Vee-Jay single 245: I See You When You’re Weak / I’m So Excited**  
Released April 1957 (both recorded March 1, 1957)
Eight GREAT Hooker VJ LPs ... and a hit single from the LPs - Pt 1

**Vee-Jay LP 1007 (ca August 1959) I'm John Lee Hooker**
(later stereo issue act mono) Image below has Stereo mark.
Dimples/ Hobo Blues/ I'm So Excited/ I Love You Honey/
Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel / I'm In The Mood/ Maudie/
'Cravin' King Snake /Every Night/ Time Is Marching/
Baby Lee
ー Recorded in Chicago from October 19, 1955 - June 10, 1958,
plus five on January 22, 1959

**Vee-Jay single 293: I Love You Honey**
/ You've Taken My Woman
ー Released September 1958
(R&B #29, December) imaged: Eddie Taylor

**Vee-Jay LP 1023 (1960) Travelin'**
(the later stereo version has same cat no. see logo
right) Image below has Stereo mark on top.
No Shoes/ I Wanna Walk/ Canal Street
Blues/ Run On/ I'm A Stranger/
Whiskey and Wimmen / Solid Sender/
Sunny Land/ Goin' To California/I Can't
Believe/ I'll Know Tonight/ Dusty Road
ー Recorded in Chicago March 1, 1960

**Vee-Jay single 349: No Shoes**
/ Solid Sender
ー Released April 1960 (R&B #21, July)

**Vee-Jay LP 1033 (1961) The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker**
(later stereo issue actually mono)
Tupelo**/ I'm Mad Again/ I'm Going Upstairs/ Want Ad Blues/
Five Long Years*/ I Like To See You Walk* // The Hobo**/
Hard-Headed Woman/ Wednesday Evening Blues*/
Take Me As I Am*/ My First Wife Left Me*/ You're Looking
Good Tonight*
ー Recorded in Chicago January 4, 1961, except see note below

**Vee-Jay single 397: Want Ad Blues**
/ Take Me As I Am
ー Released July 1961

**Vee-Jay LP 1043 (early 1962) Burnin’**
Stereophonic: VJSR 1043
Boom Boom/ Process/ Lost A Good Girl/ A New Leaf/
Blues Before Sunrise/ Let's Make It // I Got A Letter/
Thelma/ Drug Store Woman/ Keep Your Hands To Yourself/
What Do You Say
ー Recorded in Chicago November, 1961

**Vee-Jay single 438: Boom Boom**
/ Drug Store Woman
ー Released April 1962 (R&B #16, June)
Eight GREAT Hooker VJ LPs ... and a hit single from the LPs - Pt 2

Originally LP 1049 (1962) The Best of John Lee Hooker
Stereo: VJSR 1049 (not all tracks in stereo)
Dimples/ Boogie Chillun/ Little Wheel/ Crawlin' King Snake/ No Shoes/ Tupelo* // Drug Store Woman/ Boom Boom/ (The) Hobo Blues (1/59) / I'm In The Mood/ Whiskey And Wimmen/ Dusty Road
Recorded in Chicago (except *-Newport) from March 27, 1956 - November 1961

Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; with musicians listed at earlier albums
Vee-Jay single 205: Dimples / Baby Lee
Released August 1956

Originally LP 1058 (early 1963) The Big Soul of John Lee Hooker
Stereo: VJSR 1058
San Francisco/ Take A Look At Yourself/ Send Me Your Pillow* // She Shot Me Down/ I Love Her/ Old Time Shimmy* // You Know I Love You*/ Big Soul/ Good Rocking Mama/ Onions*/ No One Told Me
Recorded in Chicago January 28, 1962; except for *-recorded earlier in 1962

Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; Joe Edward Hunter, pno; Hank Cosby, tensax; unknown tpt; plus acc. similar to "Burnin", including organ, and with Mary Wilson and the Andantes (Jackie Hicks, Marlene Barrow, Louvaine Damps), vcl support ("She shot me down" is a "revival" of "Boom Boom"; "No One Told Me" has no brass)
Vee-Jay single 493: Frisco Blues / Take A Look At Yourself
Released February 1963 ("Frisco Blues" is "San Francisco" retitled)

Originally LP 1066 (late 1963) On Campus
Stereo: VJSR 1066
I'm Leaving/ Love Is A Burning Thing/ Birmingham Blues/ I Want To Shout/ Don't Look Back/I Want To Hug You // Poor Me/ I Want To Ramble*/ Half A Stranger*/ My Grinding Mill*/ Bottle Up And Go*/ One Way Ticket*
Recorded in two sessions in 1963; session one*

Session one: Hooker, vcl/ gtr; with unknown drums
Session two: Similar to "The Big Soul" (now possibly with Martha and the Vandellas (vocal support).
(*"I'm Leaving" has only rhythm accomp)
Vee-Jay single 538: Birmingham Blues / I’m Leaving
Released late 1963

Originally Dynasty DYS 7301 (1973) In Person
This is a stereo LP (catalogue number as in original Vee-Jay series - a Vee-Jay sub)
You're Gonna Need Another Favor* / New Sally Mae/ Your Baby Ain't Sweet Like Mine/ She's Long She's Tall/ You're Mellow // Will The Circle Be Unbroken** / Flowers On The Hour/ It Serves Me Right To Suffer/ Ain't No Big Thing Baby/ You Can Run Baby
(LP later re-issued with Vee-Jay logo LP/CD)
Recorded in Chicago mid 1964, except see note below

1964 session: Hooker, vcl/lead gtr; poss Wayne Bennett, rhythm gtr; unknown bs and dms
* Newport July 26/27, 1963- from Hooker's Vee-Jay LP 1078 "Concert At Newport" 1964 track originally titled "You've Got To Walk Yourself" on the Newport LP
** January 4, 1961 (prev. unissued from the "Folk Lore"-session, also issued on Dynasty single DST-4501, 1979)
Vee-Jay single 708: It Serves Me Right / Flowers On The Hour
Released November 1965 (titled "It Serves Me Right To Suffer" on the LP)
This was Hooker’s last Vee-Jay single.
The three Ace (UK) CDs featuring Sensation, Modern and Specialty recordings by Bernie Besman and Joe Siracuse (mostly culled from the original Specialty LPs): Ace CHD 405 (only issued in UK), plus Ace CHD 421 (Specialty CD 7018), and CHD 474 (Specialty CD 7035) with great recordings 1948-1954. Inserted below: the two original Specialty vinyl LPs (featuring Sensation and Besman recordings, including some alternate versions of Modern singles. These were later reissued on the Specialty CDs above, which had further tracks from the 1954 sessions for Specialty); the great 3-set CD on Capitol 33912-2 "Alternative Boogie: Early Studio Recordings", featuring all tracks from the original United Artists LPs (Bernie Besman recordings mostly 1948-1952, 56 tracks). Plus the interesting UK Demon (ex US DCC) and Mainstream CDs (compilations poss managed by Joe Siracuse – with 1948-1955 tracks), and the interesting gatefold double-LP "Johnny Lee" on Greene Bottle GBS 3130 of 1972, featuring lots of alternate Besman tracks of 1948-1952 (tracks only reissued on the Body & Soul public domain CDs).
Great Ace John Lee Hooker CDs - in Detroit (for Modern Records)

The three Ace (UK) CDs featuring Modern singles and Crown LP-tracks (plus unissued alternates)
– CDs CHD 315, CHM 530, and CHD 799. A total of 66 tracks in these three CDs (some of them appearing twice).

This is a nice bootleg live recording issued three times with different covers. "The Rising Sun Collection" Just A Memory RSCD0001 (Canada 1994); "Black Night Is Falling" Collector's Classics JAM 9152-2 (Canada 2004); and "Black Night Is Falling - Live at The Rising Sun Celebrity Jazz Club" Nettwerk 2LP Vinyl (out March 2018).


The long tracks were recorded in Montreal, Canada on May 5, 1977. They feature John Garcia, guitar; Steve Jones, bassguitar; Larry Martin, drums.
The very first Hooker Crown LP

CLP 5157 The Blues, 1960
Note at least three different Crown label "logos" — also note the two different Crown front covers. (Inserted images below: a Modern Oldies reissue of a single, and the United/Superior version of the United LP). Hooker’s LPs on Crown and Kent were reissued on United/Superior and United (one even on Custom - earlier) during the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. In parenthesis: Original CD issue of the track.

A1 Boogie Chillen (Ace CD 315)
A2 I’m In The Mood (Ace CD 315)
A3 Crawling King Snake (Ace CD 315)
A4 Queen Bee (Ace CD 315)
A5 Hobo Blues (Ace CD 315)
A6 Weeping Willow (Ace CD 315)
B1 Cold Chills (alt on Ace CD 530)
B2 Hoogie Boogie (Ace CD 315)
B3 Whistling And Moaning (Ace CD 530)
B4 Sally Mae (Ace CD 315)
B5 House Rent Boogie (alt on Ace CD 799)
B6 Anybody Seen My Baby (Ace CD 799)

Reissued on United (The Blues); and on Kent (“stereo” issue imaged) and United (The Greatest Hits of).
The singles tracks from “The Blues”

Seven of the LP track titles were slightly changed when issued on the album. Note that “Sally May” on the LP (now titled “Sally Mae”) is an alternate recording (same session), possibly issued on Modern Oldies in 1964 – although it has the same track time noted as the original single.

Some “outside US” reissues of the Crown/United LPs

- “The Blues” (US) AM 6078 (1970s)
- “The Greatest Hits” (US) BJS 4021 (ca mid 1970s)
- “Driftin’ Thru The Blues” (US) VIP 5005M (1977)
- “Folk Blues” (US) BYG 529.508 (1970s with same “Driftin’ Thru the Blues” tracks as on the previous BYG)
- “Folk Blues Vol 8 – Folk Blues” (US) BYG 529.508 (1970s)
- “The Great Blues Sounds” (US) AM 6077 (1970s)
Hooker’s other four “Bihari” LP originals

Crown CLP 5232 - Sings the Blues - 1961
Hug And Squeeze You / I Love You Baby * / The Syndicate / Boogie Woogie All Night Long ** / Good Rockin’ Mama / Let Your Daddy Ride *** / Turn Over A New Leaf / Don’t You Remember Me / Driftin’ From Door To Door / She Left Me On My Bended Knee ****
* alternate of “Hug.” ** not by Hooker, but Louisiana Red **** the Modern single version
**** this is “Wednesday Evening” of ca December, 1949

Crown CLP 5295 - Folk Blues - 1962
Baby I’m Gonna Miss You ** / Half A Stranger / Shake Holler And Run / Down Child / Gonna Boogie / Bad Boy / Rock House Boogie / Let’s Talk It Over *** / Baby You Ain’t No Good ** / Lookin’ For A Woman
** the version which was recorded August 7, 1951
*** 1954 recordings never issued on single

The Biharis reissue program, after the Crown budget label started out as United/Superior, the name was shortened to United in the early 70s. Original copies have a yellow label with a U/S above the spindle hole. Another variation was gold with “United” above the center hole. Later reissues had light purple logo with “United” across the top. Later jackets had various color variations on the original covers. Catalogue numbers were beginning with US 77x. Not to be confused with United Artists this budget label reissued much of Hooker’s work from the Modern, Crown, Kent and Custom labels. Some songs were retitled on Crown/United albums. Note: It is not confirmed if the editor has (or has not) mixed up some of the United/Superior and United issues in this publication. It may be a fact that mono and “so called stereo” issues may have slightly differ. covers. Image left: The Ember (UK) reissue of “Sings the Blues” (issued in 1966 as “Driftin’ Thru The Blues”). Albums below: United Records “Driftin’ Thru The Blues”, “Folk Blues”, “The Great Blues Sounds of...”, and “Original Folk Blues” (with the three different label logos shown).

Crown CLP 5353 - The Great John Lee Hooker - 1963
I Need Love So Bad / Sally Mae * / Key to the Highway / How Can You Do It? / It Hurts Me So // She Left Me ** / I Got Eyes For You / Let’s Talk It Over *** / I’m a Howling Wolf / Tease You Daddy
* this is the original single (although speed different)
** this is “Wednesday Evening” of ca December, 1949 (again)
*** this is “One More Time” from April 28, 1950

Kent KLP 5025 – Original Folk Blues - 1967
Boogie Chillen / Queen Bee / Crawlin’ King Snake / Weeping Willlow Boogie / Whistlin’ And Moanin’ Blues / Sally Mae * // I Need Love So Bad / Let’s Talk It Over *** / The Syndicator / Let Your Daddy Ride **** / Drifting From Door To Door / Baby I’m Gonna Miss You
* the original Crown LP 5157 version
** the version which was recorded August 7, 1951
**** the Modern single version (or possibly a slightly alternate)

76  The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
Hooker’s Very First: Vee-Jay LP 1007

Discography:

John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Jimmy Reed, hca; Eddie Taylor, gtr; George Washington, bs; Tom Whitehead, dms
56-339 Time Is Marching Chicago October 19, 1955
Vee-Jay 164 (11/55)
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor, gtr; George Washington, bs; Tom Whitehead, dms
56-444 Baby Lee March 27, 1956
205 (8/56)
56-445 Dimples 205
56-446 Every Night 188 (4/56)
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Eddie Taylor, gtr; Quinn Wilson, bs; Tom Whitehead, dms
57-634 I’m So Excited March 1, 1957
245 (4/57)
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Frankie Bradford, pno; Eddie Taylor, gtr; Everett McCrary, bs; Richard Johnson, dms
57-717 Little Wheel June 23, 1957
255 (9/57)
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; Joe Edward Hunter (or poss Bob Porter), pno; Eddie Taylor, gtr; Everett McCrary, bs; Richard Johnson, dms
58-927 I Love You Honey June 10, 1958
293 (9/58) R&B #29
John Lee Hooker, vcl/gtr; with Eddie Taylor, gtr-1; Earl Phillips, dms-2
January 22, 1959
59-1067 Maudie -1, 2 308 (2/59)
59-1069 I’m In The Mood -1 308
59-1070 Boogie Chillun 319 (6/59)
59-1071 Hobo Blues 331 (10/59)
59-1072 Crawlin’ King Snake 331

Note the spellings of 1070 and 1072. The last four are quality remakes of some of Hooker’s hits for Modern Records (with single 331 issued after the LP).

Soul Jam 600913 (2CD February 2018)
50 Original All-Time Classics 1948-1961
Featuring mostly Modern and Vee-Jay tracks (plus Sensation, King, Chess, Riverside and Galaxy), with nice inlay and fine liner notes by Gary Blalock.

Boogie Chillen

Tracks:
Dimples / Hobo Blues / I’m So Excited / I Love You Honey / Boogie Chillun / Little Wheel / I’m In The Mood / Maudie / Crawlin’ King Snake / Every Night / Time Is Marching / Baby Lee

Vee-Jay LP 1007 (issued August, 1959)
This LP was later re-issued with Stereo tag, although the tracks still were in mono.
A Guide to Essential Hooker CD Albums (click on / touch CDs for discogs)

The Best Anthologies: - the #1&2 choices for a collection!

`HOOKER` - 4CD box on Shout!Factory, issued 2006 (later also on German Blue Label / SPV) with 84 tracks covering 50 years of Hooker recordings 1948-1998; one CD of Detroit classics for Modern with further Besman recordings and several pseudonym recordings; one CD featuring the Chicago years (with Vee-Jay recordings including several of the tracks of 11989 Lee Hooker plus several "folk" recordings); one CD of his Coast-to-Coast years including some great European recordings; and one CD covering his Frisco Rosebud years (including most of the tracks of "The Best of Friends"). Box produced by Shawn Amos and Patrick Milligan. Booklet includes a nice discography.


A. - the Absolute musts:


B. - for a Basic collection:


C. - to Complete the collection:

D. - five Definitive gems:


E. - some Extra essentials:


F. - plus Famous and Fine ones:


G. - and Go for these Good ones too:


I'd like to thank the following persons for all the information they have shared with the John Lee Hooker fans:


79 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

from The Great R&B-Files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

80 The World's Greatest Blues Singer

The Complete JLH 1948-1955

The six Body & Soul “public domain” double-CDs “The Complete John Lee Hooker” (The complete recordings of JLH in chronological order Vol. 1 – 6) issued between 2000 and 2005 and comprising principally all of Johnnie’s recordings prior to Vee-Jay, 1948-1955. Nice packages with inlay booklets produced by Gilles Pètard with notes by Neil Slaven (including a discography based on Leadbelter-Slaven’s “Blues Records 1943 to 1970” and the information from Dave Sax on the Krazy Kat double-LP “Boogie Awhile”). The series comprises a total of 275 recordings, featuring all previously issued alternate takes from the Greene Bottle double-LP “Johnny Lee” and all 33 tracks from “Boogie Awhile”, but not the Flyright 1951 “private” tracks.

Is this possibly the most interesting of the Bihari / Besman compilations?

This great CD, issued February 2016, features 26 classic Detroit singles (mostly Modern but also a couple from Sensation and Regal) 1948-1953 with some tracks listed as their United Artists LP issues (although with the Modern titles in brackets). Johnny Whiteside, who probably produced the compilation, has chosen a wise selection (maybe some late classics are missing). There was also a vinyl issue of July featuring 14 selections. The CD has the title and cover of Hooker’s fourth Crown LP (just like the alternate P-Vine issue), but a totally different tracks list. Great Stuff!!!
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

from The Great R&B Ives Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

The Year of the Blues – and the Blues KingPins Series

Blues Immortal: John Lee Hooker

The Blues KingPins Series: John Lee Hooker - Blues Immortal

(EMI/Virgin/Capitol – The Right Stuff/The Blues Foundation)

Cat no. 82741 of 2003 - Digipak with liner notes by Bill Dahl (12 page inlay).

Original presentation: 18 tracks, 52 minutes. John Lee Hooker has been no stranger to the CD reissue market, literally having a few hundred (domestic and import) titles devoted to him and his highly rhythmic blues style, but there are a number of nice surprises here. While Hooker was never recognized as a guitarist of advanced abilities, his stark, Delta-rooted approach coupled with off-kilter timing took him around the world, starting with his first recording success, Boogie Chillen in the late 1940s. He continued by contributing Sally Mae / Hobo Blues / Crawling Kingsnake Blues / Weepin’ Willow Boogie / Howlin’ Wolf to an already stellar catalog, and these are alongside harder to find cuts like Love Money Can’t Buy / Hug And Squeeze / The Syndicator, a crunching I’m Ready and more. For someone who recorded so frequently, Hooker’s early material was almost always of a very high standard and there's plenty on this set.

Editor's comments: All 18 tracks were originally issued by Modern Records of Hollywood and recorded in Detroit between circa September 1948 and circa early 1955. The tracks are running in the order of the original Modern singles releases (Sally Mae is the LP version) and Dahl has taken a very serious approach in his choice of music. Although the UK Ace CD "The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948-1954" has a total of 24 tracks (and actually covers Hooker’s Modern contract only up to recordings done late 1953), this "KingPins" CD takes us all the way into 1955 and Hooker’s very last Modern singles.

Label images: Please note the differing layout on "& (And) His Guitar" on Hooker’s very first Modern issue.

Amazon Review: This is a terrific compilation of essential John Lee Hooker. If you don’t have any of his CDs, this is a great one to start with. It begins with Boogie Chillen and his seductive guitar groove lifts you up and takes you for a ride through the Mississippi Delta for 15 (18) terrific tracks. Hooker packs more soul and sensuality into his moaned plea, “I'm in the mood, I'm in the mood for love,” than any X-rated gangsta rapper or torch-singing wannabe. To hear him play his foot-stomping boogie beat is to hear the blues in its most primal, dangerous state. A must-have. Excellent liner notes too.

Is this photo showing Jimmy Turner or Tom Whitehead on drums?, Johnny Hooks or Otis Finch on saxophone?, Hooker!, and pianist Bob Thurman or Vernon "Boogie Woogie Red" Harrison? I really don’t know.
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:

from The Great R&B Files Created by Claus Röhnisch:  
http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info

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The Great Early Chess Recordings


Andy McKaie, producer; Colin Escott, liner notes; Dave Sax, assistent; Eric Labson, remastering

* originally issued as John Lee Booker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track title:</th>
<th>Recorded</th>
<th>Original single</th>
<th>Original LP issue Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mad Man Blues</td>
<td>Detroit 1950</td>
<td>Gone 60/51, Chess 1462*</td>
<td>Chess LP 1454 prod by Joe Von Battle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hey Boogie (aka Boogie Now)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise</td>
<td>Chicago 4/26/1951</td>
<td>Chess 1482*</td>
<td>Chess LP 1438 also on Modern 842; Kirkland, gtr</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Priced Woman</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chess 1505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union Station Blues</td>
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<td>Chess 1482*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground Hog Blues</td>
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<td>Chess 1467*</td>
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<td>Leave My Wife Alone</td>
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<td>Ramblin' By Myself</td>
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<td>Dreamin' Blues</td>
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<td>Just Me And My Telephone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walkin' The Boogie (undubbed)</td>
<td>prob Detroit 4/24/1952</td>
<td>Chess 1513</td>
<td>Chess LP 8203 with Little Eddie Kirkland, gtr v.a. LP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Mama</td>
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<td>Please Don't Go</td>
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<td>I Don't Want Your Money</td>
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<td>Hey Baby</td>
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<td>Bluebird</td>
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<td>Walking The Boogie</td>
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<td>Love Blues</td>
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<td>Lonely Boy Boogie (aka New Boogie)</td>
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<td>Apologize</td>
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<td>The Journey</td>
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<td>Worried Life Blues</td>
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<td>Down At The Landing</td>
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<td>You Have Two Hearts</td>
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<tr>
<td>It's My Own Fault</td>
<td>prob 1952</td>
<td>Chess 1562</td>
<td>Chess LP 1438 with unknown celeste edited issue on Fortune LP 3002; unedited on Greenbottle LP 3130</td>
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<tr>
<td>(aka Baby I Prove My Love To You)</td>
<td>1952</td>
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<td>Blues For Big Town</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women And Money</td>
<td>ca 1952</td>
<td>Chess 1562</td>
<td>Chess LP 1438 v.a. Fortune LP 3002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Fine Woman</td>
<td>ca 1954</td>
<td>Hi-Q 5018, Elmor 303</td>
<td>Fortune LP 3002 last four with Jimmy Miller, tpt and Johnny Hooks, ts; Bob Thurman, pno; and Tom Whitehead, dms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tell Me Baby (aka Love You Baby)</td>
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<td>Hi-Q 5018, Elmor 303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blues For Christmas</td>
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<td>Fortune 853</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cry Baby Cry (aka Cry Baby)</td>
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The original King LP 727 (issued ca December 1960)

John Lee Hooker Sings Blues (Everyone A Pearl)

The original King LP 727
Wandering Blues
I'm Gonna Kill That Woman
Heart Trouble Blues
Don't You Remember Me
Slim's Stomp
The Numbers
Shake 'Em Up (Earl Hooker)
Happy Blues (Earl Hooker)
Nightmare Blues
Moaning Blues
Don't Go Baby
Thinking Blues
Late Last Night
Devil's Jump
Blue Guitar Blues (Earl Hooker)
Race Track (Earl Hooker)


The "almost authorized" bootleg


Acrobat's presentation:
Half (ed.note: five) of these recordings by the late lamented John Lee Hooker have only ever been released once before, on a UK budget CD in 1997 (Carlton Sounds/Westmill). Included here is the full 18 and a half minutes of "I Hated The Day I Was Born", a slow brooding blues. This is the first time the complete song has been issued and it's a testament to the power of his presence that not a minute is wasted. Several tracks were recorded in France and feature the guest guitar of Lowell Fulson. Ed. note: The other six (of 11 total) are Baby Baby, Dazie-Mae, and I Feel Good (from Carson, France of 1969), Feel So Bad (from Stax 1968), and two great live gigs from circa 1974/75: a tuff version of Crawling King Snake and the funky "Goin' to California".

Editors' comments: Listen to "Hard Times"
the "budget" was “Hard Times” on Carlton Sounds (reissued on Westmill – imaged below left) and "Live In Concert" on Prophecy CDs, featuring a backing band including none other than Lightnin' Hopkins on piano. The songs below were most probably recorded in 1973 (although often presented as of 1964). Track list on Carlton ctsy Thomas Jarlvik. The session with Hopkins could be a "fruit" of the Lightnin' Hopkins Los Angeles CD "It's a Sin To Be Rich" (produced by Ed Michel in May 1972), which featured Hooker on guitar and co-vocals. Image far right: the Fuel bootleg reissue of Carlton (six tracks plus six songs by Hopkins). The songs are also featured in the bootleg CDs "Blues Man" (2CD on Fuel in 2005) and "Live 1964 in San Francisco" (SRJ Jazz in 2005, reissued on Westmill in 2016). Note: No image of Carlton.

Carlton Sounds 30360 00962 (CD)
Released 1997
Hard Times (1973)
Hobo Blues (1973)
Hooker's shuffle (1973) not on Acrobat
I hated the day I was born (1973) ca 9 min
Rock with me (1973)
Sally Mae (1973)
Should've been gone (1973) not on Acrobat
+ two interviews 1973

83 The World's Greatest Blues Singer
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Hobo Blues</td>
<td>Time Is Marching</td>
<td>King Of The World</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drifting From Door To Door</td>
<td>Baby Lee</td>
<td>Shake It Baby (Impulse)</td>
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<td>Johnny Lee’s Original Boogie</td>
<td>Dimples</td>
<td>Bottle Up And Go</td>
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<td>Sally May &amp; Sally Mae (single &amp; LP)</td>
<td>Every Night</td>
<td>Let’s Go Out Tonight</td>
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<td>Wednesday Evening Blues</td>
<td>I’m So Excited</td>
<td>House Rent Blues</td>
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<td>(UA version She Was In Chicago)</td>
<td>I See You When You’re Weak</td>
<td>One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boogie Chillen’</td>
<td>Little Wheel</td>
<td>I’m Bad Like Jesse James</td>
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<td>(Miss Sadie Mae) Curl My Baby’s Hair</td>
<td>Rosie Mae</td>
<td>I’ll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive</td>
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<td>Henry’s Swing Club</td>
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<td>Heartaches And Misery</td>
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<td>Black Man Blues</td>
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<td>Stomp Boogie</td>
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<td>Boogie Woogie (KrazyKat)</td>
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<td>Miss Lorraine (Chano)</td>
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<td>Low Down-Midnite Boogie</td>
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<td>Crawlin’ King Snake</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>Cotton Pickin’ Boogie</td>
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<td>Highway Blues (Prize)</td>
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<td>Whislin’ And Moanin’ Blues</td>
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<td>Talkin’ Boogie</td>
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<td>Wandering Blues (King)</td>
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<td>Weeping Willow Boogie</td>
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<td>The Numbers (King)</td>
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<td>Canal Street Blues</td>
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<td>Huckle Up Baby</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>Goin’ On Highway 51</td>
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<td>Don’t You Remember Me (King)</td>
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<td>Mad Man Blues</td>
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<td>Decoration Day Blues</td>
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<td>Boogie Chillen’ #2</td>
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<td>Notoriety Woman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>House Rent Boogie (Staff)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Queen Bee</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Catfish (Gotham)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Four) Women In My Life</td>
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<td>Just Me And My Telephone</td>
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<td>Leave My Wife Alone</td>
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<td>Prison Bound</td>
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<td>How Can You Do It</td>
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<td>I’m In The Mood</td>
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<td>(one-voice alt OCC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&amp; I’m In The Mood (original single)</td>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>Sugar Mama</td>
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<td>The Journey</td>
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<td>It’s My Own Fault (GB unedited)</td>
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<td>Lovin’ Guitar Man</td>
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<td>Wobblin Baby (Chart)</td>
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<td>609 Boogie (Fortune)</td>
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<td>Hug And Squeeze</td>
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<td>Dimples</td>
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<td>I’m So Excited</td>
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<td>I See You When You’re Weak</td>
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<td>Little Wheel</td>
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<td>I Love You Honey</td>
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<td>Crawlin Kingsnake</td>
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<td>Tupelo Blues (Riverside)</td>
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<td>Democrat Man</td>
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<td>Gonna Use My Rod</td>
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<td>I Need Some Money</td>
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<td>Canal Street Blues</td>
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<td>I’ll Know Tonight</td>
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<td>Goin’ To California</td>
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<td>Whiskey And Wimmen</td>
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<td>No Shoes</td>
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<td>I Wish You Were Here</td>
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<td></td>
<td>We’re All God’s Chillen</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>Want Ad Blues</td>
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<td>Will The Circle Be Unbroken</td>
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<td>I’m Going Upstairs</td>
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<td>I Left My Baby</td>
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<td>I’m Mad Again</td>
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<td>I Lost My Job (Galax)</td>
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<td>Teachin’ The Blues</td>
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<td>You Lost A Good Man</td>
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<td>Don’t Turn Me From Your Door</td>
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<td>I Just Don’t Know</td>
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<td>When My Wife Quit Me (Savoy)</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>Process</td>
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<td>Boom Boom</td>
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<td>Blues Before Sunrise</td>
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<td>I Want To Ramble</td>
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<td>Poor Me</td>
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<td>I’m Leaving</td>
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<td>Birmingham Blues</td>
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<td>Don’t Look Back</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>It Serves Me Right (To Suffer)</td>
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<td>You’re Mellow</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>I’m Losin’ You</td>
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<td>I Cover The Waterfront (with brass)</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>King Of The World</td>
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<td>Shake It Baby (Impulse)</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>Let’s Go Out Tonight</td>
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<td></td>
<td>House Rent Blues</td>
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<td>One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer</td>
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<td>I’m Bad Like Jesse James</td>
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<td>I’ll Never Get Out Of These Blues Alive</td>
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<td>Heartaches And Misery</td>
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<td>The Motor City Is Burning</td>
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<td>Mr. Lucky</td>
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<td>Hot Spring Water</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>I Don’t Wanna Go To Vietnam</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>Baby, I Love You</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I Wanna Be Your Puppy, Baby</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I Feel Good</td>
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<td>Get Back Home In The USA</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>Burning Hell</td>
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<td></td>
<td>House Rent Boogie</td>
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<td>Doin’ The Shout</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>Bumble Bee, Bumble Bee</td>
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<td>1972</td>
<td>Boogie With The Hook</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>Younger Stud</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hard Times</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Acrobat w Lightnin’ Hopkins)</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>Homework</td>
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<td></td>
<td>713-714 Blues</td>
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<td>Bluebird</td>
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<td>Crawling King Snake (Acrobat)</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>Dark Room (Labor)</td>
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<td>Bar Room Drinking (Tomato)</td>
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<td>Serve Me Right To Suffer (Laser)</td>
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<td>Roll Your Daddy Right (Lunar #2)</td>
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<td>Boom Boom (blues Brothers)</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>So Cold In Chicago (w Deacon Jones)</td>
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<td>Gamble On Your Love (bootleg)</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Early One Morning (w H. Oebre &amp; D. Jones)</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>We’ll Meet Again (w Bruce Kaplan)</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Hittin’ The Bottle Again (Hooker solo)</td>
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<td>Baby Lee (w Robert Cray)</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>The Healer (w Santanta)</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>I’m In The Mood (w Bonnie Raitt)</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Red House (w Randy California &amp; Booker T)</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>Bottle Up And Go (w John Hammond)</td>
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<td>This Is Hip (w Ry Cooder &amp; Johnnie Johnson)</td>
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<td>Up And Down (w Warren Hayes &amp; J. Johnson)</td>
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<td>Same Old Blues Again (w Robert Cray)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>You Shook Me (w B.B. King &amp; Robert Cray)</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Kiddio (w Charles Brown)</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Don’t Look Back (w Van Morrison)</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Turn Over A New Leaf (w Anthony Cook)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Loving People (remix)</td>
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84 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B Files Created by Claus Röhnisch:  [http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info](http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info)

A very interesting and actually nice and well-planned 4-CD set was issued on Acrobat Music ACQCD7103 on August 5, 2016. It contains 101 tracks (including both B-sides of "Boom Boom"). That means all (and I mean all) but the reedited "New Boogie Chillen") of Johnnie's original singles for Modern (27 singles). Chess (6 singles), and Vee-Jay (17 singles) 1949 – 1962  (also including the 1945 release of "Sally May" and "Boogie Chillen") - the latter wrongly split "Boogie Chillen" – and it reached R&B #1 – not top-1. All singles have their A- and B-sides. The chronological order of issue date. None of Besman’s six Sensation and Regal singles are included and none of the pirate recordings (except for the Chess singles). The main mishap in the discography is that Eddie Kirkland played guitar on the ca. November 1951 session (with lead guitar on "I’m Ready"), and that the Gone Chess single “Mad Man Blues”/”Boogie Now” was recorded at a Joe Von Battle session prob. early/mid 1950 (with Kirkland not present). Some alternate title credits are missing. Still a fine discography presentation though!

John Lee Hooker is one of the true giants of blues, amsking alongside the likes of other post-war greats such as B.B. King, Muddy Waters and Howlin’ Wolf as one of the artists who contributed massively to the development of the genre. His driving boogie style has become an essential element of the way blues is played in the modern era. He took the simple structures of Delta blues, sometimes using one and two-chord compositions, but added a fierce, relentless and hypnotic rhythm underlining the rawness of the messages in his songs. He was one of the blues artists who exerted a substantial influence on the rock ‘n’ roll era, from Bob Dylan through to Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton, and his legacy resonates through the rock music of the last half-century. He recorded prolifically under a number of names, but this great value 101-track 4-CD collection focuses on the singles he released under his own name or in the case of some Chess singles, as John Lee Hooker, on the Modern, Chess and Vee-Jay labels from 1949 through to 1962. It naturally includes his big R&B hit during that period - "Boogie Chillen", "Crawlin’ King Snake", "Hobo Blues", "Boogie Boogie", "I’m In The Mood", "Boom Boom" and "Impelles", some of which have become blues and R&B standards. Includes comprehensive booklets with full discographical and session information. It’s a thorough overview of his output during what was perhaps the key era of his career, and a fine showcase for his unique talent.

A Acrobat's presentation: [http://acrobatsmusicnet/](http://acrobatsmusicnet/)

John Lee Hooker recorded by Bernie Besman

**Sensation** 21 (issued November 1949) with Eddie Burns, on - 1
Bottin Hall - (78040 ca. Feb-Mar 1943)
Miss Eddie Mae (7054 ca. Jul 1942)
Sensation 20 (issued December 1949)
Huckles Up Baby (5514 ca. Dec 1944)
Canal Street Blues (5015 same date)
Sensation 30 (issued March 1960, with James Watkins, prob on - 1
Let Your Daddy Ride (allow 5017 Feb 06 to 27 1960)
Girl On Highway 51 (Glor) Down Hawai 5117 (same date same)
Sensation 33 (issued April 1960)
My Baby’s Got Somethin’ (5035 prob. Apr 1960)
Connection: "Boogie Boogie, Let Touch My Baby Lady" (5045 same date)
Sensation 34 (issued July 1950, Regal 3235 (August 1950)
Boogie Chiller# 2 (Goda & Corin Back) (5037 same date same date)
Mike Eubanks (Mike Eubanks, Mike Eubanks) (5723829 "Po-Aur" 1949)
Regal 3304 (issued October 1950)
Nobodys Woman (the Place To Stay) (5045 Apr 23, 1940)
Never Satisfied (Just Like A Woman) (5045 same date)

get this one if you want Hooker’s "authorized" singles 1948-62 for a cheap prize! Acrobat Music (Hooker)

As usual (in later years) a very nice and ambitious compilation in great style with a comprehensive booklet of 24 pages. Liner notes by Paul Watts (General Manager at Acrobat, dated July 2010), and a "sessionography" borrowed from this editor’s Hooker discography you are just reading (although with some minor "mishaps" and "typing errors" in the session details), * denotes alternate title credit on LP/CD. This set is really recommended (first and foremost for its great music value and its sincere production). The only thing one can possibly criticize is the lack of the Sensation and Regal singles, which would have painted the full picture – but there simply was no room enough on a 4-CD set. A complete 1949-62 singles collection would have promoted two more CDs - if the six Sensation/Regal singles (which actually were not pirate recordings) and all the pirate singles had been included. A terrific "box" as I see it, anyhow!!


85 The World’s Greatest Blues Singer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track Title</th>
<th>Recorded</th>
<th>Original Album</th>
<th>CD Title Album</th>
<th>Musicians/Producers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Let’s Make It Baby</td>
<td>H10562</td>
<td>Standing On The Top</td>
<td>CD1: CK5 5</td>
<td>The Boogie Man</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boogie Chillen’</td>
<td>D948</td>
<td>Clean LP 5567</td>
<td>The Legendary Modern Recordings</td>
<td>solo prod. Bernard (Bennie) Beardman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Just Me And My Telephone</td>
<td>C451</td>
<td>Chess LP 1454</td>
<td>The Complete 50’s</td>
<td>Eddie Holland, prod. Leszek Lewandowski and Rob Lee</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Canal Street Blues / No Shoes / Whiskey And Women | C306 | Chess LP 4849 | Chess Recordings | Lefty Bates, Soul │
| Baby You Ain’t No Good | D1924 | Chess LP 3059 | Travelin’ | Eddie Holland, prod. Carolyn Carter and Al Smith |
| You Lost A Good Man | M702 | Chess LP 35-131 | Half A Stranger | Joe Bihari Jr. & Steve Sholes |
| Throw This Old Dog A Bone | D462 | Atlantic LP 5152 | Alternative Boogie - Early Studio Recordings | solo prod. B. Beamer (possibly for Sexadelic) |
| Hoogie Boogie (Rhythm No. 2) | D2494 | Chess LP 5567 | The Legendary Modern Recordings | King of the Boogie |
| Gonna Use My Rod | N266 | Reprise LP 12-131 | That’s My Story | Sam Jones, bass; Louis Haye, drums |
| Don’t You Remember Me | D3599 | Chess LP 2852 | The Complete 50’s | Eddie Holland, prod. Leszek Lewandowski and Rob Lee |
| When My Wife Quit Me | D2161 | Savoy LP 1250 | Living With The Blues (U.K. Squared) | Blues Incorporated |
| Bottle Up And Go | N1665 | Impulse LP A-9192 | It Serves You Right To Suffer | Eddie Holland, prod. Bill Potts & Robert Miller (Jr. & Sr.) |
| I’m Goin’ Upstairs | C181 | Savoy LP 1033 | The Folklore Of J.H. | Lefty Bates, Calvin Wilson, Earl Phillips, prod. Calvin Carter (also see page 113) |
| The Heater | S4088 | Chess LP 1033 | Hooker | Chester Thompson (tenor-sax), Calvin Santana, Anthony Jackson, Armando Ferrera, Nicky Chandler, Jim Gaines, Regal Kray, Mike Hohnson |
| I Love You Honey | C958 | Chess LP 1037 | The Legendary Modern Recordings | prod. Bernando Beardman for Modern Records |
| Don’t The Shout | S1170 | ABC LP 720 | Endless Boogie - The Boogie Beats of 1964 to 1965 | Steve Miller, Gene Klaw, Ken Swank, prod. BM Breyer and Mel Macher |
| Shuttling Blues | C7727 | ABC LP 1031 | The Complete 50’s | prod. John Lee Hooker and Leonard Chess |
| Bumble Bee Blues / Prison Bound | D1951 | Horizon LP 4324 | Rare Hooker | as Danny Williams, saxophone – Roger Mayall, guitar – Jimmy Dawkins, tenor-sax – Eddie Holland, guitar – Tony Williams, drums – Dee Dee Allen, bass – Hooker (Eddie), lead vocals |
| Just Don’t Know | M761 | Savoy LP 1313 | Thats Where It’s At | prod. J. and L. Smith and Leonard Chess |
| Red House | L389 | Eagle RAGGIO 2166 | Hi-Fi Sound 78 | Gold |
| High & Squeeze / The Syndicator | D2055 | Chess LP 5252 | Materialised | Al H. Strasser, prod. Lee Plain & Tony Williams |
| Boogie Chillen 2 | D2496 | Chess LP 4849 | Blues Brother | prod. Bernando Beardman (also see Regal/RCA, New Jersey) |
| I Wish You Were Here | 786 | Chess 4-2459 | The Boogie Man | The Muddy Waters Band, prod. John Lee Hooker, arranged and conducted by Payne St. John, vocals – Muddy Waters, guitar – Fred Dorsey, tenor-sax – Pee Wee Ellis, baritone-sax – Otis Spann, piano – Walter Lawrence, drums – Elmore Jones, bass – Hooker (Eddie), lead vocals |
| So Cold In Chicago | C or N 1981 | Piano Video | Rare Performances | Deacon Jones, org; Mike Olson, gtr; Larry Hamilton, bs; Tim Richards, dm |

Note: Track 11 recorded November 1961, Track 40 recorded in Ames, Iowa 1979 or 1981 (not recorded in C or N).
ENCORE: Hooker’s Very First LPs (1959-1961)

1959  Vee-Jay (Aug), Chess (Oct), Riverside (Nov)

1960  Crown, Riverside, Vee-Jay

1961  King (late 1960), Chess, Vee-Jay, Crown
THE BODY & SOUL six Double-CDs

The CDs were produced by Gilles Pétard with notes by Neil Slaven, each with 16-page nice inlay booklets. Pétard and Slaven gave special acknowledgements to Léon Dierckx, Jacques Perin, Dave Sax, Darryl Stotper, George Paulus, Mike Leadbitter, Kurt Mohr, Jacques Margantini, and Victor Pearlin for helping them out in compiling the sets. Read more on this great series on page 78 and in PART II: (page 112). Below: booklet, cd 1, and the first volume's inlay center pages.

Below left: European "Gold Collection" 2-set bootleg CD Deja2 CD07 from 1992 (reissued in several variations).
John Lee Hooker Compilation CDs (Heavily Selected)
- compiled by Claus Röhnisch and uploaded to wikipedia -
original album sessions mostly omitted -
(published issue marks)

JOHN LEE HOOKER
1990 – That's My Story/The Folk Blues of John Lee Hooker (Ace) – the two original Riverside LPs with four lesser tracks on one CD (1959 "Country Blues" and 1960 session) CDCDH 927
1990 – That's Where It's At! (Stax) – reissue of Florida recordings from 1961. This is not a compilation, but a reissue of the original LP SCD-4134-2
1991 – The Complete Chess Folk Blues Sessions (Chess/MCA) reissued in 2002 as The Real Folk Blues/More Real Folk Blues – 1966 recordings MCD-18335
1991 – Free Beer and Chicken (BeatGoGoOn) – album session recorded 1974. Not a compilation, but a reissue of original ABC LP BGCD123
1991 – Endless Boogie (MCA) – album session recorded November 1970. Not a compilation, but a reissue of original ABC LP MCA-10413
1991 – Don't Turn Me From Your Door – John Lee Hooker Sings His Blues (Atlantic/Atco) – 1953 (Rockin', Deluxe and Chart incl bonus tracks), and 1961 recordings (16 tracks total) 7567-82662-2
1992 – Blues Brother – 24 Vintage Sensation Recordings 1948–1951 (Ace) – only issued in UK (tracks also issued on Graveyard Blues and Everybody's Blues, except for Boogie Chill'n) Ace CCHD 445
1992 – Everybody's Blues (Speciality/Ace) – Besman tracks of 1950–51 plus two 1954 sessions direct for Specialty Ace CCHD 474
1992 – The Legendary Modern Recordings 1948–1964 (Fair/Ace) – the original singles Ace CCHD 319
1992 – Urban Blues (MCA) – the original Blueway album of the two 1967 sessions plus three prev. unissued bonus tracks from the 1969 Blueway session MCA-12760
1992 – The Early Years (Tomato & Rhino 2CD set) – with 30 Vee-Jay classics TCM 9396/7 & R2 71859
1992 – Original Folk Blues...Plus (Ace) – the original Kent LP plus six extra tracks CDCDH 530
1992 – Rare Hooker (Charly) – 22 very rare tracks from 1948–1961 CDG 176
1992 – The Complete 50's Chess Recordings (Chess/MCA 2CD set) – anthology featuring the tracks from House of the Blues and Plays and Sings the Blues (1951–52) plus eight bonus tracks from Fortune 1952–1954 incl Blues For Big Town MCD03931
1992 – Gotham Golden Classics – The Rare Recordings (Collectables) – 1951–52 "pirate" recordings COL-CD-0511
2000 – The Complete 1964 Recordings (RPM/Shout!) – last Vee-Jay session 1964 plus British London recordings (the British tracks reissued with brass overdubs as The London 1965 Sessions on Sequel) RPMSH 208
2000 – Boogie Aetilie (Krazy Kat) – unissued early Barbee recordings 1948–53 KKCD05
2000 – The Complete – Vol. 1 1948–49 (Body & Soul 2CD) 3057012 
2000 – Burnin' (Charly) – the fourth VJ LP 1963 with bonus tracks, reissued on SNAP in 2003 CDG 298 / SNAP4914CD
2000 – The Complete – Vol. 2 1949 (Body & Soul 2CD) 3057142 
2000 – The Folk Lore of John Lee Hooker (Charly) – his third VJ LP from 1961 with bonus tracks, reissued on SNAP in 2003 CDG 299 / SNAP50713CD
2000 – The Complete – Vol. 4 1950–51 (Body & Soul 2CD) 3074242 
2000 – Giant of Blues (FruitTrees 2CD set) – Charly license featuring 20 of the Testament tracks 1621
2000 – Boogie Chiller (!Audio Fidelity) – 1948–1952 compilation by Besman and Staxus (engineer) AF 205
2000 – Early Years – The Classic Savoy Sessions (Metro Doubles 2CD) – recorded 1948–49 and 1961 from Savoy Blues Legends (Savoy in 2000 and 2002) and the 1961 Savoy recordings from Stax/Motown (in 2004 with the bonus track) METROCD52922
2000 – I'm A Boogie Man (Vanilla/Sarabande) – Vintage 1948–1953 Texas Slim and John Lee Hooker – a total of 19 tracks (and De Luxe tracks featuring all the King singles) 302-06653-2
2000 – The Cream (Charly 2CD) – The Tomato LP recorded in 1977, reissued with five extra bonus tracks (with a total of 20 live tracks) SNAP 542
2000 – Hooker (ShoutFactory 4CD box) – chronological anthology covering 48 tracks of his entire career, reissued on Blue Label SPV 520683-10198
2007 – The Intro Collection - The Very Best of the King of Blues Guitar (Union Square 3CD set) - reissue 1949 Savoy and 36 Vee-Jay classics INTROTCD01
2009 – John Lee Hooker Anthology: 50 Years (Shout Factory 2CD) – 1948–1998 chronological anthology (most tracks also on Hooker) 825683-1289
2009 – From Detroit to Chicago 1954–1958 (Sagabilues46) – Modern, Battla, and early Vee-Jay singles 539 122-3
2010 – At His Very Best (MetroUnionSquare2CD) – Vee-Jay compilation with some late recordings METROCD464
2010 – Blues in Transition (Jasmine 2CD) – Vee-Jay recordings 1956–1959 plus the two Riverside sessions 1959 (50 tracks) JASCD 562
2010 – The Essential Collection (Union Square TEN 3CD) – Vee-Jay from above Metro CD plus several extras
2010 – Simply John Lee Hooker (Union Square TEN 3CD) – mostly early rare pirate and Modern recordings and some Vee-Jay SMFPCD026
2010 – Whiskey & Wimmen – John Lee Hooker's Finest (Concord/Vee-Jay) – a CD including songs from Vee-Jay, Stax, and Riverside 88887025890
2010 – King of the Boogie (Concord/Craft 5CD boxset) – chronological anthology incl one with live recordings, covering 100 tracks of his entire career (only 38 tracks also on "Boozer") CRCD0015
2010 – Gotta Boogie Gotta Sing (Jasmine 2CD set) – 52 Modern and pirate recordings 1948–1954 JASCD 3084
The Complete John Lee Hooker Discography:
from The Great R&B-files Created by Claus Röhnisch: http://www.rhythm-and-blues.info