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FROM SOUTH
TO NORTH

THE FAMOUS
LIPPMANN+RAU
FESTIVALS

1965–69

AMERICAN FOLK BLUES FESTIVAL 1967

Feat. Little Walter, Koko Taylor, Bukka White, Skip James, Son House, Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee, Hound Dog Taylor, a.o.

AMERICAN FOLK BLUES FESTIVAL 1968

Feat. John Lee Hooker, T-Bone Walker, Big Joe Williams, Big Walter Horton, Jimmy Reed, Curtis Jones

AMERICAN FOLK BLUES FESTIVAL 1969

Feat. John Jackson, Earl Hooker, Magic Sam, Juke Boy Bonner, Clifton & Cleveland Chenier, Alex Moore, Carey Bell

after Joachim E. Berendt had come back from Chicago with the idea to invite a handful of blues artists to his TV programme “Jazz gehört und gesehen” (Jazz heard and seen) in Baden-Baden. Berendt could only carry out this project if a tour could be organized and the travel expenses recovered. Horst Lippmann and Fritz Rau consequently presented in 1962 the American Folk Blues Festival. Only in 1965 with the first Spiritual & Gospel Festival did they officially establish Lippmann+Rau as concert agency. This DVD series LEGENDS of... pays homage to the Lippmann+Rau festivals organized between 1965 and 1969, where in 1965 for the first time after the blues sensation another musical discovery was made and offered to the public in the form of authentic flamenco gitano from Spain. In the same year spiritual & gospel music was also presented for the first time, followed by music from Brazil (1966), France (Festival Chanson Paris 1966) and Argentina (1967). In 1966 they brought American country music and folk. Some of these festivals resulted in follow-up tours by artists such as the Five Blind Boys of Mississippi, La Singla and the Robert Patterson Singers. “Every new tour was a first step into brand-new territory” remembers Fritz Rau. “We weren’t the inventors of fried potatoes, but we could produce delicious fried potatoes with the help of those who knew the ingredients.” Lippmann+Rau paid special attention to the music of the ghettos, to the sounds and language of underprivileged people. The spectators, however, came from student and intellectual circles. Whoever could afford it began to travel. At first it was Italy and then Spain too and then other countries. Argentina and Brazil were as much out of the normal person’s reach as the American hinterland of country music. The festivals representing music from these areas did not come out as financial successes.

While the blues (until 1985) and flamenco festivals (until 1977) could survive into the 1970ties and 80ties, the year 1968 heralded a new field of involvement and activity for the Lippmann+Rau tours. With the appearance of artists like Jimi Hendrix, Aretha Franklin and Ray Charles and others, rock music, soul and rhythm & blues were presented for the first time. This DVD edition will prove that the musical discoveries presented by Lippmann+Rau for the first time as concert productions in Europe were like the blues festivals not only very important for European beat and rock music bands of the 60ties. They were as well the precursors of the so-called world music movement of the 80ties. They helped to form the musical taste and preferences of a whole generation and opened post-war Germany and other European countries to musical styles from Spain and the Americas. It is interesting to note that African and Asian music was not at all on their checklists, despite Africa being the mother of black music in both North and South-America, and Asian music having made its first entrance into the western world via the Beatles and their Indian experience in the 1960s. The curiosity of Horst Lippmann brought to Europe encounters with—until then—unknown music and artists from north and south. The music today is still present and the artists are legends. Fritz Rau and Horst Lippmann split in 1989 when Horst had to look after the family’s business after his father had died. Horst Lippmann passed away in 1997 and Fritz Rau first went into retirement only on his 75th birthday, but was soon back on stage with many lectures from his autobiography “50 Years Backstage”.

Claus Schreiner

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THE BLUES FESTIVALS



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III | THE LEGENDS OF THE BLUES

JUKE BOY BONNER *vocal, guitar & harmonica*

CLIFTON CHENIER *vocal & accordion*

CLEVELAND CHENIER *rubber board*

EARL HOOKER *vocal & guitar*

JOHN JACKSON *vocal & guitar*

"WHISTLING" ALEX MOORE *vocal, piano & whistling*

MAGIC SAM BLUES B AND

Magic Sam *vocal & guitar*

Carey Bell *harmonica*

Mac Thompson *bass*

Robert St.Julien *drums*

Presentation: **CHRIS STRACHWITZ**

THE VIDEO 3 AMERICAN FOLK BLUES FESTIVAL 1969 ON TOUR

A TOUR-DOCUMENTARY ON 16MM FILM BY HANNO BRÜHL. FILMED ON TOUR IN GERMANY. Duration: 56:10

1. **MAGIC SAM** __ All My Love 2:10
2. **EARL HOOKER** __ Walking the Floor Over You 1:30
3. **JUKE BOY BONNER** __ Going Back To The Country 2:46
4. **CLIFTON & CLEVELAND CHENIER** __ You Got Me Walking On The Floor 2:09
5. **JOHN JACKSON** __ You Ain't No Woman 1:37
6. **EARL HOOKER** __ Off The Hook 3:55
7. **JOHN JACKSON** __ John Henry 2:07
8. **EARL HOOKER** __ Rocket 88 1:57
9. **ALEX MOORE** __ Whistling Alex Moore Blues 2:17
10. **CLIFTON & CLEVELAND CHENIER** __ Zydeco Et Pas Sale 2:33
11. **MAGIC SAM** __ All My Love / Pt.2 2:20
12. **CAREY BELL** __ Love Ain't A Play Thing 3:00

INTERVIEWS WITH Magic Sam, Clifton Chenier, John Jackson



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