

Walter JR.: The River club (Gatortone GT 2008)

(1) The River club (2) Sugarhouse road (3) What she want (4) Never make it up (5) What I was missing (6) Down the bayou (7) Something something (8) Sweet potato pie (9) She's my baby now (10) Jesus say (11) He holds the lightning

If you look at the painting on the cover of this cd, you'll probably think that Walter Jr is an old black guy. Wrong answer, dear friends. Walter Jr is a white guy who looks like Junior Watson's brother. He has done a lot of things during his life. His first albums were full of pure swamp blues and roots rock. His latest cd "Learning to love" was really something completely different. Now he has returned back to basics.

Walter Jr plays a Telecaster, and you can find similarities to Albert Collins or Roy Buchanan. The album is dynamic, his expression is powerful in the right mood. The music is mostly shuffle based swamp rock and blues, but there is also a few different kind of songs. This record is a good example how you keep things simple, stay in the basics and the result will be excellent. There is a lot of fresh flavours and we don't hear any yesterday's retro crap. My favourite tracks are 6 and 11. On the last track the special guest Sonny Landreth plays a tasteful slide guitar once again.

Walter Jr is a musician whose music could be ok for the long haired swamp rockers and also for those who like more traditional stuff.

*Riku Metelinen*