



Hittin' the note

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ISSUE #49

www.hittinthenote.com

Back On The Bayou Road

Walter Jr.

Gatortone Music

by Emily Parks

Louisiana, known for its number and fusion of styles, is the inspiration and the setting for Walter Jr.'s second album, *Back On the Bayou Road*. With a little help from various friends, the songs mesh jazz, rock, funk, zydeco and country into a CD that is as versatile and balanced as the Bayou State itself.

The album opens with a fast and fun "Hot Louisiana Rock", which provides lyrical and rhythmic instructions on how to authentically rock in Creole country. "Done Did Dat" merges the bass funk of Oteil Burbridge and the saxophone jazz of Randall Bramlett for a swinging feel on a spellbinding duet with the cool and sultry Bonnie Bramlett. The title track, also a duet with Miss Bonnie, holds a more bayou-country feel, while the blusey "I Gotta Moan" has a visceral feel to it.

Whether including great artists like Sonny Landreth on the zydeco-blues "Gator Bait", or standing alone with the emotional and moving ballad "A Woman Like You," Walter Jr. captures the spirit and sounds that permeate the Gulf Coast. Festive and upbeat, "Who You Gonna Hoodoo" mixes fun lyrics, fast paced beats and the piano prowess of Paul Hornsby into a song that transports you to gator land. The rock based "I'm a Louisiana Man" completes the circle - the backwoods swamps meets downtown bars with touches of many styles and genres, all blending into a sound that makes *Back On the Bayou Road* fun and addictive.