

**George Winston**

**solo piano**

**Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions 2 – A Louisiana Wetlands Benefit**

The great New Orleans R&B pianists are the ones who have inspired me to play the piano the most - especially Professor Longhair (Henry Roeland Byrd), James Booker, and Henry Butler, as well as Dr. John, Allen Toussaint, and Jon Cleary;

- and also New Orleans pianists Ferdinand “Jelly Roll” Morton, Tony Jackson, James Brown Humphrey, Alfred Wilson, Albert Carroll, Sammy Davis, Game Kid, Buddy Carter, Josky Adams, Luis Russell, Frank Richards, Buddy Bertrand, Joseph Louis “Red” Cayou, Mamie Desdome, Kid Rock (the early 1900s pianist), Louis Moreau Gottschalk, Clarence Williams, Frank Amacker, Sweet Emma Barrett, Jeanette Salvant Kimball, Billie Pierce, Dolly Douroux Adams, Lizzie Miles (Elizabeth Landeraux), Blue Lu Barker, Eurreal “Little Brother” Montgomery, Roosevelt Sykes, Isidore “Tuts” Washington, Paul Gayton, Clarence “Frogman” Henry, Richard M. Jones, Joe Robichaux, Burnell Santiago, Sadie Goodson, Olivia Charlot (Olivia “Lady Charlotte” Cook), Walter “Fats” Pichon, Alton Purnell, Manuel Manetta, Lester Santiago, Octave Crosby, Armand Hug, Don Ewell, Morten Gunnar Larsen, Butch Thompson, Sam Henry, Dave “Fatman” Williams, Al Broussard, Pleasant “Cousin Joe” Joseph, Henry Gray, Kid Stormy Weather, Sullivan Rock, Piano Blue, Robert Bertrand, Champion Jack Dupree, Walter Decou, Alex “Duke” Burrell, Frank “Little Daddy” Moliere, Eddie Bo (Bocage), Archibald (Leon T. Gross), James “Sugar Boy” Crawford, Herbert “Woo Woo” Moore, Ellis Marsalis, Frank Strazzeri, James Drew, Ronnie Kole, Roger Dickerson, Huey Smith, Art Neville, Salvador Doucette, Fats Domino, Edward Frank, Esquerita (Eskew Reeder), Tommy Ridgley, Willie Tee (Turbinton), John Berthelot, Big Chief Jolly (George Landry), Al Johnson, Ronnie Barron, Carol Fran, Tom McDermott, Amasa Miller, David Thomas Roberts, Joel Simpson, David Torkanowsky, David Todd Paquette, Phil Parnell, Harry Connick, Jr., Josh Paxton, Joe Krown, Frank Chase (Professor Bigstuff), Bob Andrews, Davell Crawford, Ivan Neville, John Magnie, Rickie Monie, Tom Worrell, Marcia Ball, Mitch Woods, Philip Melancon, Luther G. Williams, Tom Roberts, David Egan, Bob Greene, Lars Edegran, Bob Discon, Roy Zimmerman, James “Sing” Miller, Stanley Mendelson, Lawrence Seiberth, Eddie Volker (aka Zeke Fishhead), Willie Metcalf, Doug Bickel, Frederick Sanders, Richard Knox, Sam Joyner, Phamous Lambert, John Brunious, Ed Perkins, Walter Lewis, Peter Martin, Peter Cho, Darrell Lavigne, Emile Vinette, Jonathan Batiste, Victor “Red” Atkins, Frederick James McCray, Jesse McBride, Matt Lemmler, Richard Johnson, John Royen, John Autin, Michael Pelleria, Jon Cowherd, Jim Markway, Tom Hook, Mike Dennis (aka Mike Bunis), Marc Adams, David Reis, Dave Tarantolo, Chuck Chaplin, Topsy Chapman, Noah Levi, Adam Matasar, Sanford Hinderlie, Lawrence Cotton, "Piano Bob" Wilder, Nelson Lunding, David Boeddinghaus, John Sheridan, Steve Conn, Thomas Gerdiken, Keiko Komaki, Artie Seeling, Stanley Mendelson, Jim Hession, John Mahoney, Craig Brenner, David Morgan, David Ellington, Gerald Tillman, Glenn Patscha, Austin Johnson, Warner Williams, Ralph Gipson, Meghan Swartz, Michael Bagent, Kim Phillips, Marvell Thomas, Craig Wroten, Sammy Berfect, C. R. Gruver, Bill Malchow, Kyle Roussel, , Bruce “Sunpie” Barnes, John “Papa” Gros, Jeff “Snake” Greenberg, “Big

Joe” Kennedy, Yoshitaka "Z2" Tsuji, Danny Williams, George "Keys" Izquierdo, Ronald Markham, Josh Charles, Marcel Richardson, Courtney Bryan, Liz McComb, Judith Owen, Mari Watanabe, Cynthia Chen, Conus Pappas, Jr., Wil Sargisson, C. Wayne McAllister, Mike Wadsworth, Mike Esnault, Lee Pons, Richard Scott (Scott Obenschein), Jimmy Maxwell, Bart Ramsey, Bobby Lounge, Zaza Marjanishvili, Big Mama Sunshine, Brett Richardson, Brian Coogan, Eduardo Tozzatto, Dave Egan, Jonathan Lefkowski, Steve Pistorius, Kenny Bill Stinson, Davis Rogan, Nicholas Sanders, Ratty Scurvics, Robert Pinsky, Henry Gray, A. J. Loria, Albinas Prizgintas, Sarah McCoy, Wilson Savoy, and more... and many other New Orleans musicians....

## SONG NOTES

1. **New Orleans Shall Rise Again # 7 [Are the Levees Shored Up In America?** (George Winston/Henry Butler)

With much inspiration from pianist Henry Butler, and also Tuba Fats (Anthony Lacen, 1950-2004), and his bands, including the Chosen Few Brass Band, and the many other wonderful brass bands in New Orleans. The last section of this song is from Henry Butler’s playing, based on a figure I heard him play live.

2. **Pixie # 6 in E Minor [Gobajie]** (George Winston)

Inspired by the playing of the great James Booker (1939-1983). Also inspired by Gobajie, Ashlyn Gobajie, Caitlin Rose, Kalei, Shannagh, and Jamison Clarence. I recorded James Booker’s Pixie [*#1 in Eb*] and also the song *Pixie #3 In F#* on [GULF COAST BLUES & IMPRESSIONS-A HURRICANE RELIEF BENEFIT](#), and I also have more Pixies inspired by James Booker’s playing and Gobajie, that have emerged and will be on the future recordings GULF COAST BLUES AND IMPRESSIONS 3 & 4. The songs I call Pixie are basically medium tempo blues progressions, with the left hand staying towards the middle of the keyboard, as is the case in James Booker’s *Pixie*.

3. **Kindred Spirit** (George Winston/Shad Weathersby)

The second part is influenced some by the New Orleans songwriter Shad Weathersby’s song *Night Wings*.

4. **Elements** (Michael Barry-Rec)

By the Virginia guitarist/ lap steel guitarist Michael Barry-Rec, from his album ON THE ROAD TO NORTH MOUNTAIN. Again inspired by James Booker’s playing.

5. **Fanning the Flames** (Jon Cleary)

By New Orleans pianist Jon Cleary from his 2002 album, JON CLEARY AND THE ABSOLUTE MONSTER GENTLEMAN.

6. **The Gulf Will Live Again # 1** (George Winston)
7. **Georgianna**  
(Dr. John)  
A love song for Louisiana, by New Orleans pianist Dr. John from his 2001 album, CREOLE MOON. My version is also inspired by James Booker's playing and Henry Butler's playing, as well as some by Al Kooper.
8. **The Cries of the Wetlands 1** (George Winston)
9. **The Cries of the Wetlands 2** (George Winston)
10. **New Orleans Slow Dance** (George Winston)

Dedicated to New Orleans film documentarian Stevenson Palfi (1952- 2005), producer of the film, PIANO PLAYERS RARELY EVER PLAY TOGETHER, about the New Orleans pianists Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, and Isidore "Tuts" Washington.

11. **An African In the Americas** (George Winston/Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell)

This song is in 4 parts:

1. *An African in the Americas*
2. Breaths (by Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell) - from the album GOOD NEWS, by the acappella vocal group Sweet Honey in the Rock, with the music by group member Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell. (The words for their version are from a poem by Birago Diop).
3. *Soul Mates*
4. *Mbira (Zimbabwe)* the *mbira* (aka the *kalimba*), is the name for the African thumb piano, especially inspired by many of the master mbira players from Zimbabwe.

This song is also with inspiration by the South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim (aka Dollar Brand), who was exiled in New York for years, and to all Africans who had to come to the Americas involuntarily.

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**Credits:**

Produced by George Winston  
Production assistants: Howard Johnston and Cathy Econom  
Engineered by Howard Johnson  
Additional engineering by Tyler Crowder  
Piano technician: John Pfeifer

Mastered by Bernie Grundman at Bernie Grundman Mastering, Hollywood, CA  
Cover photo by Delores Thomas

Special thanks to: Chris Oralll, Eunshil Lee, Risa Sato, Ling-Wen Tsai, Nathan Kolosko, Caitlin McHugh, Kalei Bennett, Shannagh Bennett, Ashlyn Gobajie Bennett, Liz Bennett, Jane McHugh, Mary Ann Deda Cuomo, Molly McHugh, Shadow Bennett, Mary McHugh, John McHugh, Pua Lilia, Simone Dreifuss, Paula Perlis, Eve Rantzer, Sadie Rantzer, Bernie & Doris Rantzer, Kalena Modesto, Lucinda Edinberg, Emily Edinberg, Sara Edinberg, Beatrice, Denishesha, Beverly Cook, Michelle McNamara, Nikki Angela, Jazmine, Beatrice, Aranza, Sassy, Lina Sorrentino, Hermalinda Lopez, Carol Farron, Stevenson Palfi, Nell Palfi, Al Palfi, Polly Waring, --)maybe put -Blaine Dunlap ) , Aaron Walker, Gabrielle Mullem, Asia Altaire, Lily Keber, Allen Toussaint, Henry Butler, Jon Cleary, Tom McDermott, Cynthia Chen, Parker Dinkins, Allison Minor Kaslow, Frosty Horton, John Meunier, Sam Broussard, Shad Weathersby, Harriet Blum, KR, Rhea Econom, Leo Econom & the Econom Family, Janet & Ed Schriver, and Karen, Anna & Alex Geberski.