

Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions - A Hurricane Relief Benefit (2012)

Long website liner notes

George Winston
solo piano

GULF COAST BLUES & IMPRESSIONS **- A HURRICANE RELIEF BENEFIT**

All the proceeds from this album will go directly to the Dancing Cat Benefit Fund to be distributed to organizations helping people on the Gulf Coast and in New Orleans to rebuild and return – organizations such as Common Ground
www.commongroundrelief.org.

The great New Orleans R&B pianists are the ones who have inspired me to play the piano the most (along with the great stride pianists Thomas “Fats” Waller and Teddy Wilson, Earl Hines, and Donald Lambert) - 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, Louis Moreau Gottschalk, Kid Ross, 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 Desdoume, Kid Rock (the early 1900s pianist), Clarence Williams, Frank Amacker, Sweet Emma Barrett, Lil Harden Armstrong, 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, Roland Cook, Reginald “Reggie” Hall, Richard M. Jones, Joe Robichaux, Burnell Santiago, Sadie Goodson, Olivia Charlot (Olivia “Lady Charlotte” Cook), Walter “Fats” Pichon, Alton Purnell, Manuel Manetta, Lester “Blackie” Santiago, Octave Crosby, Fate Marable, Henry Ragas, Steve Louis, Mickey Marcour, Mr.(first name?) Pertuit, Jeff Riddick, John Royan, 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 (Edmond Joseph), Fred Peelu” Lands, Sullivan Rock, Piano Blue, Robert Bertrand, Champion Jack Dupree, Sammy Hopkins, Harold Battiste, Oliver Morgan, 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, Fred Crane, John Probst, Joe Burton, F. A. Cassanova, Tony D’Amore, Ronnie Dupont, Johnny Elgin, Ed Fenasci, Red Fredd, Jack Hebert, Rusty Mayne, Pete Monteleone, Triggs Morgan, Larry Muhoberac, Snookum Russell, Bunkie Withee, Dave West, Junie Mays, Michael Torregano Sr., Michael Torregano, Jr., Roger Dickerson, Edwin Hogan, Huey Smith, Art Neville, Salvador Doucette, Fats Domino, Fred Kemp, Freddie Nesbitt, Thelonious

Pernell, Buddy Prima, Don Reitan, 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, Sullivan Fortner, Frank Chase (Professor Bigstuff), Bob Andrews, Davell Crawford, Ivan Neville, John Magnie, Rickie Monie (aka Monet), Tom Worrell, Luciano Leaes, Marcia Ball, Mitch Woods, Philip Melancon, Luther G. Williams, Tom Roberts, David Egan, Bob Greene, Steve Armbruster, 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 (Pickett) 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, David Pigott, Michael Peller, 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, David Fitch, 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, Al "Lil Fats" Jackson, Yoshitaka "Z2" Tsuji, Danny Williams, George "Keys" Izquierdo, Ronald Markham, Josh Charles, Marcel Richardson, Courtney Bryan, Liz McComb, Judith Owen, Mari Watanabe, Cynthia Chen, Lee Burton, Laverne Smith, Ron Levy, Fran Cosimsky, Angeline Trosclair, Theresa Kelly, Conus Pappas, Jr., Wil Sargisson, C. Wayne McAllister, Mike Wadsworth, Mike Esnault, Lee Pons, Richard "Piano" Scott (Scott Obenschein), Jimmy Maxwell, Bart Ramsey, Bobby

Lounge, Zaza Marjanishvili, Big Mama Sunshine, Brett Richardson, Brian Coogan, Steve Elmer, Mike Rihner, Eduardo Tozzatto, Dave Egan, Jonathan Lefkowski, Steve Pistorius, Kenny Bill Stinson, Davis Rogan, Sarah Gromko, Paul Longstreth, Nicholas Sanders, Ratty Scurvics, Robert Pinsky, Henry Gray, A. J. Loria, Albinas Prizgintas, Sarah McCoy, Norbert Slama, Kris Tokarski, Jenna McSwain, Nigel Hall, Emmet Cohen, Greg Schatz, Charlie Dennard, Marco Benevento, Brian Haas, Ed Frank, Bob Malone, Joe Ashlar, Andrew deBuys, CR Gruver, Fabian Almazan, Sammy Berfect, Charlie Miller, Dale Storr, Norman Ceasar, Jan Clements, Nick Farkas, Albert Bemiss, Drew Meez (Andrew Meeham), Ryan Brown, Alex Pian, Andre Bohren, Armand St. Martin, Claude Bryant, Al Farrell, Sherman Bernard, Oscar Rossignoli, Pj Morton, Craig Adams, Richard Vogel, Shaye Cohn, Steve DeTroy, Michael Liuzza, Michael O'Hara (the Sheik), Lilli Lewis, Wilson Savoy, and more... and many other New Orleans musicians....

1. **New Orleans Shall Rise Again** (George Winston) 2:43

2. **Creole Moon** (Dr. John) 6:23
3. **Pixie [#1 in Eb]** (James Booker) 5:16
4. **The Breaks** (Henry Butler) 4:15
5. **Pixie #3 in F# [Gobajie]** (George Winston) 4:17
6. **Stevenson** (George Winston) 1:57
7. **Gulf Coast Lullaby – part 1** (George Winston) 2:38
8. **Gulf Coast Lullaby – part 2** (George Winston) 2:51
9. **When the Saints Go Marching In** (traditional, arranged by George Winston) 11:55
10. **Blues for Fess, Beloved** (George Winston) 4:56

total time: 47:14

Song Notes:

1. **New Orleans Shall Rise Again** (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (2:43)

Inspired by the New Orleans pianist/composer Allen Toussaint, as well as New Orleans pianists James Booker, Henry Butler, Dr. John, and Ferdinand “Jelly Roll” Morton.

Also see www.nynorecords.com/allen.shtml

2. **Creole Moon** (Dr. John [Mac Rebennack] – Bug Music/Fonkalot Music, BMI) (6:23)

By the New Orleans pianist and ambassador Dr. John, from his 2001 album CREOLE MOON.

Also see www.drjohn.org

3. **Pixie [#1 in Eb]** (James Booker – Cotillion Music, BMI) (5:16)

By the late great New Orleans pianist James Booker (1939-1983). James Booker was the first one to take R&B, New Orleans music, Soul music, the Blues, the Professor Longhair influence, the Ray Charles influence, and make a whole solo piano style from these traditions and more, which encompassed seven different ways of playing.

This song is from his solo piano 1976 album JUNCO PARTNER, the album I have learned more from than any other album about how I want to play the piano. James Booker is the pianist who has influenced my overall piano playing the most, and when arranging pieces to interpret I usually involuntarily think of playing the piano in terms of several of his piano languages.



I have recently been doing more solo piano dances playing R&B, slow dance songs and more, and most of those songs I play in ways that I learned from James Booker, as well as from Henry Butler and Professor Longhair.

Also see www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#booker

4. The Breaks (Henry Butler – Hitocracy Music, BMI) (4:15)

By the New Orleans R&B and Jazz pianist Henry Butler, from his 1992 album *BLUES & MORE, VOLUME 1*. Henry is the pianist I have been studying the most since I first heard him in 1985. In my view, he has taken R&B piano to its ultimate height, one needs to see him live to fully experience his music.

Also see www.henrybutler.com and www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#butler

5. Pixie #3 in F# [Gobajie] (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (4:17)

Inspired by the late New Orleans pianist James Booker.

Gobajie (1984-1997) was a kitty who loved music. She would listen attentively to live playing or recordings, and whenever the music stopped she would respond by singing.



I also have other Pixies inspired by James Booker and Gobajie: *Pixie #6 in E Minor*, which is on the recording *GULF COAST BLUES AND IMPRESSIONS 2 - A LOUISIANA WETLANDS BENEFIT*; and *Pixie #2 in F*, *Pixie #4 & #5 in C*, *Pixie #8 in B flat*, *Pixie #12 in C*, and *Pixie #13 in C*, that will be on future recordings. Also to see Gobajie, go to www.georgewinston.com, click on “Video” and scroll down to the last video “Gobajie - (Pixie #3) - Silver Fox Kitty”

6. Stevenson (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (1:57)

Dedicated to my dear friend, New Orleans filmmaker and music lover Stevenson J. Palfi (1952-2005), who made the wonderful film *PIANO PLAYERS RARELY EVER PLAY TOGETHER* about the New Orleans pianists Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, and Isidore “Tuts” Washington.

He also produced the film *SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT* about the late violinist Papa John Creach, and the upcoming documentary release *SONGWRITER, UNKNOWN* about the New Orleans composer/pianist Allen Toussaint.

7. **Gulf Coast Lullaby – part 1** (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (2:38)

8. **Gulf Coast Lullaby - part 2** (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (2:51)

9. **When the Saints Go Marching In** (traditional New Orleans, arranged by George Winston - Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (11:55)

The way I play this song is influenced and inspired by New Orleans pianists Henry Butler, James Booker, and Dr. John, as well as Jon Cleary; and also by the South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim (who has also recorded under the name Dollar Brand); as well as stride pianists Thomas “Fats” Waller (1904-1939), Teddy Wilson (1912-1986), and Earl Hines (1905-1983).

Also see:

www.henrybutler.com

www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#booker

www.drjohn.org

www.joncleary.com

www.abdullahibrahim.com

www.redhotjazz.com/fats.html & www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#fats

www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#teddy

www.redhotjazz.com/hines.html

10. **Blues for Fess, Beloved** (George Winston – Dancing Cat Music, BMI) (4:56)

Inspired by the late great New Orleans pianist Professor Longhair (Henry Roeland Byrd, 1918-1980), who was the founder of the New Orleans R&B piano scene in the late 1940s. He inspired and influenced so many pianists and musicians in New Orleans and beyond, including the New Orleans pianists James Booker, Henry Butler, Allen Toussaint, Dr. John, Jon Cleary, Fats Domino, Huey Smith, Art Neville, and many others.

I will record a future benefit album titled BELOVED–THE MUSIC OF PROFESSOR LONGHAIR.

Also see www.professorlonghair.com and

www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#longhair



Produced by George Winston. Production assistance by Howard Johnston and
Cathy Econom. A Dancing Cat Production

Engineered by Howard Johnston

Additional engineering by Loredana Crisan, Justin Lieberman, Rachel Allgood,
Matt Silveira, Tyler Crowder, and Aaron DeMatteo

Mastered by Bernie Grundman at Bernie Grundman Mastering, Hollywood, CA.

Piano technician: John Pfeifer

Art direction/ design by Frank Harkins

Editorial assistance by Chris Orrall

Cover photo: *Louisiana Landscape*, a hand tinted photograph by Louisiana photographer
Harriet Blum, taken of the marsh near Lake Pontchartrain on Bayou Bonfouca,
Slidell, Louisiana, not far from the Gulf of Mexico.

www.harrietblum.com

James Booker JUNCO PARTNER album cover, and Professor Longhair ROCK 'N ROLL GUMBO
album cover photos by Michael P. Smith, copyright The Historic New Orleans Collection.

For a complete discography and more information see www.georgewinston.com

Special thanks to:

the late Stevenson Palfi, Alfred Palfi, Nell Palfi, Polly Waring, Henry Butler, Henry
Roeland Byrd (Professor Longhair), James Booker, Dr John, Jon Cleary, Allen Toussaint,
Thomas "Fats" Waller, Teddy Wilson, Earl Hines, , Donald Lambert, Paul Novak Beverly
Cook, Ling-Wen Tsai, Rick Epping, Sam Hinton, Pua Lilia, Eve Rantzer, John Pfeifer,
Tony & Sally & Kenji & Kitter Espinoza, Bernie Grundman, Colin Chambers & Marie
Lewis at Bernie Grundman Mastering, Linda Moody, Tammy Fortin, Marci Wolfe, Diane
Stanitski, Chris Orrall, Sondra Daly, Wei-Shan Liu, Kimberly Contreras, Madalyn
Suozzo, Caarol Ferron, Annette Sendak, Lina Sorrentino, Frosty & Beth & Asher Horton,
Shad & Angie Weathersby, John & Denise Meunier, Harriet Blum, Marc & Ann Savoy &
Family, Sam Broussard, Curt Bouterse, Steve Ferguson, Wendy Waldman, Ted Greene,
Barbara Franklin, Michael Boshears, Jill Rittermal, Connie Knight, Pamela Sacco, Cindy
Sealy, Diane Rhoades, Terri Krakower, Gary Stiffelman, Pua Lilia, Paula Perlis, Monica
Blache, Gus Blache, and all my friends & everyone in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama,
and Texas.

Recommended documentaries & books - for these and more, go to the Louisiana
Music Factory music store in New Orleans. www.louisianamusicfactory.com

Documentaries:

1. FESS UP:

Two-disc video and print package includes:

- (1). the 1980 full feature-length interview with Professor Longhair (Henry Roeland Byrd) , *Fess Up*, filmed two days before his death;
- (2). the restored 1982 groundbreaking film by Stephen J. Palfi, *Piano Players Rarely Ever Play Together*, featuring Professor Longhair, Tuts Washington, and Allen Toussaint;
- (3). excerpts from the 1987 documentary *Southern Independents: Stevenson J. Palfi*, on the work and films of the director, including intimate insight from Palfi into the making of *Piano Players*;
-)4). a 38-page hardback book with essays from Bruce Raeburn, Johnny Harper, and Michael Oliver-Goodwin, plus many never-published photos. The package comes from a team of filmmakers, writers, designers, and producers who knew and worked with Palfi.

<https://palfifilms.com/>

2. PIANO PLAYERS RARELY EVER PLAY TOGETHER - Stevenson Palfi's 1982 documentary about New Orleans pianists Professor Longhair, Allen Toussaint, and Isidore "Tuts" Washington. (Now restored and remastered by Blaine Dunlap and the Palfi Family).
3. PROFESSOR LONGHAIR: RUGGED AND FUNKY – upcoming documentary by Joshua JG Bagnall.
4. BURY THE HATCHET – Aaron Walker's 2010 documentary about the post-Katrina Mardi Gras Indians.
5. SONGWRITER, UNKNOWN – The late Stevenson Palfi's documentary about Allen Toussaint. (To be finished by Aaron Walker and released in the future).
6. THE MUSIC'S GONNA GET YOU THROUGH – Documentary by Gabrielle Mullem about pianist Henry Butler's New Orleans music camp for visually impaired and handicapped teenagers.
7. WHEN THE LEVEES BROKE – Spike Lee's 2006 New Orleans documentary, with soundtrack by Terence Blanchard.
8. IF GOD IS WILLING AND DA CREEK DON'T RISE – Spike Lee's 2010 follow-up New Orleans documentary, with soundtrack by Terence Blanchard.
9. THE BIG UNEASY – Harry Shearer's 2010 documentary about the urgent situation of the New Orleans levees.
10. FAURBOURG TREME -THE UNTOLD STORY OF BLACK NEW ORLEANS – Documentary by Dawn Logsdon and Lolis Eric Elie.

New Orleans music books:

1. PROFESSOR LONGHAIR – A SCRAPBOOK – by Per Oldaeus – This book documents Fess' huge inspiration and influence .
2. RYHTHM & BLUES IN NEW ORLEANS - by John Broven
3. I HEAR YOU KNOCKIN': THE SOUND OF NEW ORLEANS RHYTHM AND BLUES – by Jeff Hannusch

4. THE SOUL OF NEW ORLEANS – A LEGACY OF RHYTHM AND BLUES
- by Jeff Hannusch

Post-Katrina music books:

1. UP FROM THE CRADLE OF JAZZ- NEW ORLEANS MUSIC SINCE WW II (updated edition) - by Jason Berry, Jonathan Foose & Tad Jones
2. NEW ORLEANS-PLAYING A JAZZ CHORUS – by Samuel Charters.
Overview of the traditional jazz scene.
3. SONG FOR MY FATHERS-A NEW ORLEANS STORY IN BLACK AND WHITE – by Tom Sanction.
Another overview of the traditional jazz scene.
4. COMING OUT THE DOOR FOR THE NINTH WARD – by the Nine Times Social and Pleasure Club. The members of the band write about their lives, the parades, and the rebuilding.