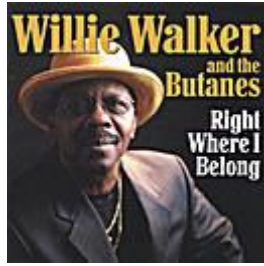


Mp3 Willie Walker & The Butanes - Right Where I Belong



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The #1 Blues CD on XM satellite radio's Bluesville channel February 5, 2005. Willie's 1st all new Soul recordings since his Goldwax/Checker 45s of the '60s. Backed by real horns, female backing vocals, guitar, Hammond organ, bass drums of The Butanes. 14 MP3 Songs

BLUES: Blues Vocals, URBAN/R&B: Soul Details: One summers evening in 2002, I received an e-mail asking the question what had happened to the Goldwax/Checker artist Willie Walker? As I sat looking at the screen another mail arrived to tell me that if I went to a web site dedicated to a band called the Butanes I would find information about Willie and his work with the band. Within a short space of time I was in touch with Curt Obeda, the leader of the Butanes and we quickly built up a rapport, which has brought about this new album. Curt organised an interview for me with Willie, which later appeared in the in Issue 29 of the UK soul music magazine In The Basement in February 2003. I remained in touch with Curt and Willie after the interview and helped them with the distribution of a CD Willie had recorded of cover songs. I was impressed with Willies voice and hoped that one day he would return to the studio to record an album of original songs. I discussed this possibility with Curt and he eventually sent me a series of demo songs, which cried out for Willies vocals. We met up in Memphis in April 2003 during the celebrations for the opening of the Stax Museum of American Soul Music while Curt was on route back to Minnesota following the funeral of Earl King. This meeting cemented our friendship and we decided to work together on a new album. Originally, the idea was for my company Keeping Soul Alive to find a label to record the album but after several false starts we ended up setting up our own label called One On One Records. Over the last year, Curt and I have worked together from the rough demos through Willies scratch vocals to the recordings in Minneapolis which began as the first snow fell in the winter of 2003 to produce an album which would compliment Willies soul drenched vocals. The concept of this album was to prove that

you could still record a classic southern soul styled album with real instruments, which had a live feel and that the musicians would provide a back-drop for the singer to perform. What you will find in this album is a synthesis of a singer whose contemporaries were James Carr, Spencer Wiggins and OV Wright, an American band of 30 to 60 somethings who can play in a real soul style and a UK based company who wanted to keep soul music alive. Colin Dilnot Executive Producer One On One Records New Brighton, Wirral UK April 2004 --- Like most great Soul singers Willie Walker started singing in church and joined a Gospel group, the Redemption Harmonizers, while a teen. Unlike most he relocated to Minneapolis before he was twenty years old. He soon was singing in a local Rock Roll group, the Val-Dons, who were once described as Little Richard meets the El Dorados. On a return trip home to visit family, friends spoke highly of Willies singing to Goldwax label owner Quinton Claunch and within days was in the studio recording his debut 45: Ticket To Ride backed with There Goes My Used To Be. Other trips to Memphis and Muscle Shoals to record for Goldwax yielded some great music that the label leased to Checker Records of Chicago. Willie continued his live performances in Minneapolis and came to the attention of Soul legend Curtis Mayfield who wanted to record him but was unwilling to pay the ransom required to free Willie from his Goldwax recording contract. His Goldwax and Checker records no longer available, he rarely mentioned them and moved on to sing for a number of different projects. In 1987 he was the surprise opening set guest with the Butanes when they backed Blues great John Lee Hooker. In 1997 Willie was reunited with former Goldwax label mates Louis Williams and Spencer Wiggins when the Butanes performed as the house band at the St. Louis Blues Heritage festival. At the end of 2001 Kent records released The Goldwax Story, Vol. 1 containing There Goes My Used To Be. In 2002 Willies self-titled CD was released to international interest leading to 2004s Deep Soul CD of the year candidate: Willie Walker The Butanes, Right Where I Belong on the English One On One label. I would have been proud to release this recording. Quinton Claunch, co-owner of Goldwax Records (US) This is it! The real deal. The goods. You will hardly believe your ears as your own personal laser beam converts those little digital signals into music. Yes, music. Real soul music. Steve Armitage - Blues Rhythm magazine (UK) Stunning: rarely does a record not only successfully reproduce a beloved style without sounding dated, but actually adds to the genre that has influenced it. This record is so top notch that no purist will be able to tell the difference between it and a long lost reel of Goldwax tape. Amen Michael Hurtt - Living Blues (US) The Willie Walker CD hasnt been off my deck. I didnt think Id hear real soul music like this in 2004!

Brilliant! This CD will blow everyone away. An absolute 24-carat gem. Ray Ellis of Juke Blues (UK) Its the kind of album the worst nit-picker cant find one thing wrong with. Except that eventually its over. Curt Obeda wrote everything, coming up with cold-blooded killer material -- sharp lyrics, fresh melodies and chord structures rich in dynamics. Combine this with Willie Walker and The Butanes performance, then talk about chained lightning. Trust me: if you cant feel this music from the top of your head to bottom of the toes, someone should notify your next of kin, cause youre already dead and just dont know it. Dwight Hobbes - Insight (US) Former Earl King backing band the Butanes, led by guitarist Curtis Obeda, has truly struck gold with his latest release Right Where I Belong. Former Goldwax and Checker recording artist Willie Walker has joined forces with the Minneapolis-based Butanes, with fantastic results. Obeda and Walker have crafted an album of smoldering, Memphis style soul that could comfortably stand alongside the classic works of artists such as Syl Johnson and O.V. Wright. The 14 songs on the CD, all Obeda originals, provide a perfect showcase for Walkers laid-back vocals, smoky and sweet as Memphis barbecue. Behind him, the band produces a dead-on authentic sound, dripping with Hammond organ, pleading horn arrangements and Obedas impeccable fretwork. Blake Thompson - Offbeat (US) The years best deep-soul album...Howard Tate, your comeback ass has just been kicked. Dylan Hicks - Village Voice (US)

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