



CRAIG HORTON

MEDIA/BOOKING INFORMATION



CRAIG HORTON

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Craig Horton

Biography

On heels of his hit CD “In My Spirit,” Craig Horton releases his second solo effort, “Touch of the Bluesman” on Bad Daddy Records. Think of it as blues with an attitude.

Craig’s newest release is a natural progression of the heavy swingin’, hard shufflin’ classic blues sounds of Chicago and the South that was reflected in his first CD. In “Touch of the Bluesman,” he carves out new territory with his deep, gutsy voice, unique delivery and soulful interpretations.

“Touch of the Bluesman” is a product of Craig’s evolution as an artist – a style that only he can own. He doesn’t emulate blues from the 40’s, 50’s and 60’s. He helped to create the genre in a career that spans five decades.

Craig builds his music on a diverse foundation of sounds, having played jazz, R&B and rock ‘n roll, in addition to the blues, during his early years as a musician. Over the years, Craig has earned respect from just as diverse an array of musicians and critics. Joe Louis Walker has called Horton “A Great Musician, Great Singer, Great Band Leader.” Tom Mazzolini, producer of the San Francisco Blues Fest, reported after last year’s event that, "Craig Horton gave one of the memorable sets that had people talking. It was impressive and it was deep mountain high! The real thing!"

A gifted songwriter, singer and guitarist, Craig prides himself on playing on the edge and taking chances, playing music that comes from his soul. The spontaneity of his performances echo what he’s feeling at the time.

Before his debut solo CD, Craig performed with such blues greats as Chuck Berry, Sam Cooke, Dinah Washington, Otis Rush, Muddy Waters, Buddy Guy, Freddie King, Sam Myers and The Mississippi Delta Blues Band.

Some of his first gigs on the road were playing with such legends as Highway QC's, Goose Tatum and The Harlem Road Kings, and The Ink Spots. In the late 50’s, Craig played guitar in the legendary Little Walter’s Band and was a touring member of The Dells. He was also a big part of the Chicago music scene, opening the Golden Dolphin with Count Basie and Duke Ellington.

Craig’s musical inspiration came from his family while growing up in Conway, Arkansas. His grandmother played guitar in church and introduced him to the instrument when he was a child. When he turned 14, his grandfather gave him his first guitar. He was later inspired by such icons as Johnny Ace, Ray Charles, Willie Dixon, T-Bone Walker, Pee Wee Crayton and B.B. King.

His accomplishments are critically acclaimed. He received the “Patience Is A Virtue Award” from Real Blues Magazine, and “*In My Spirit*” earned him Best Debut Album of 2001 from Living Blues Magazine. In February 2004, The Bay Area Blues Society named Craig Horton “Blues Guitar Player of the Year” and named Craig Horton and his band as “Blues Band of the Year.”



“Touch Of The Bluesman” cut-by-cut

FIND ANOTHER FOOL (4:41)

(Gannon)

**Bad Daddy Music,
Scotland Green Music, BMI**

Medium shuffle with a vibe of danger! Craig tells his woman he’s done and movin’ on.

LIFE OF LUXURY (3:47)

(Silveira, Dobson)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Two beat with a heavy Chicago feeling to it -- not surprising as Craig cut his teeth in the Windy City.

BURNIN’ (3:20)

(Horton)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Ghetto bluesy swing with greasy, wild, impromptu guitar solos.

ELIZABETH (5:06)

(Horton)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Slow blues with an uptown feel. Very much a 50’s West Coast vibe, but very fresh and contemporary at the same time.

10 YEARS GONE (3:12)

(Gannon, Dobson)

**Bad Daddy Music,
Scotland Green Music, BMI**

A nice “lump” shuffle as they say in Chicago. Craig reminisces about an old time gone by. Very relaxed, vocal delivery and guitar solo, but in Craig’s style, always on the edge.

THAT LITTLE GIRL CAN DANCE (4:03)

(Gannon)

**Bad Daddy Music,
Scotland Green Music, BMI**

A “flat tire” shuffle with a nice no nonsense horn arrangement throughout. Craig’s knocked out by his dancin’ girl.

DAMN MONEY (3:30)

(Horton)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Hallelujah! Craig takes the listener to church; Baptist Church that is, with a little help from some female friends! Irresistible urges cause one to wanna dance while Craig swings away on the guitar solo. Impeccable vocal timing from Craig.

SERVES ME RIGHT TO SUFFER (3:06)

(Mayfield)

Sony/ATV Songs, LLC

A cover of a tune penned by the poet laureate of the blues, Percy Mayfield. Craig doesn’t just cover this song; he makes it all his own in his performance of it! Great, relaxed, funky guitar solo over a nice Latin Blues groove.

“Touch Of The Bluesman” cut-by-cut (continued)
Craig Horton

WANDA JEAN (2:41)

(Horton, Silveira, McCurdy)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

A song Craig penned back in the 50's. Better late than never. Cool little Latin feel again, but this time with some real groovy percussion.

REACHIN' FOR SHADOWS (5:40)

(Bermudes)

Bad Daddy Music,

38th St. Music, BMI

A very lonely tale of a lost love. Great imagery in these lyrics. Very cool horns riffing behind Craig's sweet vocals. Sounds like something Percy Mayfield would write if he were here today.

AIN'T GONNA TAKE IT (3:32)

(Horton, Dobson)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

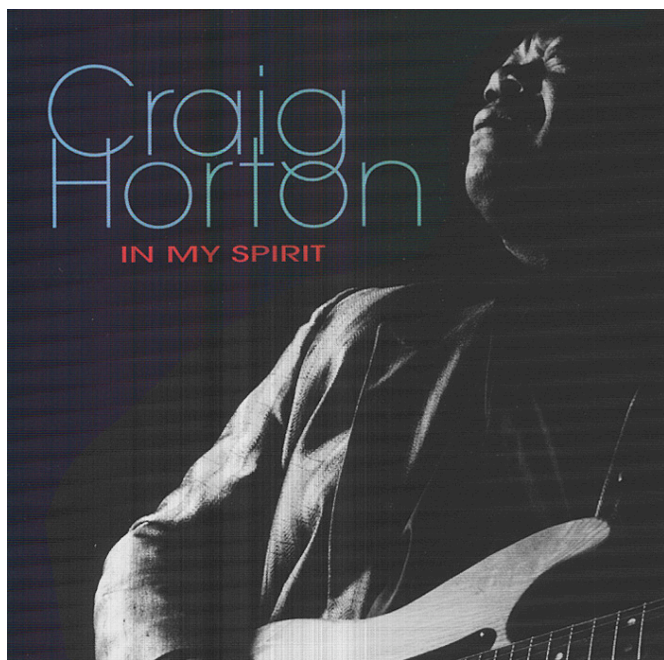
Another medium tempo shuffle on the slower side with some nice piano and a blazing guitar solo from Craig. Once again, Craig tells his woman how it's gonna be.

LOVESTRUCK (3:47)

(Horton)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Blues on the funky side. Uptown but greasy! Craig's a fool for this woman.



“In My Spirit” cut-by-cut

CHEST PAIN BLUES (3:59)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

A tune influenced by Paul Butterfield’s version of Walkin’ Blues. About how this guy’s woman is tired of living on a poor man’s income.

3 DAYS AND 3 NIGHTS (3:52)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

About a man’s love for a woman, and the suffering and disappointment that goes along with it. T-bone Walker influence here.

ONE MORE TIME (3:33)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

You can hear some Brother Ray Charles in this up tempo tune. It is about a man’s quest to get it right with his woman.

IS IT TRUE (4:14)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Do men have a fear of commitment? Well I think you can hear a little bit of that here. Slow blues with fat horns.

NIGHTCLUB (3:00)

Audre Mae Music Co., BMI

A Moose Allison tune that brings to light a musician’s outlook on everyday life in nightclubs. The danger with fun. Great "Mojo" feel.

THAT’S HER (3:36)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Heavy swingin’ 50’s, 60’s Chicago feel. A man’s prized queen, this woman is a looker with the envy of every man and woman.

RIDIN’ IN MY JAGUAR (3:40)

Lamaja Music Co., BMI

Paying tribute to my late friend. Originally recorded back in 1962 by Bill Warren with Craig Horton playing guitar. This version features some excellent piano work by Bob Welsh. Close your eyes and listen, you can imagine yourself rollin’ down the highway.

SPELLBOUND (4:42)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

This ballad brings out Craig’s ability to "croon." A tale of a mesmerized man captured by the spell of a woman, he’s ready to spend the rest of his life with her. Great solos, Chris Wynaught on saxophone and Jimmy Pugh on organ.

WATCH YOURSELF (3:00)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

A warning of sorts to stop spreading rumors and lies because you never know all the change ups in life. Your enemy today, may be your savior tomorrow. This tune takes you to the Juke Joint with a great shuffle.

“In My Spirit” cut-by-cut (continued)
Craig Horton

COTTONWOOD TREE (2:51)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

A little bit of New Orleans here. Don't sweat the small stuff and if you think I won't be around you just keep waiting.

TRY ME BABY (3:55)

Bad Daddy Music, BMI

Pleading for a second chance at love. Great Chicago feel, powerful guitar work, a prime example of Craig playing without a net.

MIDNIGHT SHUFFLE (4:14)

Lamaja Music Co., BMI

This tune was originally recorded in Jump Jackson's garage on a rainy day in 1962 on La Sal Street. It features Craig Horton on lead guitar and was the flip side of Bill Warren's 45 "Ridin' In My Jaguar." Craig's unique interview segments give a great insight into his life as a blues man.



Craig Horton

Domestic Festivals/International Tours and Festivals

Festivals

The Delta Blues Festival – Antioch, California
Monterey Blues Festival – Monterey, California
Mt. Helena Music Fest, Helena, Montana
Kalamazoo Blues Fest – Kalamazoo, Michigan
Reno Blues Society Concert – Reno, Nevada
Blues at The Depot Festival – Livingston, Montana
Poconos Blues Fest – Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania
Trinidaddio Blues Fest – Trinidad, Colorado
Brownsville Blues Fest – Brownsville, California
San Francisco Blues Festival – San Francisco, California
Sonoma County Blues Fest – Santa Rosa, California
Vallejo Blues Fest – Vallejo, California
Waterfront Blues Festival – Portland, Oregon
King Biscuit Blues – Helena, Arkansas
Oakland Art & Soul Festival – Oakland, California

International Tours/Festivals

Blues Estafette – Utrecht, HOLLAND
Blues House – Milano, ITALY
La Sacra Birra – Avigliana, Turin, ITALY
Le Baladin – Piozzo, Cuneo, ITALY
Macallè Blues Festival – Castelceriolo, Alessandria, ITALY
Paso Music Club – Bellinzona, SWITZERLAND
Salmon Arm Roots and Blues Fest – Salmon Arm, British Columbia, CANADA
Vancouver International Jazz Festival, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA
Velvet Underground – Castiglion Fiorentino, Arezzo, ITALY
Victoria Jazz Festival – Victoria, British Columbia, CANADA



What the critics are saying about Craig Horton....

San Francisco Blues Fest, Sept. 2003: "Craig Horton gave one of the memorable sets that had people talking. It was impressive and it was deep mountain high! The real thing!"

Tom Mazzolini, producer of the San Francisco Blues Fest

Blues Estafette, Utrecht, Netherlands: "Craig Horton played the day's first set there, and it was easily one of the finest. The 62-year-old Bay Area veteran was ready from the word go. Clad in black and offering styles ranging from B.B. King to Chuck Berry, Horton made his stinging guitar attack look effortless."

Vincent Abbate, Blues Revue

"Horton's a natural – a tremendous singer, biting guitar player, and talented writer."

Tom Hyslop, Blues Revue

"Vocally, Horton is most reminiscent of Freddy King (with a bit of Buddy Guy's upper register); you can hear some T-Bone in his guitar, but after 40 years of playing blues, jazz, R&B and rock 'n' roll, Craig is certainly his own man."

Red Rooster, Blues Access

"Horton's vocals are confident and assertive and his guitar work is inventive."

Jim DeKoster, Living Blues

For copies of articles in which these quotes appeared or to receive other press clippings, send email request to: request@baddaddy.com.



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