

1. Zydeco Cha Cha
2. Bad Luck And Trouble
3. Cher Catin (Zydeco)
4. New Ma Negress
5. J'ai Conet, C'est Pas Ma Femme
6. Rock House
7. I'm A Hog For You
8. Mama Told Papa
9. Tu Le Ton Son Ton (Every Now And Then)
10. You're My Mule
11. Tighten Up Zydeco
12. Going Home Blues



Recorded live at a Creole dance held at St. Mark's Hall in Richmond, Ca. on November 6, 1971.

Recording engineer: Roy Ward

Edited & produced by Chris Strachwitz

Cover by Elizabeth Weil

Cover and color photos by Chris Strachwitz

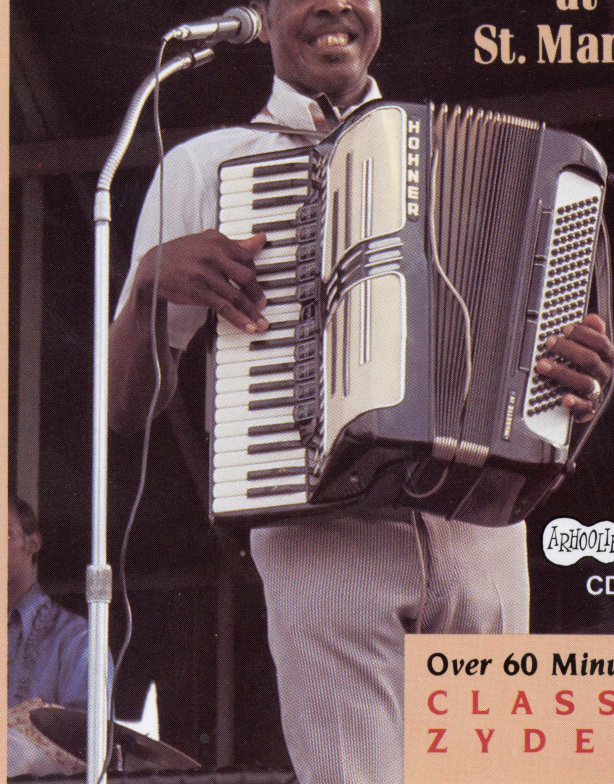
Liner photos by Hank Lebo

#5, 6, 7, & 8 are previously unreleased performances, #4 is heard here complete. Other selections were previously released on Arhoolie LP/C 1059

All selections composed by Clifton Chenier and © by Tradition Music Co. (BMI)

CLIFTON CHENIER

LIVE
at
St. Mark's



ARHOOLE

CD-313

Over 60 Minutes of
CLASSIC
ZYDECO



Clifton Chenier

In the fall of 1971 Clifton Chenier & His Red Hot Louisiana Band made one of their by then almost annual tours of the West Coast. They drove out from the Third Coast in a van with a trailer to haul their instruments and a basic PA system. Chenier was just beginning to get known among white rock and blues aficionados and had already made appearances at the Berkeley Blues Festival and at several San Francisco and East Bay dance halls and clubs. The king of Zydeco was however at his best when playing dances for his own Louisiana expatriats, mostly Creoles who had moved to the West Coast since the 1940s in search for a better life with more job opportunities. Along with Verbum Dei auditorium in Los Angeles and All Hollows in San Francisco, St. Mark's church hall in Richmond had been one of the main spiritual and cultural centers for Louisiana transplants for some time. I had

always wanted to record Clifton at a dance ever since I first met him at a little beer joint in Houston's "Frenchtown", but it was an expensive proposition to hire a remote recording unit and then how could I be sure the band would be in top form? Roy Ward who was working with Sierra Sound studios in Berkeley where I was doing some of my work, was going out and recording gospel groups in churches. When I told him about my desires to record Chenier at a dance he made me a very reasonable offer, perhaps because he wanted to learn and experiment with this type of job. The quality of the recording is not perfect since we did not have enough microphones nor recording channels but I think it gives the listener a good idea of what it was like to be at this delightful dance where the band played non-stop for over four hours and where Clifton was in top form. This recording turned out to be the



only one ever made by Clifton Chenier and his band at a French Creole dance. Those of you not familiar with regional musics should know that many ethnic audiences show their appreciation for the musicians simply by being there and enjoying themselves instead of clapping their hands at the end of each piece. The CD format made it possible to include a good bit of the chatter between songs and I hope you will agree that Clifton's comments and the audience's responses are an essential ingredient for the full enjoyment of this recording. They let the bon temps roulet that night and I hope you will too! (Chris Strachwitz—July 1989)

For other recordings by Clifton Chenier, the King of Zydeco, note: Arhoolie CD/C 301—60 Minutes with the King Of Zydeco, his biggest hits from his various Arhoolie recordings. Also note Arhoolie video tape ARV 401: a 50 minute documentary of the King of Zydeco filmed at the San Francisco Blues Festival, the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, various local Louisiana TV stations and much more. In color and Hi-Fi sound.

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Clifton Chenier

LIVE AT ST. MARK'S



CD 313

Over 60 Minutes of Classic ZYDECO

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2. Bad Luck And Trouble
3. Cher Catin (Zydeco)
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5. J'ai Conet, C'est Pas Ma Femme*
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10. You're My Mule
11. Tighten Up Zydeco
12. Going Home Blues & Mess Around

Clifton Chenier—vocals & accordian; Cleveland Chenier—rubboard; Robert St. Judy—drums; Joe Morris—bass; Felix Benit—gtr.

*previously unreleased selections

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Clifton Chenier, born near Opelousas, Louisiana, took his accordion, mixed in cajun music, creole tunes, blues, jure singing, jazz, rhythm & blues, along with a few other fine ingredients and came up with a superb gumbo known today as ZYDECO. This is the only live recording which caught the King of Zydeco in top form in front of an audience of Louisiana Creoles now living in California's San Francisco Bay Area.

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Cover photo by Chris Strachwitz

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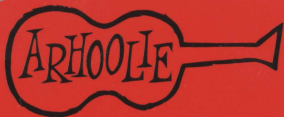
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CD 313



CLIFTON CHENIER

"Live at St. Marks"

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CD-313

CD 313 LIVE AT ST. MARKS

1. ZYDECO CHA CHA • 2. BAD LUCK AND TROUBLE • 3. CHER CATIN (Zydeco)
4. NEW MA NEGRESS • 5. J'AI CONET, C'EST PAS MA FEMME
6. ROCK HOUSE • 7. I'M A HOG FOR YOU • 8. MAMA TOLD PAPA
9. TU LE TON SON TON (Every Now And Then) • 10. YOU'RE MY MULE
11. TIGHTEN UP ZYDECO • 12. GOING HOME BLUES