

Les Amis Creole



- 1) **FAIS PAS TOUT CA!** (vocal: Cedric) (Ardoin & Fontenot)
- 2) **LAKE CHARLES WALTZ** (P.D.)
- 3) **SHOE FLY** (P.D.)
- 4) **TIT MONDE** (vocal: Edward & Cedric) (Canray Fontenot)
- 5) **THE POUILLARD SPECIAL** (John Poullard)
- 6) **VALE A ALCEE POUILLARD** (vocal: Cedric) (P.D.)
- 7) **TOUT LE MONDE** (P.D.)
- 8) **LA FEMME QUI M'AS FAIT BRAILLE**
(vocal: Cedric) (P.D.)
- 9) **L'HOB0 DE BREAUx BRIDGE** (P.D.)
- 10) **LA VALSE DE DURALDE** (vocal: Cedric) (fiddle duet)
(Eddie Shuler)
- 11) **THE LONG POINT TWO STEP** (P.D.)
- 12) **OH, BYE** (vocal: Cedric) (P.D.)
- 13) **THE COWBOY WALTZ** (accordion solo)
(Dennis McGee & Sady Courville)
- 14) **LA REEL DE JOIE** (fiddle duet) (Dewey Balfa)
- 15) **PERSONNE 'POLÉ DANER AVEC MON**
(fiddle duet) (Canray Fontenot)
- 16) **BONSOIR MOREAU** (vocal: Cedric) (Canray Fontenot)
- 17) **LA REEL DESHOTELS** (fiddle duet) (Dennis McGee)
- 18) **SI DUR D'ETRE SEUL** (accordion solo) (Amédé Ardoin)

All P.D. songs are arranged by Edward Poullard & Cedric Watson and © by Tradition Music Co. / BUG Music

EDWARD POUILLARD

accordion, fiddle, & vocal

CEDRIC WATSON

fiddle & vocals

JAMES ADAMS

guitar

Produced by Chris Strachwitz

Recorded by Joel Savoy at the
house of the Pine Leaf Boys
in Lafayette, La.

Mixed by Wilson Savoy

Page 6 photo of the Poullard
family by Chris Strachwitz.

All other photos by, or created
from photos by Philip Gould

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Les Amis Creole

Cedric Watson
Edward Poullard
James Adams





(left to right) James Adams, Edward Poullard, Cedric Watson

LES AMIS CREOLE have passionately absorbed and invigorated the homespun music of their ethnic heritage. In so doing, they take us back to an era before the advent of zydeco—to a time when their people first propagated a danceable folk idiom at “la-la” house parties across southwest Louisiana. Embracing the acoustic purity of that tradition, these three friends perform the old songs with uncommon dexterity and grace.

Their lives also reflect the black Creole diaspora that extends most prominently into nearby southeast Texas. Though accordionist and fiddler Ed Poullard was born in 1952 in Eunice, his family moved to Beaumont when he was nine months old, and he has lived there ever since. Known for his previous collaborations with his older brother Danny, Canray Fontenot, Jessie Legé, and many others, he also builds Poullard Accordions at his home shop.

The two other members of this talented trio are Creole Texans by birth. James B. Adams, Jr., born in 1956, is a lifelong Houston resident. In addition to playing guitar, he also co-hosts a weekly KPFT-FM radio program (called Zydeco Pas Salé), through which he inadvertently discovered a prodigy who phoned in requests for obscure recordings. That young man is the amazing fiddler and singer Cedric Watson. Born in 1983, Cedric was raised by his Creole grandmother near Sealy, west of Houston. Yet, as his music so eloquently attests, like Ed and James he has inherited and nurtured strong ties to the ancestral homeland.





(left to right) Edward Poullard, Danny Poullard, John Poullard Sr., and guitarist Clarence LeDay.

Thus, the spirit of an old-style Louisiana “la-la” permeates this recording—and not only in its retro repertoire, unamplified instrumentation, and authentic French lyrics. It is there also in its very setting—not in some studio but in the Lafayette house where Cedric now currently shares space with Cajun musician Wilson Savoy and other colleagues from the group called Pine Leaf Boys (see *Arhoolie* CD 520). More to the point, as Ed relates, “We recorded this one just like my father and my grandfather used to play, seated in chairs right there in the kitchen.” With Joel Savoy engineering the sound, the comfortable vibe of *Les Amis Creole* confirms again the timeless appeal of this music, the root sounds of a rich subculture.

— Roger Wood

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Edward Poullard – accordion, fiddle, vocal

Cedric Watson – fiddle, vocal

James Adams – guitar

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