

CLIFTON CHENIER



LIVE AT THE
SAN FRANCISCO
BLUES FESTIVAL

WITH HIS
RED HOT
LOUISIANA
BAND





Clifton Chenier

Photo: Chris Strachwitz

Most of you don't need an introduction to the undisputed King of Zydeco music, the genius of the accordion who can rock-out like there is no tomorrow and keep folks dancing all night long to his infectious Louisiana beat. Clifton Chenier finally got a Grammy in 1984 for best ethnic album but he has been wearing the royal zydeco crown for many years along the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast where he and his Red Hot Louisiana Band have been playing dances since the 1950s when "Ay Tete Fee" was his first hit record.

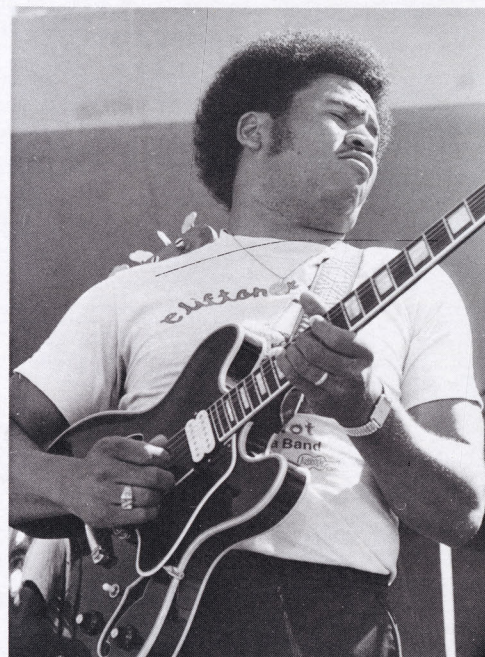
This is a very special album in several respects. It is the first live recording by Clifton's current band which includes his son C.J. Chenier on alto sax, Warren Cesar on trumpet and MC chores, along with Clifton's long time rhythm team of his brother Cleveland on rubboard and Robert St. Judy on drums. Alonzo Johnson Jr. is on bass and a special treat is the fine guitar work of Houston, Texas blues man Sherman Robertson. This album also contains

one of Clifton's best performances ever captured on tape. From the opening number by the driving band to the closing autobiographical song which lets you know who Clifton Chenier is! Along the way are some of Clifton's zydeco specialties, some R&B standards, even a waltz and some low down blues. This is also a very special disc when it comes to capturing the dynamic sound of the band and the feeling of the event. The tape from which this disc was pressed was made by Leroy Shyne, a musician with a fine ear, who was hired by Tom Mazolini (producer of the Festival) to operate the PA system and record the sound. With the good sound system Clifton and his band were obviously enjoying themselves. There was no feed-back from the amps or other hassles which often detract from Clifton's performances. The tape was made with only two microphones which Leroy Shyne placed in front of his mixing booth which was about 125 feet in front of the band stand. I was not the only one knocked out by the fine real live sound



Cleveland Chenier

Photo: Chris Strachwitz



Sherman Robertson

Photo: Jon Sievert

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ROCKHOUSE
NEW ORLEANS BEAT
CLIFTON'S ZYDECO
LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL
ROCK ME MAMA
PARTY DOWN

LOUISIANA TWO STEP
CALINDA
I'M COMING HOME
CHER CATIN
I'M THE ZYDECO MAN

Clifton Chenier — vocals & accordion
Robert St. Judy — drums
Cleveland Chenier — rubboard
Sherman Robertson — guitar
C. J. Chenier — alto sax
Cesar Warren — trumpet
Alonzo Johnson Jr. — bass

Produced by Tom Mazolini & Chris Strachwitz
Cover photo: Syndey Byrd
Cover by Wayne Pope & EPOP Productions
The San Francisco Blues Festival is
produced by Tom Mazolini
Recorded 9/12/1982 by Leroy Shyne &
Shyne Sound of San Rafael, Ca.

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of this tape. After I sent a cassette copy to Clifton he told me on the phone "That sure is a good sound they got on me that day". Tom Mazolini, who brought the tape for me to hear, was agreeable to make it public and so with Clifton's blessing here it is! The first live recording by Clifton Chenier's Red Hot Louisiana Band the way they really sound.

If this record gets you in the mood to hear and see more of the King of Zydeco, may we suggest that you check out the video cassette (Arhoolie/Brazos VHS BF 103) which includes most of Clifton's performances from this San Francisco Blues Festival set as well as other footage dealing with Clifton Chenier and his zydeco music. There are also ten other albums on Arhoolie Records by Clifton Chenier which cover much of his career since the mid 1960s and an earlier film by Les Blank entitled "Hot Pepper" is now available on VHS tape.

(Chris Strachwitz — 1985)



CLIFTON CHENIER
"Live At The San Francisco
Blues Festival"

Produced by
Tom Mazolini &
Chris Strachwitz

1093 A
STEREO

1. **ROCKHOUSE**
(Ray Charles - Hill & Range Songs)
2. **NEW ORLEANS BEAT**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
3. **CLIFTON'S ZYDECO**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
4. **LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL**
(F. Moore & S. Thread - Rytvoc Inc.)
5. **ROCK ME MAMA**
6. **PARTY DOWN**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)

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CLIFTON CHENIER
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1093 B
STEREO

1. **LOUISIANA TWO STEP**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
 2. **CALINDA**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
 3. **I'M COMING HOME**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
 4. **WHAT'D I SAY**
(Ray Charles - Hill & Range Songs)
 5. **CHER CATIN**
(Clifton Chenier - Tradition Music Co.)
 6. **I'M THE ZYDECO MAN**
(Clifton Chenier - Stainless Music Co.)
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