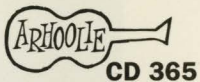


OMAR SHARIFF

"THE RAVEN"



1. THE RAVEN (4:23)
2. FILLMORE STREET BOOGIE (2:39)
3. HOUSE BUILT BY THE BLUES (3:24)
4. LOVE IS JUST A FOOL (3:18)
5. SAN FRANCISCO CAN BE SUCH A LONELY TOWN (4:32)
6. GREAT BALLS OF FIRE (1:55)
7. THIS IS LOVE (5:18)
8. STRANDED IN ST LOUIS (3:48)
9. OMAR'S BOOGIE (3:18)
10. JUST A BLUES (3:47)
11. THE RATTLER (3:07)
12. THE HOODOO MAN (5:33)
13. BLUE TUMBLEWEED (2:27)
14. SUFFERING WITH THE LOWDOWN BLUES (3:44)
15. COLD FEELING (4:49)
16. JIMMY, IS THAT YOU? (4:00)
17. SO YOU WANT TO BE A MAN (3:07)

Omar Shariff - piano and vocals;
with (#1-8) Frank Sipes - bass and Skip
Dysart - drums. Selections # 1-10 were
recorded in Berkeley, Ca. at Bay
Records in 1991, Mike Cogan -
engineer.

Selections #11-17 were recorded in July
(#11) and December (#12-17) of 1972
with Mickey Durio - drums and Larry
Murdo - bass and previously issued on
LPs 1967, 1071 and Cassette 207.

All songs (except #6) are by Omar Shariff
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Produced by Chris Strachwitz
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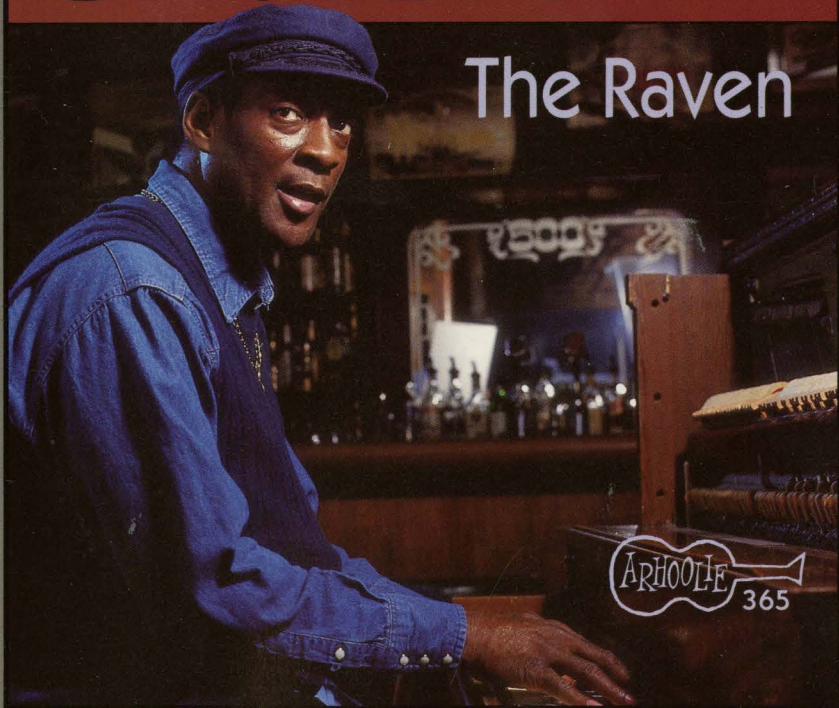
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Omar Shariff

The Raven



Omar Shariff – “The Raven”

The Raven was written for and about my kid brother who was brutally beaten to death in Oakland, Ca. in the early 1970s. It was probably the second most disturbing thing that happened to me in all my life. I turned to music for my soul release, to express my sorrows and my anger. The piano solo in *The Raven* is my simultaneous expression of rage and sorrow. The song is dedicated to all the people who have suffered similar fates.

Fillmore Street Boogie remembers the good old days in San Francisco. Fillmore Street was the baddest street for beautiful Black music in the whole country. Unfortunately Fillmore Street is ancient history.

House Built By the Blues is an example of my personal experience – life in the big city ghettos. Not having any money in a racist society; being a musician, can't afford nothing, unless you are lucky enough to become a star! Many times I sat at home with a phone that seldom rang. When it did, it was usually bad news. A TV set that shows killings,

revolutions, deceit, etc. *The House Built By the Blues* is my house.

San Francisco Can Be Such a Lonely Town. San Francisco is the only city where being Black meant good things and good times if you had class and respect for other people. But, it sure was no heaven — no place is.

Great Balls of Fire is a show stopper and a show of my admiration for “The Killer” – Jerry Lee Lewis. This is dedicated to my long-time friend Joe Davis of Dos Palos Air Museum.

Thanks to “Club 500” in Clovis, Ca. and owners Louie and Rosanne Sorantos for their continued support. Further thanks to Tom and Dick Boyjian of Zapp's Park in Fresno and their Blue Monday shows.

— Omar Shariff



Photo by David Horwitz

OMAR SHARIFF

"The Raven"



Over 60 Minutes of Classic BLUES

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