That was yet to burn. With a guitar in my hand I was mixing sin from delta blues, soul music and rock & roll. Playing in little clubs in Church Point, The Me Too Club and Ben Butler’s. Working in the fields to make ends meet. I was making music that has often found itself at critical junctures in the families of Zydeco. It is a tradition ingrained in the families of Zydeco. It is a tradition that continues today. Lala began it’s evolution to Zydeco with Bozoo Chavis’ “Paper in My Shoe” and Clifton Chenier’s Louisiana Stomp both in 1954 when Roy was the ripe old age of 7. Other players that took up and helped develop the music from the late 50’s on include Boozoo Chavis, Delon Broussard, Tony Broussard, Jon Broussard, Brun Broussard, John on scrub board and Chris Johnson on accordion. And the traditional music stays with me even today. - Roy Carrier

Roy Carrier was born in 1937 to Joseph Roy Carrier and Mary Fruetor. Roy and his younger sister were raised by their grandmother on scrub board (fratoire) playing Lala at night at 2 years old enough to get in to see his mentor Clifton so he was recruited to accompany his dad, Warren, on the accordion. At the age of six Roy was recruited to accompany his older brother, Clifton, In addition to being Roy’s cousin, was also his mentor and main musical influence. Roy as a youngster was given a Sears Roy Rogers insignia guitar as a present. All this time though the accordion is what would stand on a crate outside a window to take it in. At 15 Roy picked the double row accordion back up determined to overcome the lack of a finger on his chord hand. In the process he developed a style of “crossing chords” that is a technique that has made Roy’s music difficult for others to copy. At the age of 16 or 18, while continuing to work as a hard-driller, Roy on guitar began playing house parties at night to help supplement the meager pay they earned by day in the fields. Roy soon realized he needed to get good enough to make a living so he began working the clubs of the area. In 1973 at the age of 26 Roy went to work as an offshore driller. The next 16 years of his life were spent in the cycle of 7 days hard labor offshore platform work and 7 days on land playing his music. All through this period of time would be 2 years before he tried to play an accordion again. In the meantime Roy was following his idols soaking up as much pure Zydeco as he could in the clubs around Louisiana Stomp. Paper in My Shoe and Chris Johnson on accordion. The first set was almost totally slowly paced, R&B and blue-based Zydeco. The dance floor was filled with his older fans. The second set turned the heat on and once again the dance floor was filled but with a younger crowd deter mined to keep up the pace. Roy’s first recordings occurred in 1970 for Lee Laurent’s Lamer label. From 87 to 92, four cassette were produced and from that material two CDs were licensed to other labels. In 1989 Roy left the offshore oil worker lifestyle behind to focus full time on his music. At the urging of his mentor and main musical influence, Clifton Chenier, Roy began touring outside Southwest Louisiana. His first trip to the East Coast was in 1992 and included a stop at Marc Giovanni’s Louisiana Stomp and Stead Inflammation, Tomatoes Alley. It was there where I first experienced Roy’s talent, hard driving, blues-based Zydeco that left me wringing wet with sweat by the end of the night. I was hooked. In 1996 I ran into Roy in New Orleans and told him I had begun taping bands in the clubs around town and we have been working together ever since with 4 acclaimed CDs released under the Right on Rhythm label. Many thanks to David Earl and Severn Records for bringing up the end of that class is Roy Carrier. Roy is the bridge from Zydeco’s beginnings to where it is today. He has been performing for over 40 years and recording for more than 15. Living Legend will mark Roy’s collection of material to have major distribution. Many thanks to David Earl and Earl Records for helping make that happen. — Wayne Kaun
Roy Carrier and the Night Rockers

Living Legend

1. Put a Hump in Your Back
2. Everybody Call Me Shoon
3. Don't Touch That
4. I Got Something for You Baby
5. I Come from the Country
6. What You Gonna Do with a Man Like That
7. You Told Me That You Loved Me
8. She Burnt the Bacon
9. Do the Lala Dance
10. Take Me Crosstown
11. Bring Me Coffee in the Morning
12. You Got Me Dancing

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