

Robin Sylar CDs

{tab= Bust Out (2002) }

The tradition of Texas blues is as wide as Texas itself. Sometimes it is easy to wonder if new blood can be struck from the same old vein. Just the opposite would be true of Robin Sylar. Faithful but forceful interpretations of vintage instrumentals are only a part of the Sylar story. Robin Sylar has played with blues icons Stevie Ray Vaughan (in their group Krackerjack), Doyle Bramhall (bass, guitar & vocals - Bird Nest on the Ground), James Harmon, Big Joe Turner, George Smith, Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, Marcia Ball, Randy McAllister, Robert Ealey, U.P. Wilson and even joined Canned Heat for a year. In this, his second recording for Topcat records, Robin Sylar has achieved a consistency of feeling that is rare in today's blues recordings. His song writing is a breath of cool air in a crowded train car, something too refreshing to go un-noticed. The band used by Sylar for the session was comprised of Phil Bennison (pka. Homer Henderson) and Jim Milan on bass, Rex Mauney on keyboards and superb drumming by Kevin Schermerhorn. Besides tearing up the stage across Texas, Robin Sylar's a guy that likes to have fun-and on this recording session, he'll take you to the limit. Producer Wes Race just let these guys do it their way and it shows right from the blistering first track: "Bust Out," to the finale "Flashback," an eight minute and 40 second guitar lesson! Some of the major highlights start at #3: "Dynamite Nitro", an up-tempo shuffle, complete with an appropriate amount of vocal distortion which sounds like he's singing through an old 60s "Fuzzbox!" Number four. (Bertha Lu) takes on a tough edge with some hilarious lyrics. The song "Scratchy" is a cross between Link Wray and Davie Allan & The Arrows, with Fahey-esque sound effects-and all hell breaks loose! His guitar takes a step beyond on track #6: "Wild Cherry." There are fifteen tracks, and you've got to think fun. That's what this record is all about-hell raising. Screamin' Jay Hawkins would've loved these guys. Check 'em out and put a smile on your face!

[Click to listen to Samples](#)

1.
Bust Out
2.
Louisiana Lava Man
3.
Dynamite Nitro
4.
Bertha Lu

5.
Scratchy

6.
Wild Cherry

7.
Delivery Boy

8.
Dux

9.
Taken For A Ride

10.
Double Dip

11.
Queen Of The Hop

12.
Steel Trap

13.
Wild Angels

14.
Made Up My Mind

15.
Flashback

Sylar (vocals, guitar, bass, steel drum, sound effects); Phil Bennison (vocals, bass, bongos, steel drums, maracas); Rex Mauney (piano, organ); Jim Milan (bass); Kevin Schermerhorn (drums).

{tab= Tricked Out (2004) }

The tradition and diversity of styles of Texas blues is as wide as Texas itself. It is easy to wonder if new blood can be struck from the same old vein. Robin Sylar is proof positive, leaving no doubt, that it can.

In Tricked Out, his third recording for TopCat Records, Sylar, has "raised the bar", reaching stratospheric new heights with his unique vision and style. He leaves musicians and audiences in awe at his stunning mastery of the guitar as well as his mastery of a wide range of musical genres. He thrives on pushing it over the edge and back, constantly breaking new ground.

Faithful but forceful interpretations of vintage instrumentals are only part of the Sylar story. His reputation and pedigree in the music world are well known and impressive, to say the least. Sylar has played with blues icons Stevie Ray Vaughan (in their group Krackerjack), Doyle Bramhall (bass, guitar & vocals- Birdnest On The Ground), James Harmon, Big Joe Turner, George "Harmonica" Smith, Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, Marcia Ball, Randy McAllister, Robert Ealey, U. P. Wilson and he even joined Canned Heat for a year back in the late 70s.

Robin Sylar's a guy that likes to have fun-and on Tricked Out, he'll take you to the limit. Producers Wes Race and Richard Chalk just let Sylar do it his way and it shows right from the blistering first track "You're Gonna Miss Me," to the finale "Pipeline." Sylar is backed by a bevy of top North Texas musicians including Johnny Mack, Homer Henderson, Kevin Schermerhorn and Bobby Baronowski. There are fifteen sizzling tracks, and you've got to think hell raising fun. Screamin' Jay Hawkins would've loved these guys. Tricked Out is sure to receive great reviews and will certainly be one of the top CD releases of 2004.

[Click to listen to Samples](#)

1.
You're Gonna Miss Me

2.
Shaking All Over

3.
Iko Iko

4.
Hollywood Millionaire

5.
Heart Of Stone

6.
Pretty Girls

7.
Shot Time

8.
Back To Iuka

9.
Surf Puppy

10.
Can't Judge A Book

11.
Misirlou

12.
Sugar Bee

13.
Hand Jive

14.
Wine Spo-dee-odee

15.

Pipeline

Notes Personnel includes: Robin Sylar; Doyle Bramhall (vocals, guitar, harmonica, lap steel, piano, organ, bass); Johnny Mack (vocals); James Hinkle (guitar); Homer Henderson, Eric Mathew (bass); Bobby Baronowski, Kevin Schermerhorn, Marc Wilson (drums); Beer Belly Slim (background vocals). Recorded at Eagle Audio and Keys Lounge, Ft. Worth, Texas; Millennium Sound Lab, Dallas, Texas. Includes liner notes by Tim Schuller.

{tab= Birth! (1970) }

Recorded live in 1970 at the Vulcan Gas Company club in Austin, Texas as a demo tape, these are five rare live recordings of Robin Sylar in his raw prime.

Re-mastered from an old crusty reel-to-reel tape in July 2001 by Art Hoffman.

Robin Sylar: Guitar and vocals

Mark Kessel: drums

Fred Holmes: bass guitar

Click to listen to Samples

1.
Shuffle #1

2.
Slow Blues #1

3.
Shuffle #2

4.
Slow Blues #2

5.
Funky Shuffle #1

{/tabs}