

BERT WILLS

Texas Blues/Country legend, Bert Wills was born in Kentucky but has spent most of his life in and around Galveston. He is equally versed in both the blues and country music genres. He is an authority on vintage guitars. He rides and rebuilds Harley Davidson motorcycles and vintage automobiles and is an avid surfer.

Bert was once signed to MCA records Nashville by Porter Wagoner and Minnie Pearl. He recorded with Elvis Presley's band and made some significant recordings. However, his brand of country/blues and bluegrass did not fit into the then changeover in Nashville to a more pop sound.

Some of his well know bands back in the day were The Shadows, Bert Wills & the Country Cadillacs, The Texas Sweat Band (with Issac Payton Sweat of 'Cotton Eyed Joe' fame), and Bert Wills & The Cryin' Shames. The Cryin' Shames were a jump/swing blues band with a horn section and recorded two albums and a single.

Following that Bert signed to Gold Rhyme Records and did four albums for them at SugarHill Recording Studios with Andy 'mort' Bradley at the controls. The third album, 'Pavones Sunset', a surf music album was a big hit in that world and was included in surf movies like 'Miles to Surf' and 'Contours'. One of his songs won an award at the Caanes Film Festival.

Following his stint with Gold Rhyme he recorded a solo guitar and vocal CD, 'Old School' to critical acclaim. In the same time period he recorded with Johnny Bush, The Calvin Owens Blues Orchestra, The Champion Sisters and Tommie Lee Bradley. Bert is also an accomplished recording studio guitarist and harmonica player. His last release was a solo CD entitled 'Lonesome Highway', more in the country music genre.

A recent concert in Galveston which has created the video of 'Mean Ole Woman' has reunited him with old friend engineer/producer Andy 'mort' Bradley and new recordings and videos are in the works.

Bert Wills Music.com