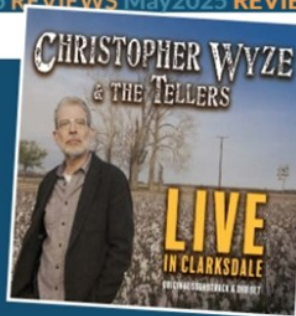


CHRISTOPHER WYZE AND THE TELLERS

LIVE IN CLARKSDALE

Big Radio Records

The band released their debut album, *Stuck In The Mud* in 2024, to huge acclaim, I might add. I had the chance to get to know Chris through reviewing this album for Blues Matters Magazine, so, I was very excited to receive the next installment in this band's journey. The album and DVD were recorded at a Juke-joint, Shack Up Inn, in Clarksdale, Mississippi. As a bonus, there is also a fifty-minute documentary filmed entirely in Clarksdale. The majority of the songs have been taken from the debut album, *Stuck In The Mud*, with a couple of iconic Blues covers thrown in for good measure. Joining Chris Wyze (Vocals, and Harmonica) are, Gerry Murphy on Bass, John Boyle on guitars,



“It promises to be a very interesting story

Douglas Banks on Drums, and last but not least, Mark Yacovone on Keyboards. Three Hous From Memphis opens the proceedings, and you immediately get a feel of the ambiance within the audience. A juke joint, in Clarksdale, what's not to like? Hard Work Don't Pay, and Cotton Ain't King are two of the best descriptions of how life used to be in and around the Delta, as



opposed to how it is right now. Two different songs about life's struggles in Mississippi. How Long How Long Blues, is a tune that I have not heard in many a year. Originally written and recorded by Ida Cox in 1925, a century-old song, also recorded by Scrapper Blackwell and Leroy Carr.

A song that dates back to the real Country Blues, but is still as vibrant and valid today. The album concludes with the other cover, Nobody Knows You When You're Down And Out, performed here by messers Wyze and Yacovone on keyboards. A brilliant way to end a gig, intimate, but still as telling as always. This is the first of what will be a trio of reviews and features with Christopher Wyze And The Tellers over the next three months. It promises to be a very interesting story, with the band at the heart of the composition.

STEPHEN HARRISON

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