

**GOING FOR ADDS (Release Date):** April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**FILE:** Jazz (Retro/Blues)  
**ARTIST:** ROOSEVELT HOOVER III a.k.a. “Duke” (not an Ellington reference)  
**TITLE:** Backyard Blues  
**LABEL:** Self-Release  
**COPYRIGHT:** RH III Music  
**BARCODE:** 6 66449 28409 0  
**WEBSITE:** none



#### TRACKS

- 1 **Back at the Chicken Shack 4:58** (*James O. Smith*)
- 2 **If You Want Me To Stay 5:11** (*Sylvester Stewart*)
- 3 **Comin' Home Baby 4:42** (*Ben Tucker/Bob Dorough*)
- 4 **Cissy Strut 4:16** (*Art Neville, George Porter, Jr., Leo Nocentelli and Ziggy Modeliste*)
- 5 **All Blues 6:01** (*Miles Davis*)
- 6 **Cold Duck Time 4:50** (*Eddie Harris*)
- 7 **Stormy Monday 3:43** (*Arron T-bone Walker*)
- 8 **Green Onions 3:54** (*Booker T. Jones Jr., Al Jackson, Steve Cropper, Lewis Steinberg*)

#### MUSICIANS

**H III** – organ (1,2,4,5,7,8), acoustic (5,6) & electric (3) piano  
**Joel Behrman** – trumpet (1,2,3,5,6,8), (6)  
**Dan Robbins** – bass (1-8)  
**Phil Hawkins** – drums (1-8), keyboards (2)  
**Johnny Valdez** – guitar (4,7)  
**Ray Obiedo** – guitar (2), guiro (6)  
**Derek Rolando** – congas (6)  
**Luther Richmond** – lead vocal (2)  
**Michelle Hawkins** – vocals (2)  
**Roslyn Hoover** – vocals (7)

#### BIO

Roosevelt Hoover III grew up surrounded by music, with his father’s band rehearsing in the family living room on weeknights. At just five years old, he asked to learn piano and was told, “If you can whistle it, you can play it.” Taking that advice literally, he began playing by ear — a skill that still shapes his musical style today. He later added trumpet to his repertoire in elementary school and eventually switched to organ when his father died.

By junior high, Roosevelt was already performing as the keyboardist for the Top 40 R&B band Shades of Soul, staying busy with live shows throughout high school.

After graduating, Roosevelt served in the U.S. Air Force, stepping away from music for a time. Once back in civilian life, he moved to San Jose and returned to the stage, playing with a variety of bands and collaborating across genres. Along the way, music remained a family affair, with garage-band sessions that eventually included two of his three children.

This recording honors some of those moments — music made for the love of playing, connection, and good company.

“I dedicate this CD to my son, every note I play is for you. Love and thanks to my father who inspired me to follow his musical footsteps.

To all the musicians who contributed, I give sincere thanks and respect for helping me realize my dream of recording the music I grew up with and love, your combined musical mastery elevated every song.” - Roosevelt (Duke)

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Produced by Phil Hawkins

Recorded June 18, 2025 at Pnotemedia, Santa Clara by Phil Hawkins

Mixed and Mastered by Phil Hawkins

Photography and Design by Fifi Larue

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