



Crazy Otto Music
2250 Court Avenue
Memphis, TN 38104
V: 901 . 274 . 4842
F: 901 . 272 . 3968
info@crazyotto.com
www.crazyotto.com

Contact: Josh Mills
It's Alive! Media
323-464-6314 w
323-819-0913 cell
Josh@itsalivemedia.com
AIM & Yahoo: Itsalivemedia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Crazy Otto Music reissues Johnny Maddox's DIXIELAND BLUES

Reissue Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Johnny's First Million Seller

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – April 12, 2005 – Johnny Maddox's DIXIELAND BLUES is being reissued for the first time on compact disc by Crazy Otto Music, a label devoted to ragtime, dixieland and early American music. This 1959 classic is the first reissue of any of Johnny Maddox's original Dot Records recordings and is backed by enhanced multi-media features including pictures of the original sheet music covers for the songs, Johnny's audio commentary on each piece, and a video clip of Johnny performing "Friday Night Stomp".

Johnny Maddox is one of the leading ragtime piano players of all time. He was America's number one jukebox artist in 1955 when he recorded the first all-piano record in history, "The Crazy Otto Medley". This reissue celebrates the 50th anniversary of that legendary recording which spent 14 weeks at the top of the charts, and became the first ragtime record to sell more than 1,000,000 copies, eventually selling more than 2,000,000. Johnny was the first artist of Dot Records, and his instant success helped build the label into one of the most successful labels in the 50's. During his tenure with Dot, he racked up 9 gold singles with total record sales of over 11,000,000. Johnny even has his own star on Hollywood Boulevard.

DIXIELAND BLUES is Johnny's favorite record of his 50 plus year (and over 80 records) career and is the lone Dixieland recording in his rich catalog. The musicians on DIXIELAND BLUES are a who's who of jazz greats from the 1930's and 1950's including Matty Matlock (clarinet), Mannie Klein (trumpet), Moe Schneider (trombone), Nappy LaMare (banjo), Nick Fatool (drums), Red Callender (tuba) and Bobby Hammack (rhythm piano). Matlock, Schneider and Fatool can all be seen in the 1955 motion picture: PETE KELLYS BLUES, starring Jack Webb and they are also on the great soundtrack album. Dot House engineer Tom Mack recorded the album with arrangements by Matlock and Beasley Smith (Louis Armstrong, Roy Acuff, Beach Boys). Tracks include standards such as W.C. Handy's *Beale Street Blues*, and *St. Louis Blues* and Spencer Williams' *Basin Street Blues* as well as some even more rare pieces such as *Tishomingo Blues*, *Wolverine Blues* and *Bow Wow Blues*.

About Crazy Otto Records

Launched in 2001, Crazy Otto Records is committed to the preservation and recirculation of nostalgic, ragtime and early American jazz and blues music. The company is headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee.

With the help of producer Mark Linn, Crazy Otto Music has released 7 CDs to date, 6 of Johnny Maddox's recent recordings, and one from the American Ragtime Ensemble. This summer, Crazy Otto Music will reissue their second Dot Records recording, Johnny Maddox's MILLION SELLERS & MORE MILLION SELLERS. This CD will feature Johnny's original recording of the "Crazy Otto Medley," his first million selling song.

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