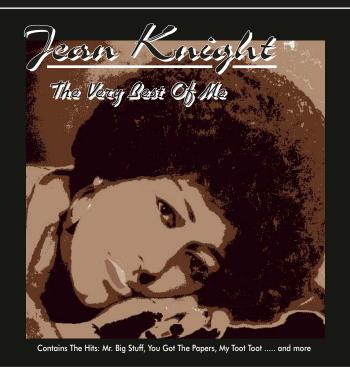


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Despite earning a gold record - and serving up two near misses - curiously Jean Knight hasn't garnered much media attention. A perusal of a dozen or so books on soul lists Gladys Knight and even Fredrick Knight, but Jean Knight's name is rarely

mentioned. Even in the handful of books documenting New Orleans R&B, she's no more than a footnote.

Hopefully with the release of this Aim CD, more attention will be focused on this talented New Orleans songstress.

Jean Knight's real name is Jean Caliste and she was born in the Crescent City on January 26, 1943. Raised by creole parents who performed in Vaudeville, she grew up in the Seventh Ward. Although she sang in grade school, she didn't start taking music seriously until high school. Knight first began singing in public at her cousin's bar, Laura's Place on St. Bernard Avenue.

By the end of the 1960's, singing was just a pleasurable hobby for Knight, as she spent 40 hours a week baking bread at Loyola University's cafeteria.

With three huge records on her resume, Knight is now able to take it a lot easier. Today her schedule includes selective New Orleans engagements, and about a dozen times a year she travels to cities such as New York and Los Angeles to do shows, often with disco divas like Gloria Gaynor and Donna Summers. This is the only Jean Knight compilation to feature all three of her major hits, "Mr. Big Stuff," "You've Got The Papers (I've Got The Man)", and the original version of "My Toot Toot." The rest of the CD includes many of the songs Knight features on stagethe most heartfelt perhaps being "I'd Rather Go Blind" - her showstopping tribute to Etta James. Other tracks include Seventies soul classics such as "Rockin' Chair," "If It Don't Fit Don't Force It," "Precious, Precious" "I Like What You're Doing To Me," "Clean Up Woman" and "Make Me Yours."

This CD is full of treats and shows Knight is alive, kicking, and still full of sassy soulful ideas in New Orleans.

Jean Knight The Very Best Of Me

AIM 5005 CD

- 1. Cleanup Woman
- 2. Mr. Big Stuff
- 3. If It Don't Fit, Don't Force It
- 4. Precious, Precious
- 5. Make Me Yours
- 6. I Like What You Are Doing To Me
- 7. I'd Rather Go Blind
- 8. You Got The Papers
 But I Got The Man
- 9. My Toot Toot
- 10. Rocking Chair
- 11. Trapped By Love

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