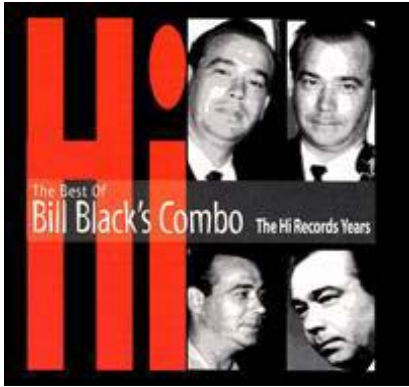




High Times at HI Records

Have you ever heard of Carl McVoy, the Charmetts, Buddy Holiday, Joe Fuller, Mark Taylor, Fern Fisher, Kimball Coburn, Will Mercer, Bobby Chandler, Tommy Tucker, and Charles Cockrell? Probably not, but they were among the first sixteen artists that recorded for the HI record label of Memphis. Did you know that Elvis' bass player, Bill Black, had the first HI Records hit with *Smokie, Part 2*? When most people think of HI Records, they think of the great soul



Bill Black on HI Records

Green box set *Anthology*, for which his liner notes were nominated for a Grammy Award in 1998. He has written for major music magazines in the United States and England, and is the author of several classic books, including *It Came from Memphis*, *The King on the Road* and *Can't be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters*. As a filmmaker, Gordon directed the award-winning blues documentary "*All Day and All Night*," featuring B. B. King and Rufus Thomas. For the

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singles of Al Green or Anne Peebles. Little do they know that HI Records was the home to some truly great early Rock and Roll as well as some sophisticated big band sounds in the 1960's. Launched in the mid '50's by Ray Harris, Charles Cantrell, and Quinton Claunch, the Memphis label's history mirrors the sounds of the nation over the 50's, 60's and 70's. This month Beale Street Caravan begins a new series featuring noted author and videographer Robert Gordon. It's *High Time at HI Records*, an intimate look inside one of the great Memphis record labels of all time. Over the next 10 weeks Robert takes you behind the scenes to give you an inside look at the three distinct periods of this great American music label. From Bill Black to, Willie Mitchell, to Al Green, it's another chapter in the ever evolving story of Memphis Music. Robert produced the Al



Feature Host Robert Gordon

2003 series, Martin Scorsese Presents the Blues, Gordon was a series consultant and the writer and associate producer of the episode "The Road to Memphis." Robert Gordon lives in Memphis, Tennessee, with his wife and two children.

Check Out These Great January Shows on BSC



Week of January 7th: One of today's most thrilling and spell binding gospel groups without question are **The Blind Boys of Alabama**. Wonderful harmonies, unique arrangements and of course the blessings of the Lord, have made this group a top billing at blues clubs and festivals for the past 10 years. Lead by Clarence Fountain, **The Blind Boys of Alabama** can make even the most devout atheist think twice. Also a set of music from **Otis Taylor** recorded at the 2003 Telluride Blues and Brews Festival.

Week of January 14th: Sherman Robertson brings his brand of heavy guitar blues to the Caravan this week with a set from the 2003 King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, AR. Also a set from Syracuse's own **Los Blancos**, recorded, of course, at the 2003 NYS Blues Festival in Syracuse, NY. Like most great working bands, **Los Blancos** know the blues well, but shine in a variety of roots based styles.

Week of January 21st: The Blues Foundation's 2003 International Blues Challenge winners **Delta Moon** take center stage this week

with a set from the 2003 King Biscuit Blues Festival. Inventive arrangements and good musicianship are just two of the strong aspects of this band hailing out of Atlanta, Ga. Brinkley, AR resident **John Weston** returns to the Caravan with his signature style of blues, this time aided by his daughter Carla on bass. Best characterized as a no frills bluesman, Weston is a prolific songwriter and his chromatic harmonica skills are truly unique among today's batch of reed blowers.

Week of January 28th: Explore the funky side of the jazz idiom as we welcome **Karl Denson's Tiny Universe** to Beale Street Caravan with a set recorded at the 2003 Telluride Blues and Brews Festival. While Denson draws accolades in the mainstream jazz press his compositions always induce movement in ways that don't exactly fit in the strictly sit-down jazz club world. Ending the month of January Pat and Daren dig into the archives for another **Manager's Special**.



Beale Street Caravan can be heard on over 400 stations including these Memphis stations

WEVL 89.9
Tuesdays noon

WKNO Family of Stations
WKNA 88.9
WKNQ 90.7
Saturdays 6 p.m.

WUMR 91.7
Wednesdays 6 p. m.

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