

Contents

Foreword (by Denise LaSalle): “America’s Prodigal Son”	ix
Acknowledgments	xiii
Introduction: “It’s a Southern Soul Party”	1
Part I. Deep Blues, Deep Soul, and Beyond: The Roots and Development of Southern Soul-Blues	13
Part II. “Party Like Back in the Day”: Soul Survivors	27
1. Latimore: “I Capture the Feeling”	29
2. Denise LaSalle: Still the Queen	48
3. J. Blackfoot: “Don’t Give Up—Tighten Up!”	67
4. Bobby Rush: Behind the Trickster’s Mask	87
Part III. “Now Playing Love Games”: Voices from the New Generation	107
5. Willie Clayton: Last Man Standing	109
6. Sweet Angel: Lessons in Life	125

7. Sir Charles Jones: “Is There Anybody Lonely?”	143
8. Ms. Jody: “Just a Little Bit Won’t Get It”	162
Postscript: The “Raunch” Debate: Hoochification or Sexual Healing?	179
Part IV. The Crossroad and Further On: Where Do We Go from Here?	197
Introduction: Too Late to Stop Now	199
9. Blues with a Feeling: Writing Songs for the Market and the Heart	204
10. Music and the Marketplace: Getting Heard, Getting Known, and Staying on Top of the Game	214
11. Evolution: A Look toward the Future	232
Part V. Soul Stew Revisited	249
12. Leading Lights	251
13. Soul Serenade	265
Notes	277
References	291
Index	297