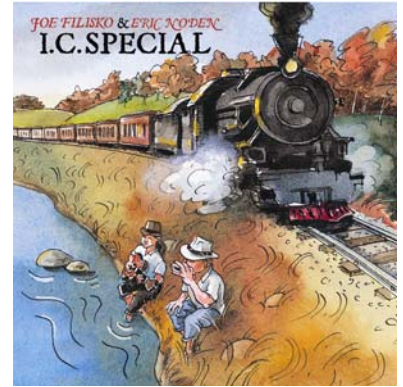


Notes for "I.C. Special" by Joe Filisko & Eric Noden

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1. IC SPECIAL: by E. Noden

Guitar (capo 2nd fret key F#) My tribute to the Illinois Central railroad line that brought so many great blues musicians to Chicago from the southern United States. The I.C. line ran all the way from New Orleans to Chicago. **EN**

Harmonica ("B" in 2nd) is inspired by Lonnie Glosson, Salty Holmes and all the great players from the past who could play a mean train imitation. I think that it is criminal if a diatonic harmonica player is not able to play a train! **JF**

2. GRIDLOCK BLUES: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("C" in 2nd) is inspired by all traditional Chicago style tongue blocking players and lyrics by Chicagoland traffic. Initial inspiration came while driving home from Augusta with Andrew after some 10 hours in the July heat, only to be stuck for another hour in a tollway jam because only 1 tollbooth was open to collect money. **JF**

Guitar (open G tuning on a National resonator guitar w/ slide) influenced by the percussive delta blues styles of Son House, Charley Patton and Bukka White. **EN**

3. NOW SHE'S GONE: by E. Noden

Guitar (key of E) uses a basic rhythm of jazz and swing with a little bit of honky-tonk boogie thrown in. I wrote this one with the great harmony singing of the Ink Spots in mind. **EN**

Harmonica (Low "E" in 1st) is inspired by the North Carolina player Gwen Foster and all his growls, chirps and fluttering sounds. Special thanks to Wade Schuman of Hazmat Modine and Chicago's own, James Conway, for their part in keeping this master from being forgotten! **JF**

4. ME & SONNY: by E. Noden

Guitar (open G tuning key of G). Sonny Stovepipe is my nickname for Joe. Seems many of the great early harp players had Sonny in their names. I wrote this after the first Filisko & Noden European tour. Lyrics include a nod to our friends in Condat Sur Vienne, France and Schorndorf, Germany The guitar playing on this tune is influenced by the guitar playing and singing of Furry Lewis. Joe adds a unique twist to it with his Cajun style harmonica. **EN**

Harmonica (Low "C" in 2nd) is inspired by Cajun players, Jerry Devillier, Isom Fontenot and Arteleus Mistic. Thanks also goes out to our Harmonicales friends from France and Schorndorf friends from Germany. Special thanks to Magnus Gullberg for the most beautiful harmonica! **JF**

5. ANGRY WOMAN: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("Bb" in 2nd) is inspired totally by John Lee "Sonny Boy I" Williamson, one of the most significant players of all time. Seems like everyone knows someone with extreme anger issues. **JF**

Guitar (capo 1st fret key of F) is inspired by the piano playing of Big Maceo and Cripple Clarence Lofton. **EN**

6. GOOD FRIEND: by E. Noden

Guitar (capo 2nd fret key of F#). Draws on the great acoustic guitar playing and songwriting of Brownie McGhee. **EN**

Harmonica ("B" in 2nd) is inspired totally by Sonny Terry. Every harp player should have numerous LP's or CD's of Sonny Terry. **JF**

7. TOO MUCH WHISKEY: by E. Noden

Guitar (open g tuning key of D). A song about over indulgence. The guitar playing and songwriting are influenced by Louisiana bluesman Robert Pete Williams. I always liked his stream of consciousness style of blues songwriting. **EN**

Harmonica ("Bb" in 5th) is inspired by the driving rhythmical playing of Johnny Woods with a special twist; if Johnny had to play in the key of "D" and only had a "Bb" harp, this is what I imagined he would come up with. Possibly the most demanding song for me to play on the CD. Please note that the root note is the hole #2 exhale. **JF**

8. GIRL O' MINE: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("A" in 2nd) is inspired by Sonny Terry and Bo Diddley. Special thanks to Michelle Filisko for lyric inspiration. **JF**

Guitar (key of E) is based on the hambone rhythm that has roots in New Orleans street music. Joe insisted the guitar make only percussive drum like sounds during most of the vocals. **EN**

9. MADE ME LONESOME: by E. Noden

Guitar (key of G). A sad slow country flavored tune. Simple and to the point. **EN**

Harmonica ("C" in 2nd) is inspired by all traditional Chicago style tongue blocking players and the deeply tasteful minimalism of Jim Liban and Grant Dermody. **JF**

10. BUSY MAN: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("G" in 2nd) is inspired by Walter Horton, Rice Miller and John Lee Williamson. Special thanks to Big Jim Themelis for keeping me in search of Big Walter's tone. Note that all harp is played on the first 3 1/2 holes of the harmonica. Lyrics are my attempt to bring some levity to a subject that is not funny at all, . . . depression! **JF**

Guitar (drop D tuning key of D). Inspired by the driving rhythms of acoustic bluesman Tommy McClennan. The guitar solo is a musical representation of the busy man yawning while Joe's solo captures his snore. **EN**

11. LEADFOOT STOMP: by E. Noden

Guitar (open D tuning key of D). I wrote this with the idea that the great slide guitarists Tampa Red, Kokomo Arnold and Elmore James are all playing in an alley near Chicago's Maxwell Street when Big & Little Walter show up with some harps and a flask. **EN**

Harmonica ("G" in 2nd) is inspired by all traditional Chicago style tongue blocking players but especially the soulful sound and tone of Dennis Gruenling. **JF**

12. JAYBIRD MOAN: by J. Filisko

Harmonicas ("Bb" in 2nd-Joe; Low "Bb" in 2nd-Eric) Harmonica and lyrics are totally inspired by Jaybird Coleman, probably the first really low down blues harp player to record, taking place in the summer of 1927, in Birmingham Alabama. This song is dedicated to the "exhale push", [EP], which can be heard being executed by Eric in the first few seconds of the song. Please note that there are NO exhale notes played in the recording of this song except for ending lick. **JF**

13. HEAD ON OUTTA HERE: by E. Noden

Guitar (open G tuning key of G). While the guitar part heavily borrows from the playing of Big Joe Williams, the delta bluesman who wrote "Baby Please Don't Go", the song uses chord tones that are rarely found in early blues. The lyrics are the blues theme of a relationship gone wrong. **EN**

Harmonica ("Eb" in 5th) is inspired by the licks of John Lee "Sonny Boy I" Williamson with a special twist; if John Lee had to play in the key of "G" but only had a "Eb" harp, this is what I imagined he would come up with. Please note that the root note is the hole #2 exhale. **JF**

14. STRANDED: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("A" in 2nd) is inspired by the playing of Howlin' Wolf and Son of Dave. This was written while waiting and waiting and waiting to fly to Memphis and back to take place in the ceremony to place a headstone on the grave of harp player Will Shade. I admit that the percussion part is actually the only overdub on the CD, but, I actually did record the amplified harp using only one hand to make up for it!

Guitar (key of E). A one chord Mississippi groove influenced by Tommy Johnson and Honeyboy Edwards **EN**

15. NO ONE GETS: by J. Filisko

Harmonica ("Bb" in 2nd) is inspired by all the traditional tongue blocking players who could lay down a mean Fox Chase and/or Lost John and also Elder Roma Wilson. This is dedicated to the memories of the following players; Frank E Filisko (my Big Buddy and personal superhero), Gary Primich, Joe Colvis, Doug Tate, Doug Randall, Pat Ramsey, Ed Mossner, Ken Bernhard, Jack Ely, John Cephas, Bob Shatkin, John Zeidler, Richard Farrell and Jacob Messinger. **JF**

Guitar (capo 4th fret key of E) influenced by Mississippi John Hurt and old-time music in general. **EN**

THANKS FROM JOE & ERIC TO: Blaise Barton, Mark Anderson for the train painting, All our friends at the Old Town School of Folk Music, Rich Warren & WFMT, Two Way Street Coffeehouse, Crossroads Blues Society, Grafton Blues Association, Bill's Blues, Martyrs', Harlem Ave. Lounge, Jamie Wagner and Strobe Sessions for the I.C. Special video, Steve & Nico Baker, Laurent & Nathalie Cagnon, Pascale & Bruno Denichou, Laure Vigouroux and the Harmonicales festival crew. You Missed Monday's, Doug Seyb, Mark & Carol Lorenz, Phillip Lorenz, Jillian Baumbick, (continued on next page)

Michael Baum & [WNUR](#), Hambone & [WDCB](#), Tom Jackson & [WLUW](#), The Jazz Record Mart, Barry Dolins, Masen Dabbag & Angie Henle, Tomislav Goluban, Robert Koch, [Hohner harmonicas](#), Annette Kempel, Charlotte Dressen, Martin Haffner and the [Harmonika museum](#), Hobo, Michael & Brigitte Conrad, Birgit, Hans Jurge and the hotel Baren. Magnus Gullberg, Mattias Bogefors, Mikael & Ulrika Bäckman and all our friends in Sweden.

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Pastor Chuck & Ruth, Bill Black, Miller Settlemyer, Lorraine Skala and the Calvery Chapel gang. Bau Graves, Chris Walz, Cat Edgerton, Rick Sherry, Mario Rabaza, Greg Gabor, Ari Frede, Michael Miles, Skip Landt and the [Old Town School of Folk Music](#) gang. Flash Kessler, Corporate Kirk, Mr. Shoji Naito & Little Laura, Highway RickEy, Zoe Savage, and the [www.YouMissedMonday.com](#) gang. Lyle Faught, Harry Garner, Mark Riordan, Bud Boblink, Earl Steinke, Lee Burton, Mick Zaklan and the gang at the Windy City Harmonica Club. Uncle Rick Nicotra, Betsy Ziener, Tim Goodrich, Albert Lesakowski, Lisa Knopf, Phil Dumitru, Jimmy Neureuther, Jon Lewandowski, and the Buffalo New York gang. Rich DeGrosso, Joan Fenton, Jeff & Donna Diehl, Bobby Hughes, Allan Holmes, Pearl & Joel Bailes, Charlie Barath, Ed Huey, Jeff "Dr. Blue" Cobin, Karen Bass, Ruth Leicht, D Riddle, Cecil O'Neal, Andrew Puckett, Ronnie Joe Parker, Nate Layne and the [The Augusta Heritage Center](#) gang. Paul Davies, Winslow Yerxa, Dennis "Mr Microphone" Oellig, Dan Rupp, Jimi Lee, Joe DeGelia, Wally Peterman, Dick Gardner, John Infande, Al & Judy Smith and the [S.P.A.H.gang](#). Dave Barrett, Kinya Pollard, Dennis Carelli, Diane Smith, Jon Harl, Rich Perez and the [www.HarmonicaMasterclass.com](#) gang. Kris & Peter Raymond and the [www.graftonblues.org](#) gang. Rich Warren, Karen and [The Midnight Special](#) gang, Doug Seyb and the Donnellson gang at [www.donnellsoniowa.com/ThingstoDo/](#). Laurent et Nathalie Cagnon, Pascale et Bruno Denichou, Laure Vigouroux and the [www.harmonicales.com](#) gang. Masen Dabbag, Angie Henle, Herbert & Monique Federal, Siegfried Dittler and the [www.schorndorfer-guitarrentage.de](#) gang. Michael Roach, Peter Wheat and the [www.euroblues.co.uk](#) gang. Günter Bayer, Annette Kempel, Charlotte Dressen, Martin Haffner, Hobo, Michael & Brigitte Conrad, Birgit, Hans Jurge, the Havana Bar [www.trossingenhotelbaeren.de/](#) and the Trossingen gang. Kenny Zimmerman and the [www.HarlemAvenueLounge.com](#) gang. Dave Humphreys and the [www.TwoWayStreet.org](#) gang. Mark, Steve, Joe and the [www.CrossroadsBluesSociety.com](#) gang. Bill Gilmore and the [www.BillsBluesBar.com](#) gang. Klaus Stetter, Steve Baker, Clay Edwards, Andy Garrigue at [www.hohnerusa.com](#) & [www.hohner.eu](#). Magnus Gullberg, Mattias Bogefors, Mikael & Ulrika Bäckman, Stephan Dafgård and the gang of Swedish blues harp mafia. [www.wengerna.com/luggage](#) for their great bags!