

TEENY TUCKER

Nominated for 2008 BBMA Female Blues Artist of the Year



TEENY TUCKER

2008 ACOLADES * HIGHLIGHTS
FESTIVAL REVIEWS * CD REVIEWS

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TEENY TWO BIG Ms REVIEW MARCH 2008

By Fritz the Nite Owl - WJZA 103.5FM/104.3FM

Teeny Tucker: Two Big M's (TeBo Records)

Teeny, a Central Ohio resident, is a rising star in the international world of blues. Her professional career started in 1996 with a crowd-pleasing appearance at the famed Apollo Theatre, followed by outstanding performances at major blues festivals, nationally and internationally, overwhelmingly praised by both critics and audiences.

She was "born to the blues." Her father was the renowned blues-singer-pianist-composer Tommy Tucker who wrote and first recorded "High Heel Sneakers," a pop-classic that's been performed by Elvis, the Beatles, the Stones, and even Zsa Zsa Gabor, to name some of the over-200-plus-versions produced.

On this, her third CD, Tucker wrote the title track, which she performs both in song and spoken word. The lyrics capsulize the careers of Mama and Maybelle, who "never won a Grammy, never went Gold" and had "hits which someone else stole." **Teeny is earthy, soulful, sincere,** superbly supported by background singers Mary Lusco-Ashley, Paula Brown, and Jackie Tate.

Her "Hound Dog" is slower, raunchier, and more ironic than the Elvis version and features a wailing harmonica solo by David Gastel. "Unlucky Girl," one of the five Thornton compositions in the set, is a briskly moving tune that showcases Teeny's big voice and grasp of rasp. She slows down for "Bumble Bee" and evokes all the not-too-subtle nuances of the humorous double-meaning lyrics of the now-gone lover who "got the best ol' stinger of anybody I ever seen."

On "Whole Lotta Shakin'," she easily matches the excitement generated by Jerry Lee Lewis, but without Lee's excessive pounding. Her "easy now" section of the song is one of the best I've ever heard, subtle, sexy, swingin' – a dynamic contrast to the uptempo flash which dominates the song.

Maybelle's rousing "Rockhouse" demonstrates her confidence and high spirits, balanced nicely by the medium-tempoed "Ramblin' Blues," in which she easily portrays the woman who's movin' on from a man with "low down dirty ways."

Teeny's terrific on every track, as are background singers and musicians guitarist **Robert Hughes**, bass-guitarist **Robert Blackburn**, keyboards and B-3-driver **Vernon Hairston**, **David Gastel** on harmonica, alternating drummers **Jeff Peters** and **Tom Sawyer**, and tambourine-shaker **Mary Lusco-Ashley**.

You'll go a long time before you hear a better set than this. For more information on Tucker, go to www.teenytucker.com. 'Tis well worth the browse.

Teeny Tucker - Nominated for the 2008 Best Female Blues Artist by BluesBlast

2008 BLUES BLAST MUSIC AWARDS - Announced!



Best Female Blues Artist Nominations

1. Koko Taylor
2. Teeny Tucker
3. Dianna Greenleaf
4. Betty Harris
5. Betye LaVette

For Immediate Release:

TEENY TUCKER HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR THE 2008 "BEST FEMALE BLUES ARTIST OF THE YEAR. The highly respected Blues Blast e-zine, which is an important and esteemed Blues recourse, has just announced the nominees for "Blues Artists of the Year." THE BLUES BLAST announced that **Teeny Tucker** has been nominated for the "Best Female Blues Artist" award. Other nominees in the "Best Female Blues Artist" category are Koko Taylor, Dianna Greenleaf, Betty Harris, and Betye LaVette. The awards will be based on fan voting, which begins on the **IllinoisBlues.com** website on July 14th.

TEENY TUCKER LIVING BLUES REVIEW 2008

Two Big M's – TeBo Records – www.livingblues.com

April 2008 Issue #195-Vol.39. #2



Vocalist **Teeny Tucker**, the blues-singing daughter of Tommy “Hi Heel Sneakers” Tucker, has set a difficult task for herself this time out: a tribute to Big Mama Thornton and Big Maybelle, consisting mostly of material associated with those two formidable blues foremothers.

In the past, Tucker’s genteel enunciation and almost too perfect pitch have sometimes inhibited her ability to put forth convincing down-and –dirty blues. **This time around, though, she sounds as if she’s imbibed a near lethal dose of boogie juice.** From her first roof-rattling shriek on *Hound Dog*, she proclaims herself ready and able to get as funky as the material requires. She delivers an appropriately overheated take on *Ramblin’ Blues*, a late-‘50’s Maybelle offering patterned closely after *Key To The Highway*, on Thornton’s *Sassy Mama* she summons a delightful combination of juke-joint rawness and uptown panache, and her voice packs a punch as potent as the ones Thornton herself was reputed to be able to deliver with her fists when the occasion arose.

Whole Lotta Shakin’ sounds almost as subversively ebullient and Eros-drenched here as it did when Maybelle had her hit with it in 1955. *Heavy Load*, a song Thornton co-wrote with Fred McDowell and recorded along with him on a session in London in 1965, is remixed to sound like a vintage 78-an effect that usually sounds self-conscious and arch. Somehow, though, it works here. Tucker’s plaintive, understated vocal delivery effectively mines the desolation of the lyric theme, and guitarist Robert Hughes contributes some impeccable McDowell-style fretwork.

By invoking the spirits of two of the great ladies of the blues, Teeny Tucker seems to have imbued her own spirit with new-found grit and depth, while also summoning an ease of expression that has sometimes eluded her in the past. The disc sounds like the beginning of **Tucker’s emergence into the front line of contemporary blueswomen.**

-David Whiteis

TEENY ILLINOIS BLUES BLAST CD REVIEW 2008

BLUES BLAST

All news **BLUES** in the US!

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Magazine

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IllinoisBlues.com

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Teeny Tucker
Two Big M's

www.teenytucker.com

TeBo Records

By **Ben Cox**
Run Time: 30:50



Imagine two of the most infamous female blues singers of all time jammed together into one disc, sprinkle in a little bit of a Memphis gospel icon, add some male blues royalty on top of that and you have the ingredients for Teeny Tucker's latest album "Two Big M's."

The two infamous blues singers are Big Maybelle and Big Mama Thornton, to whom the album is dedicated to and from whom most of the songs on this disc come from. The Memphis gospel icon I speak of is Mavis Staples, whom Tucker's voice instantly reminded me of and brought to my mind, especially her younger days on Stax when the Staples Singers hadn't quite crossed over to mainstream yet, and the male blues royalty I speak of is Teeny's father Tommy Tucker.

Teeny has been in the international blues limelight since her debut at the Apollo in 1996. Teeny went on to form a blues band with 2006 IBC winner Sean Carney and subsequently finished in the Top 3 for three straight years before Carney broke away to his own band and success a few years ago. Teeny has since recruited a new guitar player and musical partner in Robert Hughes and beginning to forge her own way with this current disc that's sure to be a favorite of 2008.

Teeny's vocals blast loud and clear into a sassy gospel-tinged blues singer with the commonly overdone "Hound Dog" on track one, the signature of Big Mama Thornton's catalog. However, with the spare and tight arrangement and Teeny's sassy but pure vocal

gift, the song is anything but tired. Teeny is one of the few gifted artists who can channel the feel of an artist she's covering but still calling the songs her own. My personal favorite is the innuendo-laced "Bumble Bee" again from Thornton's catalog. David Gastel adds some great acoustic harmonica rhythm playing as well as some accentuated and abrupt solos here and there, but never over the top and never fancy, just some good ol' straight ahead blues.

Another song that will probably be immediately snatched up by radio is the infamous "Whole Lotta Shakin'," which many know as a Jerry Lee Lewis signature. However, this is no Jerry Lee Lewis tribute and it sure isn't a rock n roll album, either. Teeny & Co. break it down with a classic R&B almost Texas shuffle with some brilliant piano work by Vernon Hairston. Also, complimentary throughout the album is Robert Hughes less is more approach to the guitar. Never one to burn brighter than Teeny but he's not a shabby compliment to her at all. In fact, Hughes chicken pecks around accents to Teeny's vocals is what blues guitar should be about. Solos are swiftly in mood and lushly steeped in the tradition that these songs come forth from. In fact, Hughes reminds me of the young Buddy Guy in some parts from those Muddy Waters Band sessions that Big Mama Thornton recorded some of her more infamous sides.

With most of the tracks not running more than three and a half minutes, you might feel that the disc is here and then its gone. Meaning that you'll probably be giving it more than one spin in your car or CD player trying to go back and find the little things you liked but missed the first time around. And, it's just another tip of the hat to minimal arrangements allowing the songs and the musicianship not fall into the trap of being so relaxed that they become lazy. In fact, it makes the disk and those playing on it more brilliant and unbelievable by capturing the sound and feel and more importantly the groove in those three or so minutes. If you love traditional blues with a touch of the contemporary or a bit of an update, I highly recommend this disc to you.

Ben Cox is a Blues Songwriter, Musician, DJ and Journalist.

TEENY 2008 REVIEWS

Teeny Tucker, Two Big M's 

TeBo Records, keine Bestellnummer

After eight years of permanent touring, some bad luck with false friends and an almost three years' break Teeny Tucker now reports back to the Blues scene with her third CD, and that's good news.

The Two Big M's, these are Big Mama Thornton and Big Maybelle, and Teeny took twelve months time to prepare this homage to the legendary idols. Surrounded by a solid, newly assembled band, she dares titles like "Hound Dog", "Bumble Bee", "Saint Louis Blues" and "Sassy Mama".

As a singer Teeny has grown and matured. Teeny also convinces as a shouter and no doubt delivers **her best album so far**.

TEENY POCONOS BLUES FESTIVAL REVIEW 2008

The 17th Annual [Pocono Blues Festival](#) avoided the threatening thunderstorms and provided visitors with some of the best of the blues.

Friday, July 25th began with a triple threat of serious blues acts that would normally warrant their own festival.

The middle act on Friday night was the daughter of the late blues legend, [Tommy Tucker](#). **Teeny Tucker has surely made her own name in the business over the last few years.**

Supporting her new CD, "Two Big M's," a tribute to Big Mama Thornton and Big Maybelle. Teeny opened her set with a great rendition of the Big Mama Thornton standard, "Hound Dog." What followed was more of Teeny's powerful voice. Tucker doesn't work alone, she has a good supporting cast, great backup singers and a top notch band that worked through standards like "Whole Lotta Shakin'" and Dylan's "You Got To Serve Somebody."

The only problem with [Ms. Tucker's](#) set was that it was too short!

Doc's Juke Joint
Greg "Doc" Lefebvre

THOMAS GARRETT • Bulletin Senior Writer • September 11, 2008



SPRINGFIELD, Mo. —A little rain didn't deter blues fans as they enjoyed the music of the Teeny Tucker Band at the Greater Ozarks Blues Festival.

Two audience favorites were **Teeny Tucker** and J.J. Grey & Mofro. Tucker is the daughter of Tommy Tucker, best known for his 1960s hit "High Heel Sneakers." When she took the stage, **there was no doubt the audience was in the presence of a future blues queen.** Tucker started her set with a rousing version of Big Mama Thornton's "Hound Dog" and didn't let up throughout her performance. Several of her numbers were from her CD "Two Big M's," a tribute to Big Mama and Big Maybelle, and she did both of the pioneer performers honor with her performance.

TEENY GREAT REVIEW COMMENTS POCONOS 2008

This festival was great (again) ... many of the highlights for me were in the tent stage: Friday night performers included **Teeny Tucker who is a powerhouse singer and a commanding on-stage presence...** I look forward to this event all year long, and it never disappoints.

After spending a year in research and development of the "Two Big M's" project, Teeny sees this CD as a "labor of love". The key number, in my opinion, is Big Mama Thornton's *Unlucky Girl*. Teeny does a great job with this Jack Dupre-Big Mama penned song. However, Fessa John Hook prefers *Sassy Mama*.

You also do not want to overlook her take on *Hound Dog* and *Whole Lotta Shaking*. **Teeny possesses that rare vocal quality which can effectively deliver most any type of music style. Thankfully, her personal choice was to bring us the Blues.** Sit back and relax, or get up and dance and prepare yourself for the TeenyTucker experience.

BELGIUM CD REVIEW (Roughly translated)

TEENY TUCKER TWO BIG M's

23/February/2008 14.47 stored in: [CD-REVIEWS](#)

Tribute of the beautiful Teeny to two big blueswomen.

Teeny brings with music of Big Mama Thornton and Big Maybelle. Teeny have to a very pleasant voice to listen. Her voice is a mix on the border of sober Janis Joplin with Etta James.

On the Guitar we find Robert Hughes who is assisted on the bass by Robert Blackburn. On the kettles we get two drummers: Jeff peters and Tom Sawyer. All keyboards are served by Vernon Hairston. David Gastel presides on Blues Harp.

Together they deliver a CD to move you.

The numbers which kept up me best were 'Rockhouse', 'Hounddog' but other numbers also a lot of because **this cd swings!** You cannot continue sit still.

More information: www.teenytucker.com

Alfons Maes **1/2 (Four and a half of five stars)**

TEENY TUCKER CD RANKED IN 25 BEST NEW 2008 RELEASES

For Immediate Release: Bob Davis of the highly regarded Soul Patrol, has released his list of the very best CD music (listed in rank order) released thus far in 2008. Soul Patrol has ranked the critically acclaimed TEENY TUCKER CD "TWO BIG M's, in the 15th spot on his "Top 25" list.



SPN: 2008 Best Albums, 2008 Best Singles, Soul-Patrol Radio Top 20 Shows, Chuck D, Gerald Alston, Marcus Miller, Victor Wooten, Conya Doss, Denise LaSalle, James Hunter, Chante Moore, Hill St Soul, April Hill, Rose Stone, Bob Baldwin, Maceo Parker, Stan Mosley, Global Noize, Renaissance, Diplomats Of Solid Sound, Angel, Chip Shelton, **Teeny Tucker**, Lockboxx, Eric Daniel, Vince Seneri, Norman Kelsey, Cracked Ice

2008 BEST NEW RELEASES: (In order of ranking)

1. Global Noize - "Global Noize "
2. Renaissance - "Meet Me On The Corner"
3. James Hunter - "The Hard Way"
4. Denise LaSalle - "Pay Before You Pump"
5. Victor Wooten - "Palmystery"
6. Chante Moore - "Love the Woman"
7. Stan Mosley - "Man Up"
8. Chuck D & the Banned (Featuring Kyle Jason) - "Tribb To JB"
9. Gerald Alston - "Sings Sam Cooke (Featuring Gerald Albright)"
10. Conya Doss - "Still"
11. Diplomats Of Solid Sound featuring The Diplomettes
12. Angel - "Nu Soul Stew"
13. Chip Shelton - "Imbued With Memories"
14. Marcus Miller - "Marcus"
15. **Teeny Tucker - "Two Big M's"**

TEENY TUCKER CD NUMBER ONE SMOKESTACK LIGHTNING

Smokestack Lightnin's Top Ten Blues CDs

PLAYLIST: Smokestack Lightnin' on WUCF, 89.9FM, Orlando, Florida, 8/9/08, 8-11pm



- #10 [Super Chikan](#)/Cryin' About The Blues/Some Mo' Chikan/Vizztone
- #9 [Byther Smith](#)/Blues On The Moon/Blues On The Moon/Delmark
- #8 [Johnny Rawls](#)/Red Cadillac/Red Cadillac/Catfood
- #7 [Walter Trout](#)/Can't Have It All/The Outsider/Provogue
- #6 [Watermelon Slim](#)/Call My Job/No Paid Holidays/Northern Blues
- #5 [Jackie Payne](#) & [Steve Edmonson](#)/Your Good Thing/Overnight Sensation/Delta Groove
- #4 [Shawn Kellerman](#)/Wash My Back/Land Of 1000 Dreams/Flaming Cheese
- #3 Mick Hucknall/Ain't That Lovin' You?/Tribute To Bobby/ATCO
- #2 [Willie Big Eyes Smith](#)/Ain't That A Shame?/Born In Arkansas/Big Eye
- #1 [Teeny Tucker](#)/Ramblin' Blues/The Two Big Ms/Te Bo

TEENY MONTEREY DOROTHY HILL 2008 GREAT REVIEW

Teeny Tucker, was born into the blues as the daughter of the late bluesman Tommy (Hi-Heel Sneakers) Tucker. Her exceptional band with back-up vocalists kept things lively as Tucker weaved through her repertoire of soul, blues and R&B. Her rendition of "I'd Rather Go Blind" was the genuine thing -- potently heartfelt. Her colorful outfit was only matched by her charismatic personality for what was a commanding performance.

Dorothy Hill 2008 – Blues Arts Journal



Teeny Tucker is amazing, creative, wild, unique and the Ultimate Blues stylist!

' Tucker's emergence into the front line of contemporary blueswomen' - **Living Blues**
' Teeny's best vocals to date on record ' - **Bruce Iglauer** - Alligator Records-
' Two Big M's is sure to be a favorite in 2008 ' - **Illinois Blues Review** -
' Best CD to cross my desk in a long time' - **Al Lundy** - Highway Blues -
Blessed with 'world-class talent' - **Columbus Monthly** -

An exciting NEW CD from
Teeny Tucker - "Two Big M's"
Available at CD Baby (cdbaby.com)
and www.teenytucker.com



Unique!

Wow!

**Oozes
Blues!**



Booking/Contact: Robert Hughes - Email: roberthughes@ameritech.net - 614.488.2769

TEENY MAGIC REVIEW POCONOS SEPT 26 2008

By Rob Clark – Blues Source

www.bluessource.com

July 25-26-27, 2008
17th Annual Pocono Blues Festival
Big Boulder Resort
Pocono Mountains, PA

Friday Night July 25, 2008

Re: Teeny Tucker Band

The blues provides me with a catalyst to achieve different emotions and moods. As with life, I try to stay open for these Magical Experiences. These gifts are Spiritual in nature, and what a gift it was when this beautiful lady from Ohio took the stage. This **true diva** wasted no time in letting us know we have a new mama, she ain't Big she is Teeny. Teeny Tucker paid tribute to the great woman of blues: past and present. Teeny put on a show that set the bar high for everyone. I had my doubts whether anyone could match her intensity and spirit. She and her band were so tight. **She brought chills to my spine and tears to my eyes** when she did Bob Dylan's "Serve Somebody". Even though they probably did not notice, she had the most devout atheist singing "Serve Him". As Teeny says she must have been "anointed".

Before I forget, check out our podcast interview with Teeny Tucker. Regretfully, we didn't keep the tape rolling. The time we spent after the interview was tremendous. What a great person. The blues has a bright future with artists of this caliber among its ranks. **If you get a chance to see her or buy her CD, you will not be disappointed. In fact she is on my must see again list.** Plus she and her band could be seen the enjoying the other acts throughout the festival. That is what I love to see.

Rob Clark
Blues Source

TEENY STANDING OVATION 2008 OZARKS FESTIVAL

Teeny Tucker:

“Teeny Tucker, daughter of bluesman Tommy Tucker, smiles at the audience. – Teeny's performance received a standing ovation that brought her back to the stage for a lengthy encore. This was the ONLY standing ovation at the 2008 Ozarks Blues Festival!”

NOTE: The above text/caption appeared under an image in the Baxter Bulletin.

"Baxter Bulletin" Newspaper - Greater Ozarks Blues Festival