

Earwig Music Company, Inc.® and Nwafor Management are proud to present

A Taste of Honey & Frute

HONEYBOY EDWARDS

Mississippi Delta blues guitar master and renowned oral historian

and

FRUTELAND JACKSON

Singer, songwriter, storyteller, and blues educator

Two unique artists together in concert for the first time

This duo represents the melding of itinerant blues musician Honeyboy Edwards' first-hand musical experiences with the experiences and insights of Fruteland Jackson, a third-generation Mississippi blues player.

Honeyboy's career spans over six decades: the entire period of recorded blues. Fruteland is one of the few young African-American blues guitarists who is dedicated to performing acoustic blues in its various forms. He is working to preserve and perpetuate the historical, cultural, and musical significance of the uniquely American art form called the blues.

These two outstanding musicians share the essence of the blues experience with audiences on a personal level through a combination of performance, discussion, and workshop. Depending on the interests, setting, and time constraints of a particular audience, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Jackson demonstrate various guitar and vocal styles, aspects and contexts of the music, as well as the choices musicians made in order to play the blues.



David Honeyboy Edwards (left) and Fruteland Jackson (right)

PHOTO: PAUL NAVRIN/PHOTO RESERVE

These dynamic artists perform their unique styles separately and together.

The union of these two stellar musicians into one performance shows the power and tenacity of the blues as an actual living force, and provides a vehicle for the music, in all its aspects, to be transmitted from one generation to the next. In one show, audiences gain a broad overview of the evolution of the blues while being musically entertained.

Honeyboy Edwards is known as a "walking jukebox" or songster. He incorporates snatches of songs and guitar styles from different regions and periods

to make up his own. He is also renowned for his near-total recall of events, places, and blues personalities encountered in his entire life.

After learning the basics of guitar from his father, Honeyboy set out on the road at age 17 under the tutelage of blues guitar wizard Big Joe Williams. He learned the ropes of "hustling a living" from Joe before setting out on his own musical odyssey that took him across thirteen states between 1932 and 1956. Since then, Mr. Edwards has toured worldwide and recorded on

over a dozen labels in both solo and band contexts.

Though he has resided in Chicago since 1956, Mr. Edwards' style remains firmly rooted in the Mississippi Delta. His most recent recording, *Delta Bluesman*, a retrospective of his sixty-year repertoire and career, is available on the Earwig record label.

Fruteland Jackson is a singer/songwriter who first heard the blues played by family members in Mississippi during the 1950s as a small child. This was a period when the music was evolving from a rural, acoustic sound (played solo and

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Frutelnd took up the guitar in earnest during his teen years, first getting into non-blues forms of music before dedicating himself back to the blues roots of popular music. His material

gospel standards.

In addition to performing in concert and at folk and blues festivals, Mr. Jackson is especially concerned about passing the blues history on to school children and perpetuating the acoustic,

sense) and songster traditions. He conducts lectures and performances at elementary and secondary schools and college campuses nationwide. His recordings of traditional tunes and ones drawn from his life are available on It Records.



David Honeyboy Edwards

PHOTO: CEDRIC CHATTERLEY

Like a living music encyclopedia, David "Honeyboy" Edwards provides a link between the rural acoustic blues of the '30s and the electric blues of more recent times.... But this 78-year-old bluesman is no museum piece.

—Jeff Johnson, *Chicago Sun-Times*

A blues survivor whose career spans seven decades, Honeyboy's life... "reads like a distillation of the classic blues legends."

—Guitar World

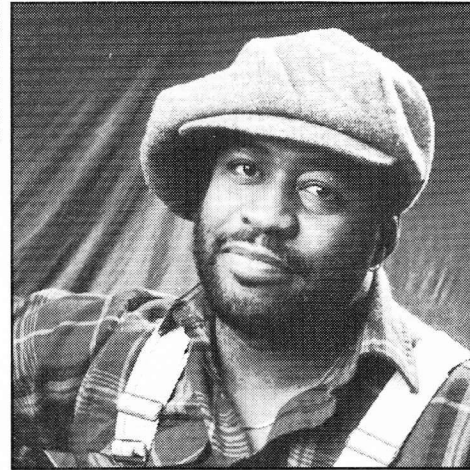
The music of David "Honeyboy" Edwards is perhaps the purest traditional Delta blues still played in Chicago.... Honeyboy built an early reputation as one of Chicago's finest slide guitarists, and his voice remains imbued with the rapid tremolo of southern folk blues and field hollers.... solo, or with sidemen alert and sensitive enough to follow his flights of

fancy, he can still provide an audience with a genuine, unselfconscious journey deep into one of the richest musical traditions in America.

—David Whiteis, *Chicago Reader*

What Honeyboy Edwards does is spin tales and sing the blues.... some deep soul-stirring that is not to be denied.

—Mike Lackey, *The Lima News*



Frutelnd Jackson

PHOTO: PAUL NAIKIN/PHOTO RESERVE

Professionally, let me say that your "performance" (or whatever you call such a unique presentation) was as good a one hour exploration of the cultural and historical origins of the blues as I have ever heard.

—Dr. Peter R. Aschoff,
Center for the
Study of Southern Culture,
University of Mississippi

Mr. Jackson's performance was exhilarating, as he illustrated the progression of blues to present day through lecture, film slides, and songs.... I highly recommend Mr. Frutelnd Jackson's powerful and thought-provoking performance.

—Romell Murden,
Assistant to the Dean of Instruction,
Wilbur Wright College

Mr. Frutelnd Jackson gave a unique performance that held our audiences spellbound and asking for more.... Here is a Bluesman that gives such intensity in his stage performance and such communication with his audience that is both exciting and thoughtful to experience. I stress the word, EXPERIENCE, for one has to experience him live, as will all great Bluesmen, to receive the special EXPERIENCE he gives.

—Robert (Bob) Klinkenberg,
WBNI FM89.1

Jackson infuses his music with true belief and an almost desperate sincerity... there's something about the naked intensity he brings to this material that remains with you long after you've forgotten any of his technical limitations.

—David Whiteis, *Chicago Reader*

Mr. Frutelnd Jackson, Blues Revivalist, is a uniquely talented musician, singer, and storyteller. He revived the "Blues" in me as well as our audience. His knowledge and articulation of the blues combined with his performance dictated a powerful edict of blues culture.

—Jeannette M. Williams, Assistant Dean
of Students, Kennedy-King College

For booking information, contact:

Mike Beck, Ario Professional Artists
PO Box 60088, Chicago, IL 60660
(312) 262-1191

**For Honeyboy Edwards' records
and management, contact:**

Michael Frank, Earwig Music Company, Inc.®
1818 W. Pratt Blvd., Chicago, IL 60626
(312) 262-0278

**For Frutelnd Jackson records
and management, contact:**

Karen Nwafor, Nwafor Management/It Records
3533 S. Calumet Ave., Chicago, IL 60653
(312) 225-2865