



In another installment of our series

revisiting tunes we put out a while back, your song-of-the-month for April, Jelly Roll's *Jungle Blues*, can also be heard on our 2005 CD, "Panoramaland."

You probably already know that Jelly Roll Morton (né Ferdinand LaMothe), was a Creole pianist and composer born in New Orleans, the self-professed "Inventor of Jazz." He grew up in that red house on the downtown riverside corner of Frenchmen and N Robertson. Sometimes when I'm stuck in the perpetual clusterf*ck trying to make a left from

Elysian Fields onto N Claiborne, I turn on Robertson instead, go right on Frenchmen, give thanks to Mr. Jelly, then dodge the cars zooming down off the I-10 to hang a left on Claiborne, get on the ramp and head back uptown.

I haven't found much info online about *Jungle Blues*, so I'll just tell you what I like about it. Apart from the intro and coda, the entire tune marches onward over one chord, thereby depending on other musical elements besides the harmony to tell its story. In Jelly Roll's recording, as well as our 2005 version and today's offering, the tune opens with a fanfare followed by a 12 bar exposition from the trombone (played here by Charlie) in a call and response with a very noisy "China" cymbal. In fact, Doug chose to explore the role of the cymbals, using a little splashy one in conversation with Aurora on alto sax then employing both throughout to comment further on the dialogue.

There are other conversations going on in this one, including a two-way thing between Simon on accordion and Mark on banjo. Other variations in texture include a few tutti shouts juxtaposed by ensemble counterpoint jam-ups and a string of solo breaks started by Matt on the tuba who otherwise holds down the root and fifth of that single E-flat chord.

We hope you enjoy *Jungle Blues* and that it puts a little extra bounce in your step this month. Thanks as always for your support. We couldn't do this without you!

Yours,

Panorama Jazz Band / Panorama BRASS Band

New Orleans, LA

Credits:

Panorama Jazz Band

Ben Schenck - Clarinet

Aurora Nealand - Alto Saxophone

Charlie Halloran – Trombone

Simon Moushabeck - Accordion

Mark Rubin - Tenor Banjo

Matt Perrine - Tuba

Doug Garrison - Drum Set

Music by Ferdinand "Jelly Roll" Morton / MPL MUSIC PUBLISHING, INC. (OBO EDWIN H. MORRIS & CO)

Arranged by Farrell, Schenck, Nealand, Halloran, Moushabeck, Rubin, Perrine, Garrison

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