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## CD Reviewed In Issue #4

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### DAVE KEYES

#### *Right Here, Right Now*

DKR

Like David Egan in Louisiana, keyboardist-singer-songwriter Dave Keyes has blessed us with an all-original album of songs that takes contemporary blues and blues-rock in new lyrical and compositional directions. If the five minute instrumental “Shadow Boogie” doesn’t blow you away, perhaps a visit to your cardiologist is in order. Like Egan’s self-titled album, there’s hardly a weak track on *Right Here, Right Now*. Keyes, based in Rockland County, N.Y., just about an hour north of Manhattan, has done some stellar session work through the years, accompanying people like Odetta, Ruth Brown, and Marie Knight, so if anyone deserves a wider audience leading bands under his own name, Keyes is one of them. This album was nominated in 2014 by the Blues Foundation for Best Self-Produced

album, and Keyes is a 2014 Blues Music Award nominee as Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year Award. It’s easy to see why: great songs, great, soul-filled vocals, and brilliant piano playing chops are demonstrated throughout.

Keyes is accompanied by a small who’s-who of New York session musicians, including the omnipresent Popa Chubby as well as fellow guitarists Woody Mann and George Naha, bassist Sue Williams, and drummer Frank Pagano. There is one co-write “Who Stole The Baby Jesus” with vocalist Diane Cricchio, but Keyes and his varying groups shine on the opener “Here She Comes Again,” “Never Say Goodbye” “Delta Queen,” and the humor-filled closer, “Wronged Man Blues.”

This album is worth picking up just on the genius you can hear going on with “Shadow Boogie.” Yet Keyes shows us his ability as singer-songwriter, and pianist to handle a variety of sub-styles within the realm of boogie-woogie, blues and blues-rock.

– Richard J. Skelly