THE BLUESMAN

٤

.

ŀ

The Musical Heritage of Black Men and Women in the Americas Julio Finn

Illustrations by Willa Woolston

١

INTERLINK BOOKS An imprint of Interlink Publishing Group, Inc. NEW YORK

Contents

Introduction 1

Origins: What is the Blues? 3

Africana Americana 5

Haiti: The Invisible Religion 7

Voodoo Defined as a Religion 15 God's Basement 18 Praised be the Lord 21 Black Power in the Black House 27

Jamaica: My Name is Obeah 39 Rastafarian Sunrise 47

Cuba: The House of Images 57

The Rolling Stones 59 Black Religion – White Faces 63 The Secret Society of Naniguismo 66 The Devil is a Smart Fellow 68

Brazil: Obatala in the Backlands 71

'We Had Palmares!' 73 Candomblé 76 The Drum 81 The Dance 89

Hoodoo on the Bayous 99

The Man without a Name 101 What the Man without a Name Brought with Him 106 The Voodoo Queen of New Orleans 111 The Voodoo Ceremony 117 High John the Conqueroo 122 Wangas and Mojos 128 Hoodoo in Black American Folklore 133 The White Hoodoos 139 Hoodoo Man Blues 145

The Saints and the Hoodoos 151

Hoodooing the Hoodoo Man 153 The White Shepherd and the Black Sheep 155 The Rise of the Black Church 164 Spirituals: The Sacred Metaphor 170 Dealin' with the Devil 177

The Initiations 185

Blue Hoodoo Man Blues 187 Can't You Hear Me when I Call? 190 The Bluesman as Artist 192 My Black Name 193 The Road 198 The Load 200 Jookin' the Blues 202 How the Bluesman Casts His Spell 207 Robert Johnson at the Crossroads 210 Legba: Master of the Crossroads 215 Magic, Music and Possession 217 Transculturation: Black and White Blues 223 The Blue Princess 230 The Bluesman's Greatest Song 232

> Glossary 233 Notes 237 Index 247