Audio Log: mj_interview_kimbrough_david_jr_audiolog

Interviewee: David Kimbrough Jr.

00:00-07:51

- He feels that the Hill Country Blues is different from the Delta Blues, he says that it has a “trance beat.” He thinks it was developed by older musicians like his father Junior Kimbrough and Charlie Feathers. Recollections on Charlie Feathers and how the music was formed.
- He feels that it is closer to African music than other forms of Blues, though he feels that the similarities are coincidental. David feels that the fife and drum band tradition is from Africa.

07:52-16:44

- David relates how his father and friends maintained their sound by staying in Mississippi. Listing of other Hill Country Blues artists that died unrecorded.
- David says that Holly Springs is isolated, that the citizens are fearful of outsiders. He thinks that the isolation is one reason that made the music unique. He says that the White citizens enjoy the music as much as Black audiences.
- David talks about the time he was arrested and the specifics of his case, he says he was persuaded to accept house arrest.

16:45-28:02

- He feels that even if he had grown up in the Delta, he would have been able to become a musician.
- He explains that the club scene is different from the juke joint scene. He explains how the juke joint tradition took off in these communities.
- He doesn’t think his father’s music was understood until the 1990’s, hence the late popularity. He thinks because the music was too “dirty” to be recognized by the record companies. He thinks the bold nature of the music was due to its isolation.
- He doesn’t feel that Hill Country Blues absolutely needed Punk rock, but that it did help greatly.

28:03-40:45

- He feels that groups like the Black Keys and North Mississippi Allstars are a positive more than they are negative, because they help expose and share his father’s music. He does say that he thinks that some artists have ignored them wrongfully. He talks about other groups that have covered his father’s songs.
• He claims to know many songs by his father that were never recorded and that he plans to record them.

40:46-48:20

• He says that he had ignored his father’s music at first, but when he had heard how popular it became, he decided to work with it. He says that he plays only slightly differently for White and Black audiences. He states that his music was never Hill Country Blues, though his music is inspired by it.

48:21-57:25

• He feels that melding with other styles is necessary for the future of Hill Country Blues and that it is thriving.
• Talk about his brothers and other artists and about what styles of music that they play.

57:26-1:05:49

• He thinks how Fat Possum treated his father was positive, but that they have unfairly treated his family.
• He says that his father tried to teach him how to play, but he later on figured out his father’s sound.
• He feels that Blues tourism is probably a positive thing.