

## Billy Bop Review by Mr. Blue Boogie

Johnny Hawthorn : Death & Taxes - CD;RAF1986;Abes  
Album Kindly submitted by [Hemifran](#)

Style : Blues

Nine tracks, that all there is to the brand new album of Johnny Hawthorn! Nothing more nothing less, but these nine incredible rich tracks are for sure all you need to create a great album!

The sound on Death and Taxes is once of fiery blues loaded with catchy lyrics and ditto guitar riffs! Leading track "Punk in the street" is quite poppy compared to the rest of the album, but the second track "Death & Taxes" shows us what it is all about! "Bamboozled" is a great instrumental with lots of guitar picking that make you scream it out loud : This guitarist is on top of the map! "In My Time Of Dying" throws in some more guitar extravaganza and is the only cover on this album. This **Blind Willie Johnson** rendition is a real treat for the blues lovers as is "Cold Hearted Woman". Add to that the slide guitar on "Travelling Roadside Blues" and the eerie instrumental "St.Stephan's Green" and you have a perfect combination for a good album.

The roots music portrayed here on **Death & Taxes** is so diverse that it is a bit limiting to call this a blues record, but on the other hand it is the best way to describe this music. Johnny Hawthorn knows his classics and benefits a lot of this wisdom! Stealing without doubt a lot from many other artists, he is a true master in creating an unique mix of roots and blues topped with a lot of his own ingenuity. A truly remarkable album for sure.

*Mr Blue Boogie.*