

Photo © 2007 Bob Margolin



Jim Brock, Gaye, Mark Williams, Bob Margolin, Roddy Barnes

**GAYE ADEGBALOLA**

lead vocals  
acoustic guitar : 3, 10, 14, 16  
background vocal : 6

**BOB MARGOLIN**

electric guitar  
bass  
lead acoustic guitar

**RODDY BARNES**

piano

**JIM BROCK**

drums

**"THE TROJANS" 7**  
Bob Margolin • Roddy Barnes

**"THE GAYE-LETS" 5, 10, 13**  
Andra Faye • Resa Gibbs  
Kathy Douberly



The Gaye-Lets : Andra Faye, Resa, Kathy

Photo © 2006 Gina DeLuca



Gaye and Cleome

**RESA GIBBS**

duets : 2 and 10  
backing vocal : 6

**CLEOME**

poetry : 4  
duet : 15

**"THE FREDERICKSBURG FREEDOM SINGERS"**

Roddy Barnes • George Cowart • Leigh D'Lugos • Kathy Douberly  
Andra Faye • Resa Gibbs • Pat Holland • Valerie Hopson-Bell  
Fred Jerman • Chris Jones • Jackie Merritt • Suzanne Moe • Susan Spears



**CD800S**

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**LEGEND**

BLEED \_\_\_\_\_  
SAFETY \_\_\_\_\_  
TRIMLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
FOLD \_\_\_\_\_

**C**  
**M**  
**Y**  
**K**



**MY BLUES IS FOR ALL PEOPLE**

black • white / straight • queer  
 young • old / living • dying  
 dancing • crying / in love • heartbroken.  
 Love is love. Heartbreak is heartbreak.

**YET, MY BLUES IS PERSONAL**

“audio-biographical”, unique to my own  
 experiences, my own perceptions.  
 THESE BLUES ARE MINE.  
 WITHOUT SHAME.

**MY BLUES COMES IN ALL  
 FLAVORS, ALL SHADES**

New Orleans style • Jump Blues  
 Doo-Wop • Rhythm & Blues  
 Gospel-tinged • Chicago Old School  
 Piedmont • Delta • Classic.

As I seek to introduce people to this genre, I try to let them experience the depth and breadth of this musical form.

**MY BLUES IS FOR MY BLUES FAMILY**

for those who could not be as open as I am (Alberta, Bessie, Big Mama, and others) and for my contemporaries who still have a need to be closeted.

**MY BLUES HAS OFTEN BEEN MY SALVATION AND MY COMFORTING  
 COMPANION**

as I've journeyed a dark and difficult past while simultaneously  
 dancing in the light – with my life's blues soundtrack.

Drawn from the words of my friend, Barrelhouse Bonni:  
 THE BLUES GENTLY ROCK ME WHEN I **PRAY FOR PEACE.**  
 THE BLUES IGNITE ME WHEN I **WORK FOR JUSTICE.**  
 THE BLUES ELEVATE ME WHEN I **BOOGIE FOR SURVIVAL!**

May we all find **PEACE THROUGH MUSIC. 360°.**



**FROM BOB**



Photo © 2007 Pamela Work Margolin

It has been my honor, pleasure, and inspiration to work and play with Gaye on on this album. I've always admired her music and her trademark social and personal honesty. I first heard these songs and dozens more when Gaye sent them to show me what she was up to. I listened while driving through the mountains alone in foggy West Virginia at dawn in May 2007. I was stunned by the love, healing, tears, humor, and lust in her ambitious project. I see my job of co-producing as helping her fulfill her vision and I believe in her music and her mission. In the process of crafting arrangements, recording, and making musical decisions with Gaye, my love and respect grew. It's been moving and uplifting for me, and now I hope that Gaye's soulful gift will sing to your hearts. And some other body parts.

[www.bobmargolin.com](http://www.bobmargolin.com)

**THANK YOU FROM GAYE**

To Bob for creating the most magical blues ever. To Mark, engineer extraordinaire, for giving so much more than I ever hoped for. To all the musicians: Bob, Roddy, Jim, Andra, Resa, Kathy & Cleome, for bringing every whisper of an idea to powerful fruition. To Jeff, your talent, patience and fun always make for a great recording experience. To Ann, my eternal appreciation. To my mom, Gladys, and my son, Juno, for blessing my life every day. To Suzanne, my life's journey is complete because of you.

To all, including friends and fans who have supported the creation of this CD, you have also supported the cause of equality for all.

May the Spirit ever guide us as we seek to find **PEACE THROUGH MUSIC. 360°.**

**HOT TODDY MUSIC**  
**P.O. BOX 7142**  
**FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22404**  
**USA**

[www.adeqbalola.com](http://www.adeqbalola.com)

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**C**  
**M**  
**Y**  
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**Producers** Bob Margolin & Gaye Adegbalola

**Recording** Tracks 3, 8, 10, 11, 16 recorded in Bob's living room  
High Point, NC • November 2007

Tracks 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15 recorded at The Kudzu Ranch  
Mebane, NC • December 2007

All Gaye-Lets background vocals, all duets, and tracks 14 & 17  
recorded at Wally Cleaver's Studio • Fredericksburg, VA • Jan. 2008

Track 18 recorded and mixed at Wally Cleaver's Studio  
Fredericksburg, VA • May 2007

**Engineering** All Recordings in NC Engineered by Mark Williams

All Recordings in VA Engineered by Jeff Covert

**Mixing** Mark Williams (www.mixermark.com) at the Foam Booth,  
Charlotte, NC

**Mastering** Dave Harris, Studio B Mastering, Charlotte, NC

**Art** Suzanne Moe (www.sumoe.com)  
Graphic Design,  
Portrait photography of Gaye,  
Mosaics & Tattoos

**Personal Management** 540.371.4251  
management@adegbalola.com

**Label Group**



www.vizztone.com



Suzanne & Gaye

Photo © 2008 Lyle & Ruth Moe

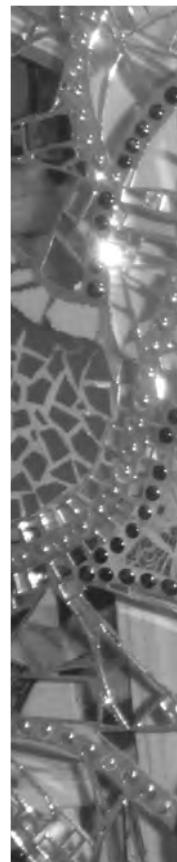
## ALL SONGS WRITTEN BY GAYE ADEGBALOLA

(Hot Toddy Music, ASCAP) unless otherwise noted:

01. **QUEER BLUES** • 3:03
02. **HONEST I DO** *duet with Resa Gibbs* • 4:04  
(J. Reed & E. Abner, Jr, Conrad Music, Seeds of Reed Music, BMI)
03. **HUNGRY WOMAN'S BLUES** • 4:18
04. **THE GREAT PRETENDER** *with poetry by Cleome* • 4:46  
(B. Ram, Southern Music Publishing Co. OBO Panther Music Corp., ASCAP)
05. **MEET ME WITH YOUR BLACK DRAWERS ON** *with The Gaye-Lets*  
• 4:22 (J. and J. Cheatham, Jim Jean Music, Edson Publishing Co., ASCAP)
06. **BOY IN THE BOAT** *background vocals: Resa Gibbs & Gaye* • 3:20
07. **BAREBACK RIDER** *with The Trojans* • 4:02
08. **HOLD MY HAND, BABY** • 4:25
09. **IT HURTS ME TOO** • 3:33  
(M. London, Conrad Music, Bug Music OBO Lonmel Publishing Inc., BMI)
10. **LYING PREACHER BLUES** *w/ The Gaye-Lets + Resa Gibbs duet* • 3:48
11. **TWISTED MIND BLUES** • 4:29
12. **TIPPIN' ON THE DOWN LOW** • 3:40
13. **HETERO TWINGES** *with The Gaye-Lets* • 3:28
14. **STEP PARENT BLUES** • 3:09  
(S. Moe & G. Adegbalola, Hot Toddy Music, ASCAP)
15. **LET IT BE ME** *duet with Cleome* • 4:17  
(G. Becaud, P. Delanoe & M. Curtis, Universal Music Corp., SDRM, ASCAP)
16. **DEJÀ VU BLUES** • 4:39

## BONUS TRACKS

17. **SPEECH** "Civil Rights vs. Queer Rights" • 6:38
18. **I AIN'T ASHAMED** *with The Fredericksburg Freedom Singers* • 3:24



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**SAFETY** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRIMLINE** \_\_\_\_\_

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**C**  
**M**  
**Y**  
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**OF THE THOUSANDS OF SONGS I KNOW, AND OF THE HUNDREDS I HAVE WRITTEN, I PRESENT THESE SELECTIONS TO BEST CONVEY "GAYE WITHOUT SHAME!"**

1. **QUEER BLUES** This is an "audio-biographical" capsule of my life. It has a New Orleans rhythm (think "lko-lko" or rather "Dyko-Dyko") and it clearly states my outlook in a memorable, sing-along chorus.

2. **HONEST I DO** Written by one of my favorite blues writers, Jimmy Reed, this is one of the simplest and most beautiful love songs presented here as a duet with Resa, another woman. Love is love! Please hold your partner close and dance to this one.

3. **HUNGRY WOMAN'S BLUES** As I started to play slide, a few originals came to mind and called for my fledgling efforts. So my part features the "Rollin' and Tumblin'" lick and Bob worked his magic around it. Lyrically, it's one of my favorite compositions.

4. **THE GREAT PRETENDER** The lyrics have been slightly tweaked to relate to the major issue faced by transgender people. Cleome's poetry clarifies the pain, and her Spanish brings it to an international arena.

5. **MEET ME WITH YOUR BLACK DRAWERS ON** I have been teaching blues vocals for many years. I always use this song with its 3 repeating lines in the chorus to teach phrasing. As I alter the phrasing in the chorus each time, the Gaye-Lets anchor the rhythm.

6. **BOY IN THE BOAT** I love doo-wops. Had to include one here. Clitorally speaking, back in the day, this special portion of the female anatomy was known as "the boy in the boat." I milked the metaphor.

7. **BAREBACK RIDER** This song is for the men. Riding bareback means having sex, usually casual sex, without protection. I try to deliver difficult advice in a humorous way. Again, I milked the metaphor.

8. **HOLD MY HAND, BABY** Death is part of life, yet it's often feared. We tend to fear that which is unknown. For AIDS victims, the fear of this transition is often compounded with guilt and fear of retribution. May we all have someone to hold our hands when we are afraid.

9. **IT HURTS ME TOO** Can one love any deeper? Can love be stated more clearly, more succinctly? One of the greatest blues tunes of all times, this message of unconditional love is universal.



"Cowboy" Gaye : 1954

Photo from family archives

10. **LYING PREACHER BLUES** Many preachers pass judgment on my life. They quote specific Bible passages when it's convenient. I hold a mirror for them to see other passages. The guitar picking is Piedmont style.

11. **TWISTED MIND BLUES** In the not-too-distant past, it was difficult to meet other queers. Consequently, many relationships moved around the same small community. This betrayal described here, unfortunately, was not unusual.

12. **TIPPIN' ON THE DOWN LOW** Many hypocrites are giving queers a bad name when their sneaky adventures are exposed. "Tippers" come from all backgrounds. This song is in the classic blues tradition (think 1920s).

13. **HETERO TWINGES** Although my orientation points me in one direction, it does not keep me from responding to a fine specimen of the other gender. Beauty is beauty. This is a jump-style blues.

14. **STEP PARENT** My partner, Suzanne, wrote the lyrics to this song based on her true experience. Many non-traditional families face this problem. The music has a Motown flavor.

15. **LET IT BE ME** This is one of my all time favorite songs. This version is based on Nina Simone's, sung with her brother. I had to present it as a duet with a woman, Cleome, whose voice weaves in and around mine. A new wedding song, perhaps?

16. **DEJÀ VU BLUES** I have lived with overt oppression all my life. This song summarizes my struggles. It is so very personal that I had to play it solo.

**BONUS TRACKS**

17. **SPEECH** I am often asked to deliver public presentations and facilitate workshops. This particular track was excerpted from a speech originally presented at Fredericksburg Pride Festival in 08/05.

18. **I AIN'T ASHAMED** A protest song which can be sung at Pride Festivals and at rallies for Civil Rights. An empowering anthem for anyone who might experience shame in their lives.

Photo © 2004 Barry Fitzgerald



Protesting HB-751 in Virginia

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