

FIONA BOYES



BOX
\$ DICE



Sincere thanks to the musicians who have joined me on stage during many travels around the world – and to all those audiences and wonderful people everywhere who support blues music. Thanks, as always, to The Preacher – my partner-in-crime! – and to our family for their love & support.

Fiona thanks
Maton Guitars:
www.maton.com.au and
Elixir Guitar Strings:
www.elixirstrings.com



A blues musician walked into a bar in Yackandandah...

The Star Hotel has been plying its trade since 1863, but the funky cigar box guitar hanging on the wall was only a few days old and proudly inscribed 'No 1' in Sharpie on the back.

In an uncharacteristic move, I took it off the wall and played it at my gig that night. While it proved to be a bit of a mongrel, there was something strangely compelling about this little junk yard dog of a guitar. I bought it and dubbed it the 'Box & Dice' – the beginning of an inspired run of new instrument acquisitions.

While experimenting with the cigar box guitar, using various small liquor bottles as makeshift slides, a very different and rare instrument came my way. A National Reso-lectric baritone guitar; custom built and one-off, it is beautifully finished with rich full low tones. There is only one other in existence, in the National factory collection in California. It is as 'up town' as the cigar box is 'down home'.

As I tried to work out what these instruments did, it whetted my appetite for a new project. The idea for this recording was born... a range of new songs showcasing these interesting new guitars, with the addition of a few classic songs from my touring repertoire played on my trusty, ever present Maton Mastersound electric.

Barely a week before my scheduled recording I happened to make a return visit to the quaint old gold mining town of Yackandandah, in rural Victoria, Australia. Cigar-box guitar maker Shayne Soall, from the tiny Oz Blues & Roots Music Store, greeted me with another new baby: a 4 stringer, with a faceplate featuring the iconic Aussie FB Holden car. Having no idea how to play it, I went into a creative frenzy. Two new songs were written in time to make this recording session!

Inspiration comes in many shapes... more stories about the songs and info about these and my other guitars can be found at www.fionaboyes.com



Juke Joint on Moses Lane

6 String 'Box & Dice' cigar box guitar,
National Reso-lectric baritone guitar & drums

I'm a Stranger Here

6 String 'Box & Dice' cigar box guitar

Walking Round Money

National Reso-lectric baritone guitar, double bass,
drums, frattoir & 'pocket full of loose coins' percussion

Smokestack Lightning

Maton Mastersound custom electric guitar,
bass drum, congas & foot tambourine

Louisiana

4 String 'FB Australian Classic' cigar box guitar,
bowed double bass, frattoir & bell

Black Mountain Blues

National Reso-lectric baritone guitar,
double bass & drums

Mama's Sanctified Amp

6 String 'Box & Dice' cigar box guitar, double bass,
drums & 'trashy cymbals' percussion

I Done Quit

6 String 'Box & Dice' cigar box guitar, double bass,
kick drum, chains & horse shoes

Walk With Me

National Reso-lectric baritone guitar

Tiny Pinch of Sin

4 String 'FB Australian Classic' cigar box guitar,
Maton Mastersound custom electric guitar, double bass,
drums & congas

Easy Baby

Maton Mastersound custom electric guitar,
double bass & drums

Musicians

Fiona Boyes cigar box guitars, baritone, electric guitar, vocals

Dean Addison double bass

Mark Grunden drums, percussion including frattoir,
coins, chains & horse shoes

Guitars

Maton Mastersound custom electric guitar www.maton.com.au

National Reso-lectric baritone www.nationalguitars.com

'Box & Dice' 6 string cigar box guitar

'FB Australian Classic' 4 string cigar box guitar

Cigar box guitars by **Shayne Soall**

Oz Blues and Roots Music Store, Yackandandah, Australia

Recording engineer **Colin Wynne**, Thirty Mill Studios

Produced by **Fiona Boyes**

Recorded and Mixed at Thirty Mill Studios, Melbourne, Australia

Mastered by **Joseph Carra** at Crystal Mastering, Melbourne, Australia

Cover photography **Cristina Arrigoni**

www.CristinaArrigoniphotography.com

Package photography **Fiona Boyes**

Artwork **Kirsty Hough** Tanami Design

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- 1 Juke Joint on Moses Lane** FIONA BOYES 3:30
 - 2 I'm a Stranger Here** FIONA BOYES 4:48
 - 3 Walking Round Money** FIONA BOYES 3:39
 - 4 Smokestack Lightning** CHESTER BURNETT 4:19
 - 5 Louisiana** FIONA BOYES 3:51
 - 6 Black Mountain Blues** JC JOHNSON 4:31
 - 7 Mama's Sanctified Amp** FIONA BOYES 3:22
 - 8 I Done Quit** FIONA BOYES 4:05
 - 9 Walk With Me** FIONA BOYES 3:22
 - 10 Tiny Pinch of Sin** FIONA BOYES 2:42
 - 11 Easy Baby** MAGIC SAM MAGHETT 5:41

TT 44:17

Tracks written by Fiona Boyes, published by Fiona Boyes APRA AMCOS
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The Blues
Foundation

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