



Bluesletter

1995 BLUES ORGANIZATION
OF THE YEAR



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NIECIE *PEACE OF MY MIND*

Independent Records
SR 1145-2

Bed Of Lies • Feel So Bad • Dear Mother • Questions • I Used To Have A Brain (Then I Got Married) • Working Hard To Please • Shut Your Mouth • I Feel The Earth Move • I Need A Man • Well Enough



"Niecie," born Denise Wickersham, is a lady with a big voice reminiscent of Koko Taylor, Bonnie Raitt, and Susan Tedeschi. Raised in Detroit, all the musical influences she absorbed while there plus time spent in Chicago are prevalent throughout her fine debut release, "Peace Of My Mind."

Niecie can really sing the blues, folks!! Plus, she's backed by a virtual all-star band, including Johnny Neel on keys, Larry McCray

on guitar, and Willie Weeks on bass. Toss in some tunes written by Johnny Copeland, Richard Waters, Richard Fleming, and Mike Holloway, and you have all the ingredients for a bluesin' good time!!!

We enjoyed all the cuts here, but, as always, had our favorites. "Dear Mother," written by Johnny Copeland, is given a fine, gospel-influenced treatment by Niecie that is a perfect ode to mothers everywhere. "Questions" is an uptempo tune that poses a lot of things to think about. "I Used To Have A Brain (Then I Got Married)" is a hilarious tale of how "Mrs. Right" can have everything turn out wrong!! "Shut Your Mouth" rocks along just like B. B. King's original, with some wailin' piano from Johnny Neel!! And, Mike Holloway's "I Need A Man" really lets Niecie show off her slow-blues chops, with a smoky, sexy-growl of a vocal!!

Nashville is very fortunate to have a talent such as Niecie Wickersham in its midst. We urge all blues fans to grab up a copy of "Peace Of My Mind" and be ready to be entertained by a lady with a voice just MADE to sing the blues!!

—Sheryl and Don Crow