

“A New Leaf” Review in Belgium’s ROOTS TIME Magazine, June/July 2006

Apparently, there is a phenomenon of a new man in America. An authentic American original, Lightnin’ Charlie, with his Stetson hat and Fender Stratocaster, has hit the mark with a FANTASTIC new CD, “A New Leaf” on Blue Chip Records. Lightnin’ kicks the door down with rockin’ covers like Carl Perkins’ “Boppin’ The Blues” and Dave Alvin’s “Marie Marie” – a cover version of this song that finally meets with my approval; also very good versions of Chicago blues classics like “Just Your Fool” with Harmonica Todd on harmonica, and the gospel-tinged tracks “Down In The Alley” by the Clovers and the traditional “Come By Here”. But the real treats are his own original masterpieces such as the title track, “A New Leaf”, and “The Blues Are To Blame” which shows he has the makings of a true blues master, and the steamy and cool “Obviously” and “Miami Tammi”.

GREAT ALBUM! \*\*\*\* (4 stars)