

## **Watermelon Slim & the Workers**

### **Bull Goose Rooster**

#### **NorthernBlues Music NBM0064**

Bull Goose Rooster is Slim's 12<sup>th</sup> album to date and I would have to say it's his most diverse and powerful work to date. Fun, politically motivated and his most blues oriented album in some time. This old dog has been all over the map where his music is concerned and it would seem he's a man with the Midas touch. Blues fans seem to love him and it is hard to argue with success. As it was with his past work history, so it seems to have gone with his musical career. In either case he has done just about everything there is to do. *Bull Goose Rooster* works its way through classic blues tunes to Woody Guthrie's "Vigilante Man". You can never go wrong with Slim Harpo's "Baby Scratch My Back" and "I'm A King Bee". Throw in a great rendition of Stan Rogers' "Northwest Passage", one of the classic songs in Canadian music history and one of Canada's unofficial anthems. From a musical standpoint, Watermelon Slim and the Workers have never sounded better and there is a good deal of actual blues on this recording. As always with Slim, there are those little surprises that throw us all for a bit of a loop but, I have to admit that I did like this one. The man is a wordsmith, a fine slide player and he does play a mean harmonica. I would not be surprised if this one was nominated for awards both in the U.S. and Canada. Any album that kicks off with Junior Well's "Tomorrow Night" gets points right from the start. Another favorite is "Over the Horizon", a ballad that features a vocal duet with Danielle Schnebelen and Slim...another one of those pleasant surprises. Bill Homans (Watermelon Slim) is a man of mystery. About the time you get him figured out, he's going to shift gears and let you standing there, wondering just what happened. This one has enough flat out political references that his next gig just might be at the state pen. – Bill Wilson