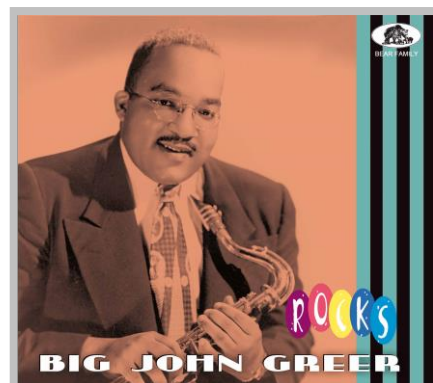


BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCTINFO (CD) March 6, 2026

Artist **Big John Greer**
Title **Rocks**
Label Bear Family Records
Catalog no. BCD17743 Price code: AR
EAN-Code 4000127177438
Format 1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
Genre Rock 'n' Roll, Rhythm 'n' Blues
No. of tracks 30 approx. 78:00 min.
Release date March 6, 2026



BEAR FAMILY
RECORDS 

INFO:

- 30 essential postwar R&B and early Rock & Roll tracks by a leading tenor sax star.
- Classic recordings from RCA Victor, Groove, and King Records.
- Featuring legendary studio guitarist Mickey Baker (Mickey & Sylvia).
- Top-tier New York session musicians, including Sam "The Man" Taylor and Big Al Sears.
- Raw honking sax, blues shouting, and dancefloor energy that bridges R&B and Rock & Roll.

Big John Greer *Rocks* is an explosive journey into the heart of postwar rhythm and blues - where wailing tenor saxophones, pounding backbeats, and raw energy paved the way for early Rock & Roll. Few artists embodied this sound as completely as Big John Greer: a powerhouse saxophonist, a commanding blues shouter, and one of the most distinctive figures of the early New York R&B scene.

Raised in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and already nicknamed "240 Pounds of Solid Jive" while still in high school, Greer's rise was anything but accidental. His professional polish came in the sharply disciplined orchestra of Lucky Millinder, one of the era's most important bandleaders. Although Greer sang occasionally with Millinder, his recording debut came in 1948 with the humorous *Wineola* for Bobby Shad's Sittin' In With label.

From April 1949 onward, Big John Greer & The Rhythm Rockers became a cornerstone of RCA Victor's R&B roster, producing a remarkable run of dancefloor anthems. This collection draws heavily from those years, featuring red-hot sides such as *Rocking Jenny Jones*, *Red Juice*, *Big Rock*, *Clambake Boogie*, and the autobiographical crowd-pleaser *I'm The Fat Man*. Also included is Greer's signature tune *Got You On My Mind*, a surprisingly melodic blues that narrowly missed topping the R&B charts in spring 1952.

When RCA launched its Groove subsidiary in early 1954, Greer moved seamlessly into the new decade, revamping the prewar classic *Bottle It Up And Go* and answering Chuck Berry with *Come Back Maybelline*.

A major highlight of these sessions is the presence of Mickey Baker, one of the most important studio guitarists of the early 1950s. Baker - who later formed the duo Mickey & Sylvia with Sylvia Vanderpool and topped the R&B charts in 1957 with *Love Is Strange* - contributed his instantly recognizable guitar work to numerous recordings from 1953 onward. Greer's combos also featured heavyweight saxophonists Sam "The Man" Taylor and Big Al Sears, defining voices of the honking tenor tradition.

After moving to King Records in 1956, Greer kept the party going with jumpers like *Record Hop*, *Come Back Uncle John*, and *Duck Walk*. Big John Greer *Rocks* captures an artist at full power - rocking alongside the elite of postwar R&B.

TRACKLISTING:

CD:

I'm The Fat Man	Rockin' With Big John	Come Back Maybelline	Lucky Lucky Me	Record Hop	I'll Never Let You Go		
Strong Red Whiskey	Drinkin' Wine	Spo-Dee-O-Dee	Bottle It Up And Go	Wineola	The Duck Walk	You Played On My Piano (with Delores Brown)	
Have Another Drink And Talk To Me	Midnight Ramble	Woman (Is A Five Letter Word)	Ride Pretty Baby				
Long Tall Gal	Clambake Boogie	Honey Why	Blam	Soon, Soon, Soon	If I Told You Once	Red Juice	Big John's A
Blowin' Mind	I Want Ya', I Need Ya'	Too Long	Night Crawlin'	Rocking Jenny Jones	Come Back Uncle John	Got You On My	

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BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



ALSO AVAILABLE:

Roy Milton: Rocks

BCD17712 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127177124



James Brown: Rocks

BCD17775 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127177759



Ike Turner: Rocks

BCD17679 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127176790



Hank Ballard: Rocks

BCD17580 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127175809



Roy Brown: Rocks

BCD17749 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127177490



Wynonie Harris: Rocks

BCD17746 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127177469



Clarence ,Gatemouth' Brown: Rocks

BCD17537 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 5397102175374



The "5" Royales: Rock

BCD17522 AR
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 5397102175220

