

<http://outsidethedial.com/archives/1388>

Yet another two piece of stripped down rock blues, but this time it's not hailing from the Motor City or the Buckeye State, but the UK. Dixie Fried (Craig Lamie – Guitar/Vocals and John Murphy – Drums) which claims to “play the blues as good as two white boys from Scotland can”, with their EP titled “The Old Black and White” on Big Rock Candy Records brings the Mississippi blues to Union Jack in a way that would make RL Burnside and Carl Perkins proud.

The dynamic of the two piece has been mastered by the White Stripes and the Black Keys this past decade. It's quite a simple recipe. Talented and versatile front man, a mysterious timekeeper (could be a woman or wear really cool glasses), some national publicity....throw some stories in about recording some songs in the basement or the living room on vintage equipment and you have the lure of the rock two piece that has been popularized by the rise and fall of the garage scene.

Dixie Fried is a simple back porch approach to the Delta, but with some plain old rock characteristics with the lean and dirty guitar we hear on Eastbound and Murphy lets the drums do some work on GramJam. Changing up the recipe and going back to the basics without all the hype surrounding it all is refreshing. The vocals are passionate sometimes channeling Hirsch's man crush, but that's OK.

Now, I'm not going to try and give you a definition of the blues in fact who in their right mind would put some benign words together and try to capture the essence of the blues when all they have to do is order up some 4/4 time and just listen to the howlin, but I know the next time I walk into the little night spot on the outskirts of town, I most likely will order a Dixie Fried 2 piece white.

-Wolfarelli

