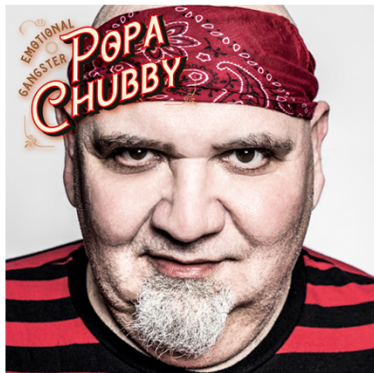


Rolling Stone



ALBUM REVIEW

Popa Chubby: *Emotional Gangster*

(Dixie Frog)

Winter 2021, New York. In a carafe of concerts following a galloping global pandemic, Popa Chubby took the opportunity to turn on guitars and amps in his Hudson Valley studio, in order to record his new album there. Garnished with twelve titles including two scathing covers by Willie Dixon ("Hoochie Coochie Man", "Dust My Broom"), *Emotional Gangster* preaches the good word of an inflammable blues rock, with layers of high-flying slide ("Tonight I'm Gonna Be the Man"), slices of boogie-rock served without false collar "à la George Thorogood", then all garnished with classic blues, cut into fine pleasurable blades ("Equal Opportunity"). Like a summit meeting between BB King and Stevie Ray Vaughan, the New York gunslinger closes the deal with a French-English version of a biting "Why You Wanna Make War", with solos pounding well above the melee. —P.L. *Rolling Stone France*