

simon tittley

Van the Man

I was signed to the Swiss indie label Top in the late eighties.

Mick Cox, a former Van Morrison sideman was also with Top and we occasionally used to hang out and have a few beers at a pub near the label offices in Camden.

He told me an amusing story about a guitarist who desperately wanted to play with Van Morrison. After several months he was finally offered an audition. He made enquiries and was told that Van's favourite guitarist was BB King.

Buying as many BB King CDs as he could lay his hands on, the guitarist studied BB's style and mastered many of his signature licks. At last the day of the audition came around and he was able to play with BB King-inspired passion...

He didn't get the gig.

Distraught he inquired why and was told that Van Morrison had thought that he sounded too much like BB King !

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