

extra EXTRA



MARK HUMMEL

Wayback Machine

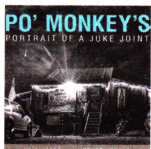
On his new release from Electro-Fi, harp master Mark Hummel revisits the Bluebird Sound, the sonic template popularized by RCA-Victor subsidiary Bluebird Records in the 1930s and '40s. Hummel's mastery of this crucial, pre-electric blues terrain is complemented by the always-tasteful veteran guitarist Billy Flynn, who appears on 10 of the 16 tracks. *Wayback Machine* is an appropriately titled package. — **Sean McDevitt**



SADLER VADEN

Anybody Out There?

Sadler Vaden's new record finds him rocking mightily with a blend of sleazy guitars and a dash of "California in the '70s" sounds. Exceptionally well-penned ditties will please fans of Tom Petty and Neil Young; he co-wrote the title track with Cry of Love/Sheryl Crow guitarist Audley Freed. Rootsy acoustic guitars, crunchy electrics, and sultry slide permeate via Sadler's own top-notch production. — **OJ**



WILL JACKS

Po' Monkey's: Portrait of a Juke Joint

Photographer Jacks set out to document the culture of one of Mississippi's last juke joints, Po' Monkey's, located outside of Merigold (and since shuttered). Little did he know the project would stretch over a decade, but the results are a stunning series of authentic, atmospheric, living photos. You can almost taste the moonshine and hear them Delta blues. — **MD**



GREGG ROLIE

Sonic Ranch

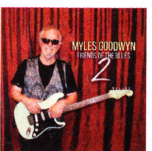
The first studio album in 18 years from the ex-Santana and Journey vocalist/keyboardist was worth the wait, as Rolie nicely blends rockers and ballads. Former bandmate Neal Schon adds hot solos to "Breaking My Heart" and "Lift Me Up," both having Latin-flavored beats. Toto's Steve Lukather contributed the stinging licks on "Give Me Tomorrow" and "They Want it All." — **BA**



IMPERIAL JADE

On The Rise

Busting out syncopated Led Zeppelin beats, meticulously gritty guitar parts, and a bluesy after-taste, Barcelona's Imperial Jade joins the retro-rock rat pack. Leaning toward the stonier side of the Zep kaleidoscope, guitarist Hugo Nubiola plays with authority and a composer's blend of dynamics and feel. Highlights include "Keep Me Singing" and "Heatwave." — **OJ**



MYLES GOODWYN

Friends of the Blues 2

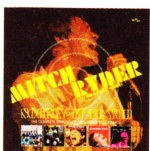
April Wine's vocalist/guitarist gathered many of Canada's top blues musicians to assist on this sequel, and they're obviously having a ball. The sorrowful acoustic guitar and harmonica on "You Got it Bad" epitomize the blues. The distorted slide guitar on "Fish Tank Blues" is a knockout, while "Daddy Needs New Shoes" is rowdy swing. Slippery fills dominate "I Love My Guitar." — **BA**



BIG MIKE & THE R&B KINGS

This Song's For You

Led by bassist Mike Perez, this New Orleans-based band combines elements of Chicago blues and Crescent City funk. They project an assertive presence with guitarists Paul Provotsy and Rex Canieso, particularly on "I Played a Fool" and "Someone Else Was Steppin' In." Provotsy in particular stands out on an extended, smooth jazz instrumental cover of Tyrone Davis' "Are You Serious." — **RK**



MITCH RYDER

Sockin' It To You

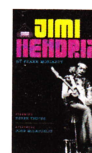
In the '60s, Mitch Ryder feverishly mixed blue-eyed soul and hard rock; this box collects his first five albums. The first two, with the Detroit Wheels, showcased stabbing guitar breaks by Jim McCarty, later of Cactus and the Rockets. The booklet offers no personnel credits, but that's Mike Bloomfield tearing up "Brown-Eyed Handsome Man" from 1967's *What Now My Love*. — **DF**



WARREN HAYNES

The Benefit Concert, Volume 16

Recorded in 2014, Warren Haynes presents a two-hour Christmas jam featuring Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit, the late Col. Bruce Hampton, Gov't Mule, and Hard Working Americans. Serious guitar playing takes a front seat for inspired cover versions of the Faces, Neil Young, and Grateful Dead. — **OJ**



FRANK MORIARTY

Modern Listeners

Guide: Jimi Hendrix

There's many a book on Jimi, and while Moriarty's large-format, well-illustrated guide might not plow new ground, it could just be one of the best — the nuts and bolts of Hendrix's recordings, concert appearances, and music. It's serious, smart, and insightful, and packed with hundreds of images. — **MD**



THE REVELERS

At The End Of The River

This South Louisiana supergroup plays cajun, zydeco, country, and swamp pop, singing original material in English and French. And while the former two styles' solos typically feature accordion and violin, with the latter leaning on saxophone, guitarist Chas Justus follows the trail blazed by BeauSoleil's David Doucet and continued by Roddie Romero, injecting tasty leads and strong rhythm. — **DF**



KELLER & THE KEELS

Speed

If you get a thrill from monster flatpicking, Larry Keel's acoustic soloing will hit the spot — check out "Little Too Late" for a fret-burning solo. Bluegrass covers of Weezer's "Hash Pipe" and "Islands in the Sun" work surprisingly well. "Medulla Oblongata" is witty and fun, as they change tempos, yet leave room for Larry to tear it up. Officer, give this guitar ace a speeding ticket! — **PP**