

Mp3 Jason Overton - Country: Country Blues



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Country blues with songwriter/ vocalist Jason Overton. Featuring renowned lap steel guitarist Freddie Roulette. 12 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Country Blues, BLUES: Rhythm Blues Details: Jason Overton is a singer/ songwriter, based in San Francisco, CA with a passion for country blues. His band includes a veteran group of musicians featuring renowned lap steel guitarist, Freddie Roulette. At 67 years of age, Freddie Roulette is a statesman of the blues! Over his long illustrious career, he has toured extensively with Charlie Musselwhite and has shared the stage with such notables as John Lee Hooker, Frank Zappa, Earl Hooker, Henry Kaiser and Steve Kimock. My bandmates and I are all fortunate to play alongside Freddie and currently perform at clubs in the San Francisco Bay Area. My full band includes Rob Vaterlaus on keyboard, Pete Roberts on bass and Chris McGrew on drums. ALBUM REVIEW: HICKS WITH STICKS NEWS #180, May 21, 2006 URL: hickswithsticks.com/hws/index.htm#2 JASON OVERTON TWANGS DEM BLUES Jason Overton makes his intentions clear on "Turnaround," the first song from his debut CD, where he announces, "I like two kinds of lovers... I'm in love with the country but I got a heartache for the blues." This self-titled CD recalls '70s blues twangers like J.J. Cale and the Amazing Rhythm Aces, and it works because it bypasses any preconceived notions the listener might have about country or the blues. It's as if one listens to this CD with the left ear and hears a country CD while the right ear hears the blues. One of the secret weapons the band wields is local bluesman Freddie Roulette on lap steel. Roulette is experienced enough to avoid the slide clichés of both blues and country and his playing contributes to parking these songs at brain cell ground zero. His playing and Overton's vision infuse this CD with twangin' mojo aplenty. How a performer handles slow songs is an acid test for anything bluesy because it's on slow songs where the blues tend to drag, yet "Living in a Dreamland," "Let the Party Come to Me" and "Holy Rolling," to cite three examples, were put this test and passed with

colors ablaze. The CD generally provides a mid-tempo listen which is another strength. Pushing the tempo on this kind of music would have moved it into Allman Brothers territory or someplace else it doesn't need to be. It's best surprise though is "San Francisco Hillbilly" a boppin' little shuffle that, true to its title, can serve as an anthem for a lot of us. jasonoverton.com

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