

SLIM CHANCE

ON THE MOVE

FISHPOOL, OUT 8 JANUARY

Rootsy rock's last of the summer wine.



There have been better albums than The Band's 1969 self-titled second album, but few so influential. Its stew of home-grown backwoods

American styles and stories gave rock a historical resonance and humanity that turned the hippest heads, including the Faces' Ronnie Lane. But by the time Lane quit in '73 to play rootsy music under a travelling circus tent, the vogue had waned, and his post-Faces band Slim Chance lost money. Fifteen years after his death three ex-Chancers reunited, and their second LP is an aged-in-the-wood delight of fiddle, mandolin, accordion, guitars and keyboards texturing swinging rock'n'roll. Excellent songs, including a reworked Poacher, are all played beautifully, though time has withered voices that were never stellar, with new boys Des Horsfall and the legendary Geraint Watkins singing best. They've all done Ronnie proud. ★★★★★

MAT SNOW

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