

Slim Chance



On The Move

FISHPOOL, CD/DL

Late Face Ronnie Lane's backing band reborn.



Original Slim Chance men Charlie Hart and Steve Simpson re-

formed the band in 2010, 13 years after Ronnie Lane's death. Their second album since then conjures the easy, brandy-sozzled charm of 1974's *Slim Chance LP*, but with added Cajun and zydeco influences. The band still miss the old boss's voice and songwriting skills, and wisely revisit three of Lane's compositions here, including *The Poacher* and *Done This One Before*, the last with guitarist Des Horsfall's near-flawless vocal. Sometimes, the joyous weaving of fiddles, accordions and guitars is necessary to patch over the cracks in the songs. But of the new tracks, *Fishing Line* and *Ragtime*, with keyboard player Geraint Watkins' faux-delta growl, fight their corner even in such estimable company. *On The Move* sounds like music made with drinks in hand and wide smiles on faces. Surely Ronnie would approve.

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