



## WATERMELON SLIM RINGERS

NORTHERN BLUES/ONLY BLUES MUSIC



Alright, I'll admit we're sometimes a little, er, creative with filing CD reviews within genre pages. But in this instance, Watermelon Slim belongs firmly within the country review pages. Yep, bluesman Slim has put his unique talents to use on

14 country songs, some penned by Slim himself, others cherry picked from the ilk of Jimmy Buffett, Whitey Shafer, and Max D Barnes.

To my ears, Slim's croaky tones suit this honky tonkin' at least as well as they do the blues – you don't doubt for a second the love, lust, heartache, or loneliness about which Slim happens to be singing at any point. And his slide guitar rocks!

Not every second of *Ringers* is pure gold. The band occasionally slips off the thin line of reverence down the slippery slope of cliché, and, well, surely there are enough great songs in the world to prevent one having to resort to recording Jimmy Buffett's 'He Went To Paris'. But on the whole Slim and the gang have produced a thoroughly enjoyable record of bluesy honky tonk.