

# The Wheel Man

by: **Watermelon Slim & The Workers**



(Northern Blues)

Oklahoma's Watermelon Slim is quickly becoming one of my very favorite blues artists. His unique Southern vocals and tasty Dobro playing have crawled up my belly and into my heart. The title track, "The Wheel Man," is catchy as hell, especially with Slim's special guest Magic Slim ( *The Chicago blues man who moved to Lincoln, Nebraska and shared one night bellied up to the bar drinking with this writer at the Zoo Bar, but that's another story*) dueting.

I just love "Jimmy Bell," a song delivered acapella except for harp and foot stomps. Speaking of acapella, "Saw Mill Holler" is another great tune, just Slim's soulful vocal, all by its lonesome. Serious blues. The disc ends with another gritty, slide laden, Southern soul blues, "Judge Harsh Blues."

*The Wheel Man* is one fine blues record, and one I will play time and time again.

-Michael Buffalo Smith