

WATERMELON SLIM & THE WORKERS

THE WHEEL MAN
(NORTHERN BLUES)

www.northernblues.com

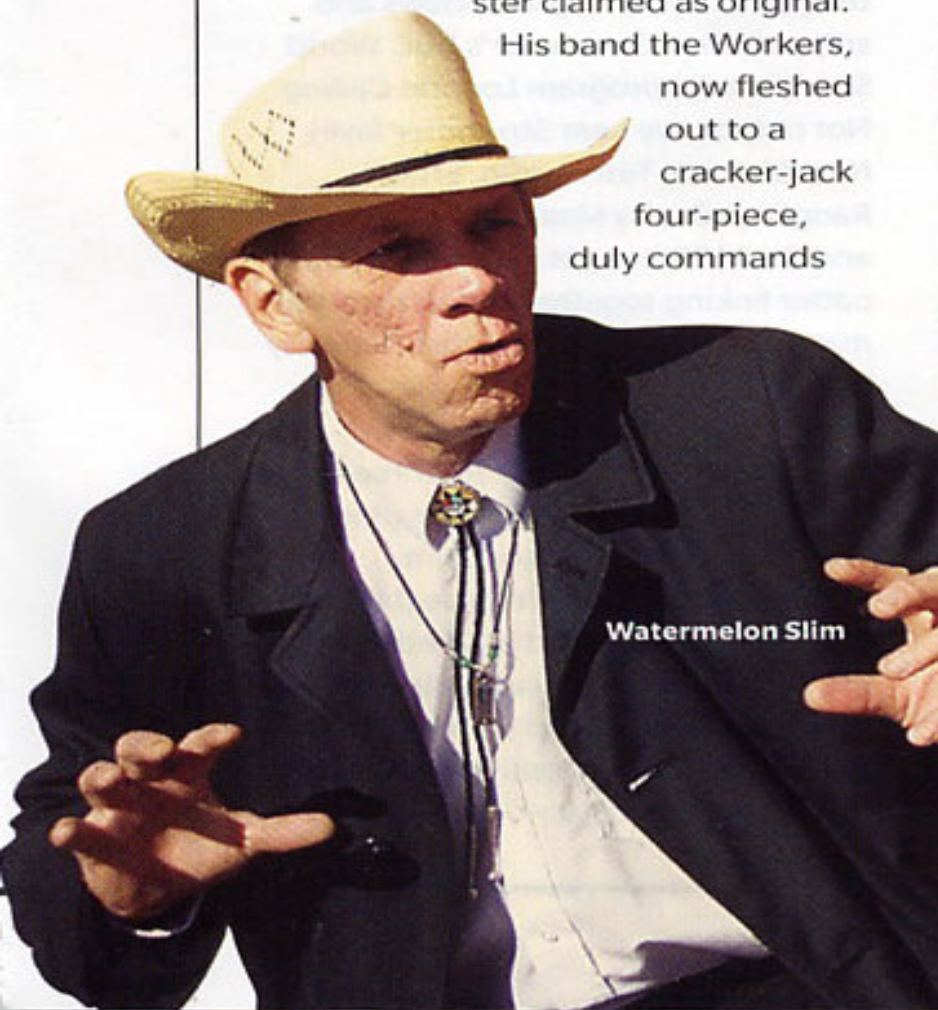
Blues, a Bible and a bottle of hooch



Why Watermelon Slim (aka Bill Holmans) is not as recognizable as Col.

Sanders is a damn mystery. The Vietnam vet and former truck driver plays hard-charging blues on his fifth album, slathered with tasty Sweet Chicago barbecue and finger lickin' Delta cornbread rivaling any secret recipe the aforementioned huckster claimed as original.

His band the Workers, now fleshed out to a cracker-jack four-piece, duly commands



Watermelon Slim



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the steadfast rhythmic propulsion and provokes Slim to let the biscuits and gravy fly. From sizzling slide guitar on the stampeding, self-titled opener to nitty-gritty harp blowing worthy of Bud Spires (the fire-and-brimstone of "Jimmy Bell") to a gruff, resonating Okie twang (the Negro spiritualism of "Sawmill Holler" and the mildly bawdy "Truck Driving Mama"), Slim delivers acutely personal workingman blues with both hands on the wheel of life, a bottle of hooch in his pocket, and the Bible on the passenger seat. RON BALLY

www.watermelonslim.com

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