

Paris Move review

<https://www.paris-move.com/reviews/ghost-town-blues-band-shine/>

We had praised the merits of GHOST TOWN BLUES BAND, this improbable band of Memphis, less than a year ago, on the occasion of their incandescent live album. It is therefore full of awards and honors that they are now celebrating their tenth anniversary. The key to this new delivery, some questions and a challenge: can the fever of their stage performances actually be transposed in the confined space of the studio? And the disparity of their references (southern-soul copper to the southern rock Allmans and consorts) she will be able to embody it with the same cohesion as on the boards? From the "Running Out Of Time" which opens the ban, we find the specific ingredients of the gumbo that seduced us last year: this southern drawl and this slide gouallante, served on a carpet of funky brass and churchy organ. Driven by the same infected slide, the blues boogie "Soda Pop" plows the sticky lands of the original Skynyrd, while the titular beach does the same with those of Stax. The pair of the year, Paul DesLauriers and Annika Chambers, lend their voices mixed with the choruses, while the brass section plays Memphis Horns, and the rhythmic eye to Muscle Shoals. God, the bet is already won, and the cocktail produces its effects again. The pair of composers, Matt Isbell and Taylor Orr, continue the burning legacy of Warren Haynes, Dickey Betts and Derek Trucks. It's enough to convince them to listen to them overturn the tabasco on beaches like the incendiary "Lyin 'To Myself" or the piece of bravery "Giving It All Away" (between funk Little Feat / Doobie Bros and Allmanian groove twin guitars). Reminiscent of a vintage heritage (see "High Again": its lazy funk, Gregg Allman organ and guitar chorus in unison), the twelve originals here do not pay for all that, in the pastiche or some revivalism: this sextet just pursues with panache an adventure begun a half-century ago by those who initiated it. Just as stunning as jubilant and convincing, a great southern music album to add to this line of placid conquerors in which they register as of right.

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Paris-Move, Blues Magazine, Illico & BluesBoarder