

# MAVERICK

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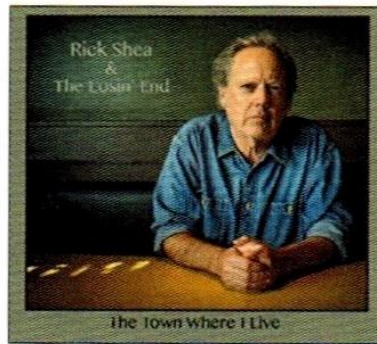
## Rick Shea & The Losin' End THE TOWN WHERE I LIVE

Tres Pescadores  
records

★★★★☆

*A fine slice of  
rootsy country rock*

While he may be better known as a guitar slinger for the likes of Dave Alvin and Wanda Jackson, Rick Shea has released a series of solo albums that have all received respectful reviews. *THE TOWN WHERE I LIVE* is a slight departure from his usual solo endeavours as it features his regular backing band whereas previously he has kept things to a minimum in the studio. Capturing a sound not a million miles away from that of Bakersfield, the album is a fine collection of songs delivered with a refreshing lack of grandstanding- just honest country music fare.



With Shea multi tasking on guitars, pedal steel, mandolin and Dobro (backed by Stephen Patt - guitar, bass, accordion and keyboards, Dave hall - bass and Steve Mugalien -drums) songs such as '*The Starkville Blues*', '*(Your Gonna Miss Me) When I'm Gone*' and '*Hold On Jake*' are muscular bar band numbers with revved up guitars. The cover of Jack Clements' '*Guess Things Happen That Way*' rides on a drum beat which recalls Buddy Holly's '*Crickets*' and '*Goodbye Alberta*' is a pedal steel and accordion sweetened slice of country rock. Meanwhile there's some of his folkier roots on show on the Dobro driven '*Road To Jericho*' and the closing song, '*Sweet Little Mama*', a folk blues number that slight resembles the old standard, *Corrina Corrina*. '*The Angel Mary*' and '*The Rounder Jim*' pays tribute to a pioneering folk duo Shea knew back in the days as it ripples along with mandolin taking the solo honours here.

*THE TOWN WHERE I LIVE* is not flashy but it's well played with Shea a fine writer and singer and it's well worth a listen.

**Paul Kerr**

[www.rickshea.com](http://www.rickshea.com)