

RICH LAYTON & TOUGH TOWN

Salvation Road

Released: 5/31/2019

BIO: Rich Layton's first album of original songs was very nearly his last. Just six months into worldwide airplay, hitting the charts and hitting the road, it all came to a frightening halt. A mysterious hearing issue left him unable to perform, tolerate noise or even talk on the telephone. Recovery would eventually take more than 18 months, as Rich waited to see if his playing days were over.

When he finally came out the other side of the long ordeal, he wrote "Live to Rock," the hard driving personal anthem that kicks off the return album, "Salvation Road."

With 10 originals and a psychedelic '60s nugget, *Salvation Road* is a high-octane trip roaring down two-lane southern asphalt. It's The Yardbirds jamming with Johnny Cash... The Stones in Muscle Shoals with Delbert McClinton... Elvis backed by the growl of an amplified harmonica in a Memphis juke joint. Making these influences all his own, Rich Layton leaps from your speakers with the conviction of firebrand rock and roll preacher determined to save your soul - and his.

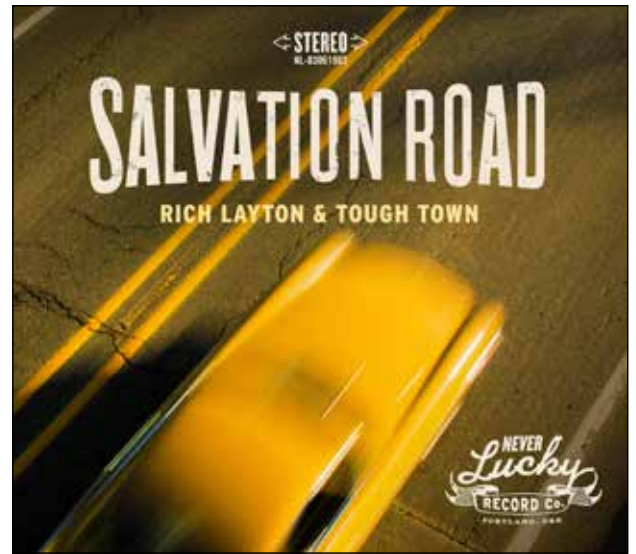
Layton's songs have been described as "mini-movies," and co-producer Terry Wilson gives each track its own distinctive cinematic sweep. With the band's live basic tracks as the foundation, the songs' fully realized arrangements include piano, B3 organ, bottleneck slide, horns, multi-layered background harmonies and a 12-string guitar borrowed from John Fogarty. No two songs sound alike, but the band's twang and tremolo vibe pulses at the core of each one.



Special guests include 2019 Grammy nominee Teresa James (vocal duet, Track 5: "Show Me What You're Workin' With"), Portland's godfather of rock and roll, Jon Koonce (lap steel, Track 3: "Raise It Up / Burn It Down") and British rock royalty Chris Mercer (saxophone, Track 1: "Live to Rock").

In a fitting tribute to the ill-fated previous album, Rich and his band "The Troublemakers" took a cue from the fabled Phoenix. The title track of that album, *Tough Town*, lives again in the band's new moniker.

Rich Layton & Tough Town weaves a swampadelic soundtrack for a last chance Saturday night. Your table waits under the broken neon in a dive bar out on Salvation Road.



Band Members:

Rich Layton: Vocals & Harmonica

Larry McCoy: Guitar

Eric "Haus" Krabbenhoft: Bass

Charles Pike: Drums

PRESS:

"For fans of The Bottle Rockets, Delbert McClinton and Reverend Horton Heat, do not miss *Salvation Road*"

—**Vortex Magazine**

With roots in the Texas Gulf Coast, Layton and his band bring the real deal to the NW and know how to use it, as they're a great live act to back their recording prowess. Everything from R&B, soul, rock, folk, blues and country, as well as zydeco and other flavors are perfectly blended throughout this music. It all features the excellent songwriting and harp blowing skills of Layton himself—**Larry Toering, Music Street Journal**

"*Salvation Road* is well worth the eight-year wait. Filled full of swampy good times and follows directly by Rich's words that he will live to rock another day."

—**Greg Johnson, Cascade Blues Association**

"Gritty and full of passion, "*Salvation Road*" hits hard and fast."

—**Scott Cunningham, Oregon Music News**

WOW!! What a show!! The opening act [for Junior Brown] was Portland's Rich Layton. His set was filled with rompin', partyin' roadhouse roots rock at its best. The crowd at the Aladdin show certainly thought so!!

—**Kurt "Swingcat" Johnson, Positively Entertainment**

RICH LAYTON
AND
TOUGH TOWN

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