

# Sonic South™

## The Beat of the Southeast

### REVIEWS

## Review: Angela Reign – Livin' In Between



Good music is often made by accident, rather than by design. It's not so much a meeting of the minds as it is a lining up of the planets—at just the right place and just the right time. Such is the case with the music from the new release by up-and-coming alt country artist, Angela Reign. Taking a few lessons from late 20<sup>th</sup> century modern country, Reign puts her 21<sup>st</sup> century stamp on the beautifully crafted songs that make up this record.

The album starts off with the title track, "Livin' in Between", a classic tune that begs to be played while you are tooling down the freeway with only the horizon stretching out in front of you.

Rich harmonies blend Angela with Robert Meadows and Stan Roberts, tempting listeners to sing along. "Livin' in Between" does what an opening track *should* do: It makes you want to keep listening. Following that introduction, are our two favorite tracks on the album, a whimsical look back at first love called "The Summer Before the Fall" and "I Color You Angel" a sweet and honest song about timeless devotion.

"Livin' In the Meantime" might seem a bit out of place at first with its jazzy guitar and piano intro (most reminiscent of Al Jarreau's standard offerings). However, Angela uses this vehicle to show off her vocal diversity, with a sultry delivery that is difficult to forget. All that's missing is a smoky room, a glass of wine and a baby grand. We must give props to Tom Wolf on harmonica for some extraordinary mood setting on this song.

Reign's conversational vocal style invites you in and makes you believe that you are witnessing the bittersweet heartache of "You Know Something I Don't", "Halo" and "Time for Letting Go" firsthand. But don't let those ballads fool you. Never let it be said that Angela Reign and company don't know how to have a good time. Line-dancers and disc jockeys take note, "I Wanna Ride the Bull" is a stand-out, brow-raising, country track that combines a funky groove with playful lyrical innuendo.

"Backwoods Loveasine" : City folk? Want to know what "mischief-makin'" means? [Listen to this song.](#)

Produced and co-written by the highly accomplished producer and songwriter Wil Hodge, Angela Reign's *Livin' In Between* is a tapestry of country goodness, woven with funkytonk fun, heartbreaking ballads and purposeful anthems. Based on this offering, Reign is definitely one to watch.