

"17 Pine Avenue" by New Riders Of The Purple Sage

With legendary favorite bar band songs such as "Panama Red" and "Glendale Train" to their credit, the original country rocking New Riders of the Purple Sage band is back with "17 Pine Avenue," and in its sixth continuous decade in the business, the group is still influencing long-haired country pickers.

Originally started as a way for Grateful Dead guitarist Jerry Garcia to practice playing his new pedal steel guitar in a group setting, The New Riders have always adhered to a simple formula: Rock 'em, but keep it country, too. And "17 Pine Avenue" follows the formula to perfection.

Kicking strong with "Prisoner of Freedom," the set offers a nice variety California country/rock moods.

With songs like "Fivio," "Just the Way It Goes," "Down for the Ride," "Suite at the Mission," "I Know There's Someone Else" and the swinging title track, the New Riders show they can still teach even the Red Dirt crowd something about mixing country music with rock 'n' roll. NEXT rating: B+

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