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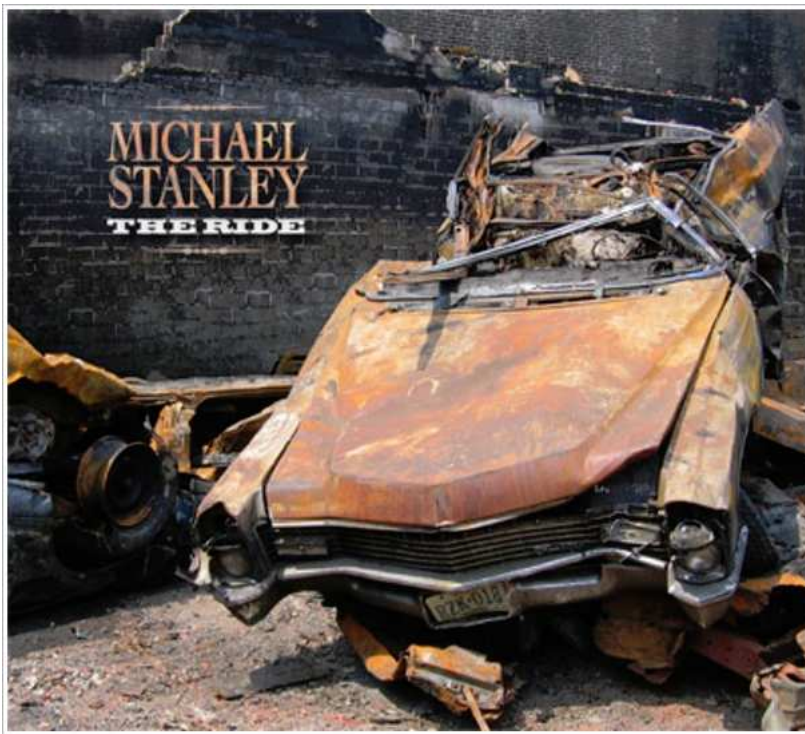
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Michael Stanley: The Ride



Michael

Stanley

The Ride

Fri 4/12 @ 9PM

Sat 4/13 @ 9PM

Fri 4/19 @ 9PM

Sat 4/20 @ 9PM

When the Michael Stanley Band broke up in 1987, its leader was far from finished with music. He just seemed to get more productive as time went on, cranking out seven studio albums in the decade between 2000 and 2009.

In 2011, his wife Denise Skinner, who also ran his label Line Level, was diagnosed with cancer and died that September. The following year, he released *The Hang*, which exorcised some of that pain.

Now less than a year later, he's back with *The Ride*, showing that, although he may not headline Blossom Music Center anymore like he did in the '80s, music is just not ever going to let go of him.

There's nothing in the 14 songs — 12 originals and two covers — on *The Ride* that will surprise anyone the least bit aware of Stanley's work. He's got his style, and he's sticking to it. And his reliable cast of musicians — including two MSB veterans drummer Tom Dobeck who has been with him since 1974 and keyboardist Bob Pelander who joined in 1975 — adds to that comfortable familiarity. Vocalist Jennifer Lee — whether she's singing backup or dueting with Stanley — has become so integral to his sound, she's virtually as iconic as he is.

