



Randy Thompson – Collected

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by Chuck Dauphin



Randy Thompson has made it a point to paint outside of the lines musically. There's some Country, Americana, and a pinch of Roots Rock to be heard all over his latest collection.

While the style varies, one constant throughout the album is his rough and lived-in voice, which really comes into play on tracks like the restrained "Rocksalt & Nails" and the rebel rouser "You Can't Talk To Me Like That," which has already started to make a worldwide impact.

The cool thing about this album is that Thompson isn't looking to change the world or do things differently on a musical level than he has before. It's just more of what he has always delivered from the start. Take "Ol'

97," for example. The track, which benefits from some great fiddle licks from Rickie Simpkins, would fit right at home on other Thompson albums such as *Further On*.

One of my favorite cuts on the disc is the cool beat of "Goin' Down To Lynchburg Town," where he combines all of the musical styles that influences him, and the result is one of the more fun tracks on the disc. Then, on the other end of the emotional spectrum, is the stunning closing track "Bring On Down The Rain," where he shows his grittier side to great effect. As always, Thompson outdid himself here, and I look forward to see what he has coming down the pike next!

For more information, log on to www.RandyThompson.net

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