

PATRIK JANSSON BAND

So Far to Go

Sneaky Foot – SFRCD003



Patrik Jansson, on his third album, ***So Far to Go***, has a good thing going. Thanks largely to his guitar work and appealing vocals, and the keyboards of Gustaf Andersson, he's created a sound that works. Bassist Thomas Andersson and drummer Martin Forsstedt maintain a steady, tight pace with several horn players added sporadically. Mike Fall plays harp on *Too Blind to See*. Jansson also provides some percussion.

Jansson is Swedish and grew up in the small town of Gävle before he moved to Stockholm in his 20s. He formed his band in 2007 and developed a passion for heavy Texas blues. "I wanted to play blues with a more modern approach," he said. "It's a most vital music."

The slower songs, with lots of sustain, reproduce the sound of the dreamy

psychedelia of the 1960s and '70s, led by the rapport between Jansson and Gustaf Andersson.

In *Keep Taking Your Chances*, he sees the pain in a woman's eyes caused by her man and tells her to keep taking her chances, though she's "playing a dangerous game." Pain and lamentation of the past also sit heavily on *Those Days Are Gone*: "After all we've been through together it's a shame it had to end this way."

The band picks up the pace on *So Far to Go*. Many may relate to the question posed here: "How many times will you go down just to get back up to go another round / You're living for today, longing for tomorrow."

On *Hard to Please*, another breakup song, the guitar goes funky and the girl is "too hard to please." Still, he begs her not to go even after she gave him "nothing but a heartache / lots of regrets and misery."

Jansson wrote and arranged all nine songs on this solid outing.

—Robert Feuer

BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA

Almost Home

BBOA Records – No #

"My work is done, and I'm finally going home to see my maker. Nothing scares me in this world no more, not the devil or the undertaker," Ben Moore sings on *Stay on the*