



The Other Ones
The Strange Remain
(Arista)

The recipe for a successful jam-band reunion reads something like this: three parts Grateful Dead, two parts Bruce Hornsby and the Range, a splash of sax, garnish with a couple of guitarists, serve chilled. As the Other Ones' performance at last year's Furthur Festival proved, you can't keep a good band down. Three years after the death of Jerry Garcia, founding members of the Grateful Dead—Phil Lesh, Bob Weir and Mickey Hart—put the act

back on the road. Bruce Hornsby, who joined the band temporarily in 1990, played keyboards and brought along longtime drummer John Molo from the Range (and, recently, Hart's Planet Drum). John Ellis of Weir's Ratdog added some brass. Steve Kimock (who played with former Dead members Keith and Donna Godchaux) and Mark Karan filled in on guitars.

This project is hardly a Dead rehash; the two-CD set collects recordings made at the Furthur Festival, spotlighting the new, the old and the different. Weir struts his stuff on "Jack Straw," and on the unreleased "Corrina." Hornsby's "White-Wheeled Limousine" and "Rainbow's Cadillac" get the full-out Dead jam treatment. "Only the Strange Remain," an eerie trip, is originally from Mickey Hart's Mystery Box. The bluesy "Banyan Tree," penned by Weir, Hart and Dead lyricist Robert Hunter, debuted just last year. Lesh shines vocally on "Mountains of the Moon," where fans insist his voice sounds better than it has in decades. Jerry is obviously not on this album, and on tunes such as "Friend of the Devil," "St. Stephen" and "China Cat Sunflower," there's something a little bitter about that. But his spirit is there. The way he's covered—keyboards up high, two guitars to his one, Phil, Bruce and Bob chipping in on vocals, but not quite exactly the way Garcia did it—is sweet, too. The band has a vitality that was missing in a lot of the later shows just before his death. The music did not die with the man.—

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