

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT



"Goosebumps" - Todd Snider

“Edge Of The West has considerable cred right out the chute - this is guitarist Jim Lewin's project, and Lewin knows how to put a song together, how to present it, and how to play the stuffing out of it. He also knows how to put a band together that can do his material justice; Lewin's take-no-prisoners style on a guitar neck is a perfect railroad crossing between old-school country (Fenders for miles!) and the exuberant delights of alt-country that the New Riders Of The Purple Sage have exemplified for nearly fifty years. The songs never commit the sin of taking themselves too seriously, and the more serious moments are leavened with some nice light ones. "I'll Get You Yet" is cheerfully sexy, and the haunting, layered "Treasure" is a moment of Zen. I saw these guys recently, and I was delighted to find bassist Bill Laymon in the lineup, joining David Tucker and Jon Dryden. If Edge Of The West is playing anywhere near you, go spend an evening enjoying yourself. Believe me, you will.”

- Deborah Grabien, *No Depression* (May 31, 2016)

“I step into my '94 Chevy pickup, turn on Edge of the West, and immediately I am transported to some kind of weird desert full of nudie suit cowboys, mutant punks, and flying saucers. Feels a lot like home. I've been driving through Death Valley for hours. Along the way I picked up the New Riders of the Purple Sage, the Descendents, and the ghost of Jerry Garcia. They all start jamming in the bed of my truck while I speed down the highway at 105 mph. That's what Edge of the West sounds like. What a strange band. Strange is good. I could see this band becoming a great representative of a wide variety of social rejects. The acid freak hippie, the diehard cowboy, the hardcore punk, and the record reviewer at Western Free Press. We can all get together and have one hell of a time listening to this band. Or you can just listen by yourself, because as Edge of the West says, “you've got to be lonely by yourself.” Don't be normal. Buy the debut Edge of the West album.”

- Skylar Miller, *Western Free Press* (Apr 27, 2017)

“Jim Lewin's latest band, Edge of the West, is an eclectic group. Their influences include Americana, bluegrass, jazz, reggae, and the psychedelic folk-rock sound. At the center of it all is country music, but not the kind of country music most people think of. “It's not really a cowboy band. We synthesize a lot of influences,” says guitarist/vocalist Lewin. “I'm interested in the intersection of tradition and the future.” The band's name is intended to show this relationship between old, well-defined American musical genres like old-timey bluegrass and new musical territory. “There's always been a tradition of reinvention on the West Coast, taking old things and giving them a new twist,” Lewin says. “That's what I see as California's contribution to the ongoing evolution of popular music.”

- Aaron Carnes, *Good Times* (Jul 08, 2015)

"Jim Lewin has been channeling the Grateful Dead's openness for decades, whether with the popular jam band Great American Taxi, renowned folk musician Todd Snider, country outlaw Lacy J. Dalton or bluegrass picker Frank Wakefield. Lewin also learned how to shred on guitar. He could be Trey Anastasio's rough-around-the-edges counterpart – whether he's peppering Dickey Betts-approved slide solos throughout Taxi's Americana “Penny Arcade” or laying down speedy arpeggios on the mountaintop railroad ganja song, “420 Special.” Lewin's latest project is Edge of the West, a poly-genre rock and roll machine featuring bassist Bill Laymon (Jefferson Starship, New Riders of the Purple Sage), pianist Jon Dryden (David Byrne) and drummer David Tucker (Maria Muldaur). Lewin dubbed this modern-day genre-melting pot, rock n' roots, harkening back to the ideals and philosophies that fueled San Francisco's early music scene before Haight Ashbury went mainstream."

- Adam Joseph, *Monterey County Weekly* (Mar 05, 2015)

“Jim Lewin has constructed a place in music that allows him to express himself truthfully as well as cosmically. Lewin and his band Edge of the West perform songs filtered through his many years playing psychedelic jam band music and traditional American bluegrass. He's explored many musical avenues, even traveled to intergalactic Grateful Dead and Sun Ra-influenced realms — all the while refusing to be held down by any one genre or to fall into the tribute band trend trying to recreate what was. Instead, he wants to pull from all his beloved influences to provide an original place to call home. In the 40-plus years he's been playing, Lewin has worked his way up to being a nationally known touring sideman for a number of well-known musicians. From his rock and roll musical awakening listening to AM radio in the back seat of his older sister's VW bug, to the East Nashville freak scene, Lewin's long, strange trip is about to unfold down Highway 1 in Big Sur. Are you on the bus, ”

- Beth Peerless, *Monterey Herald* (Mar 04, 2015)