



Released August 5, 2022

Tim Langford and the Taildraggers keep forging their way through the wild, wild west clearing new forests of blues with his axe and growling vocals.

There are 14 studio albums and now with *Brace Yourself Live*, this American made band has six live albums to it's credit. Thanks to **Tim "Too Slim" Langford**, it shows no signs of slowing down. This is one of the best three piece bands in blues and *Brace Yourself Live* debuted at #2 of the Top Blues Albums on Apple Music .

Tim is the founder, heart and soul of these blues rockers, who have been around since 1986.

Some say they conjure images of Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Trower and Chuck Berry and I won't argue. But I see them as carving their artistic reputations from the likes of Wyatt Earp, and Doc Holliday, evolving into the modern day bad asses of blues/rock who take no prisoners.

Brace Yourself draws from some of the best releases of band's the past. There are tunes from the albums *Free Yourself* and *Time to Live* (both from 2009), *Shiver* and *Fortune Teller* (both from 2011), *Blue Heart* (2013) and *Blood Moon* (2016).

Tim's searing guitar solos obviously stand out with this band, but a closer listen reveals he is one of the better song writers in blues. This tunesmith profoundly relates what so many folks live and deal with on a daily basis. With the tune *Free Your Mind* he writes, "When it gets so heavy and you just can't breathe, and you yes and no cause you aim to please, it's time to free your mind and, when you're finished playin' to diplomats and you're to figure out where it's at it's time to free your mind."

When Whiskey Was My Friend is another tune hitting close to home for those having problems keeping it under control. Especially for those who have succeeded this will bring a smile to your face.

Another fine piece of writing is with the Letter where Tim pens about thanking friends for thinking of him during hard times.

“I’m going to write me a letter to my friends you helped me when I was down and should have been six feet in the ground. We’re going to have a party. It’s going to be a riot.”

And finally, if you are torn over what should be done with your remains upon departing this earth, perhaps the “counseling” of *Too Slim* might help. Just give *My Body* a listen and its poignant lyrics, which begin with a haunting bass then a moaning guitar.

“Don’t lay my body in the cold, cold ground....Don’t want no wood box wrapped around my bones....Sweet love of mine I will wait for you. Search for me, I’ll search for you....Burn my body set my ashes free....”

This band would not be what it is without **Zach Kasik** bringing in the low notes, plus vocals. With this album Zach also brought back fond memories of vinyl records when there was more room for artistic expression. This CD comes close to that with his artwork and design. I’d be remiss not to note the final piece to the rhythm section, drummer/vocalist **Jeff “Shakey” Fowlkes** who is amazing.

We still have fond memories of Too Slim and the Taildraggers playing a couple of Oklahoma gigs this year. *Brace Yourself* is a wonderful glimpse back on the career of one mighty fine band.

Billy Austin Martin

**Available at: www.Tooslim.net, VizzTone Label Group,
Apple Music, Amazon Music, Spotify and Pandora.**