

The Revivalists – Take Good Care (2018)

Written by bluelover

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1 *Otherside Of Paradise* 3:59 2 *All My Friends* 3:39 3 *Change* 3:50 4 *Got Love* 3:57 5 *Next To You* 3:29 6 *You Said It All* 3:36 7 *Oh No* 2:53 8 *You And I* 4:45 9 *Hate To Love You* 3:37 10 *Future* 2:39 11 *When I'm With You* 3:26 12 *Celebration* 3:50 13 *Some People Say* 4:09 14 *Shoot You Down* 3:56
Bass - George Gekas Vocals - David Shaw
Guitar - Zack Feinberg, Ed Williams Keyboards - Michael Girardot Drums - Andrew Campanelli, PJ Howard + Saxophone - Rob Ingraham Backing Vocals - Kristen Rogers

Louisiana collective The Revivalists are renowned for their performance dynamic, emphasizing walls of shimmering sonics that fare equally competent live as they do in the studio. Since 2017, the New Orleans-based band had ridden a surprising and, indeed, continual wave of success. After more than a decade in a non-stop grind, the #1 hit single “Wish I Knew You,” from the band’s 2015 smash hit third album, *Men Amongst Mountains*, has been certified platinum, while also having accumulated 200 million global streams to date. Now an octet, this current permutation of The Revivalists continues forward.

Today marks the unveiling of the band’s follow-up, *Take Good Care*. The listener experience sees much improvement in the album’s carefully integrated textural and progressive builds, which is especially impressive considering the height of standards their previous album so recently set. To the same extent, the band’s knack for soulful rock and blues is essential in bolstering front man David Shaw’s vocals, which have served as the band’s signature constant.
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Boasting a seasoned crew of co-conspirators, New Orleans' the Revivalists make clear their intentions on the affable and earworm-heavy *Take Good Care*. Recorded and co-written with Dave Cobb (Sturgill Simpson), Andrew Dawson (Kanye West), and Dave Bassett (Vance Joy), the eight-piece have sculpted their third studio long player from the same red clay as its predecessor (2015's bayou-blasted *Men Amongst Mountains*), but *Take Good Care* crystallizes the group's rootsy sound into commercial grade soul-pop with stadium-sized ambitions. Frontman David Shaw's bluesy croon is sometimes a dead ringer for Ray Lamontagne's -- and occasionally Paul Rodgers' -- but he finds plenty of nooks and crannies to explore within the band's swampy, Big Easy gait. Opener "Otherside of Paradise," with its rich, gospel-style harmonies, fingerpicked electric guitar, and wistful atmospherics, is a bit of red herring, as what follows is a familiar, yet versatile amalgamation of upbeat New Orleans soul and R&B and radio-ready pop that evokes Maroon 5 by way of the Band. Punchy and immediate, the 14-track set bristles with intent, yet always finds the time to savor the groove, especially on instant crowd pleasers like "Celebration," "You and I," and "All My Friends." A short detour into beefy, Black Keys garage rock ("Future") provides a bit of extra flavor, as does the frequent appearance of a Stax-sized horn section, but *Take Good Care* rolls out like a pepper-forward home cooked meal, delivering plenty of sustenance and just enough heat to keep the dancefloor filled. ---James Christopher Monger, AllMusic Review

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