



# Nick Dittmeier & the Sawdusters

"Heartland rock riffage meets classic country storytelling."

- **Wide Open Country**

"Dittmeier is one of those hard-working, always-playing-out type of musicians—our favorite kind." - **No Depression**

"Deeply introspective tracks that shine with compelling storytelling."

- **Cowboys & Indians**

"Drawn from true country, Southern rock, Heartland sounds, and riverside blues." - **Saving Country Music**

"Melodies and rhythms crafted evenhandedly with sincerity and passion." - **PopMatters**

"Music as authentically blue-collar as it is carefully crafted." - **Popdust**

Nick Dittmeier & the Sawdusters understand that to stay relevant, country and Americana—like any long-running musical genres—must be unceremoniously leveled from time to time. Blasted by a cold steel wrecking ball, and reassembled into new forms atop the rubble. And what better moment for a scheduled demolition than with all of planet Earth in a holding pattern, straddling the deep chasm between past and future. Into this void arrives Heavy Denim, an album that artfully sidesteps any slavish, formulaic adherence to roots-music traditions.

"At the height of the pandemic" Dittmeier says, "it became clear to me that—with everything we'd been through—there was going to be a different mind coming out the other side. As a band, we decided we weren't going to try to go back and replicate who we were, or the reality we were living before covid. A lot of people were fixated on getting back to quote-unquote normal, but to me it seemed pretty obvious that wasn't even on the table."

Forcing themselves out of their comfort zones, Dittmeier & the Sawdusters began stripping back their roots-rock bluster and leaving room for new textures: drum machines, loopers, synths. Heavy Denim finds Dittmeier and the Sawdusters fearlessly reinventing their sound. The album is in the tradition of Dire Straits' spacey, synth-anchored early-'90s country curveball On Every Street; Alabama Shakes' transformation from gritty Southern neo-soul revue to danceable indie-rock darlings on Sound & Color; and the symphonic R&B and art-folk Sturgill Simpson wove on the astral loom that is A Sailor's Guide to Earth. With its refreshing creativity and sonic adventurousness, Heavy Denim is one of those rare and wonderful records that expands the boundaries of its genre.



## HEAVY DENIM

**Release Date:** July 15

**Label:** sonaBLAST!

1. I Suppose
2. Save Me From Myself\*
3. Turned and Walked Away\*
4. Things Are Getting Strange\*
5. You Don't Know the Truth
6. No Turning Back\*
7. Hotel Pens
8. Free as We'd Ever Been
9. Doing Wrong For All the Right Reasons
10. Tonya Jo

\* = **Singles / Focus Tracks**



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