

CRITICAL PRAISE FOR MICHAEL McDONALD'S WIDE OPEN

"Within seconds of the opening 'oohs' and warm, groovy vibes of McDonald's new song, 'Find It In Your Heart,' your heart will be overjoyed. The opening notes call up immediate memories of some of his much-beloved Doobie Brothers classics, like 'What A Fool Believes' and 'Takin' It To The Streets,' as well as some of his incredible harmony singing with Steely Dan on 'Peg' and 'Bad Sneakers.'"

npr  **songs we love**

"McDonald's voice remains exceptional, a throaty bray—unyielding in the middle, shredded around the edges—that's still capable of overpowering even a muscular band."

"Michael McDonald is having a renaissance." —*Rolling Stone* Hot Issue (November 16, 2017)

Rolling Stone

"[*Wide Open*] is a strong distillation of [McDonald's] jazz, R&B and blues roots."

SALON

"A one-time member of Steely Dan and a Doobie Brother, his voice is unmistakable. 'Find It in Your Heart' is a stand out song on an album that will be released in September."

KCRW **TODAY'S TOP TUNE**

"Since the mid-1970s, Michael McDonald has crooned and cooed his way into our senses with a rich, soulful manly baritone unlike any other. If you could create a sonic model based on fine, aged whiskey being poured into thick hot caramel, you'd come up with McDonald's vocal éclat."

The Philadelphia Inquirer

"as diverse an album as McDonald has ever made"

billboard

"It's McDonald's voice and its soulful, instantly recognizable qualities that he has built his career on—including his stints with Steely Dan, the Doobie Brothers and many years of solo work. There's plenty more of his sweet tones on *Wide Open*, in diverse settings."

AP **Associated Press**

"Michael McDonald has enjoyed a deserved resurgence in 2017 has one of the most soulful voices pop/rock as ever produced."

Forbes

"Former Steely Dan and Doobies Brothers' singer/keyboardist Michael McDonald is hip again—at the age of 65. Credit his recent collaborations with Thundercat and Grizzly Bear, shout-outs from Mac DeMarco, and the surge in popularity of yacht-rock with young hipster music fans."

The San Diego Union-Tribune.

"*Wide Open* sets McDonald's gruff but heartfelt vocals—and his thoughts on romance and human nature—against arrangements that pull expertly from R&B, country and gospel. 'Does the sound of my voice still carry any kind of message?' he asks an old lover in 'Hail Mary,' and this excellent record argues that it does."

Los Angeles Times

"an urbane R&B labor of love"
Pitchfork

"One of the great unexpected pop pleasures of 2017 is Michael McDonald suddenly being cool again...*Wide Open* has some soul and New Orleans funk but also horn-fueled tracks that tell us what his friends in Steely Dan would sound like if they became earnest romantic obsessives."

VARIETY

"On *Wide Open*, McDonald... [is] digging deep into into the core of these always-honest, sometimes-gritty, never-mannered songs and delivering them with sincerity, punch and heart."

relix

"McDonald is taking advantage of his moment in the zeitgeist with *Wide Open*."

npr **Weekend edition**

"There's a profound sense of hindsight to *Wide Open* that moves with a tenderness that comes from age and newfound wonderment, even if McDonald's voice hasn't aged a day."

npr **first listen**

"*Wide Open* may be the album that makes the kids call their folks and say, 'Hey, have you heard of this new artist, Michael McDonald?'"

npr **MUSIC**

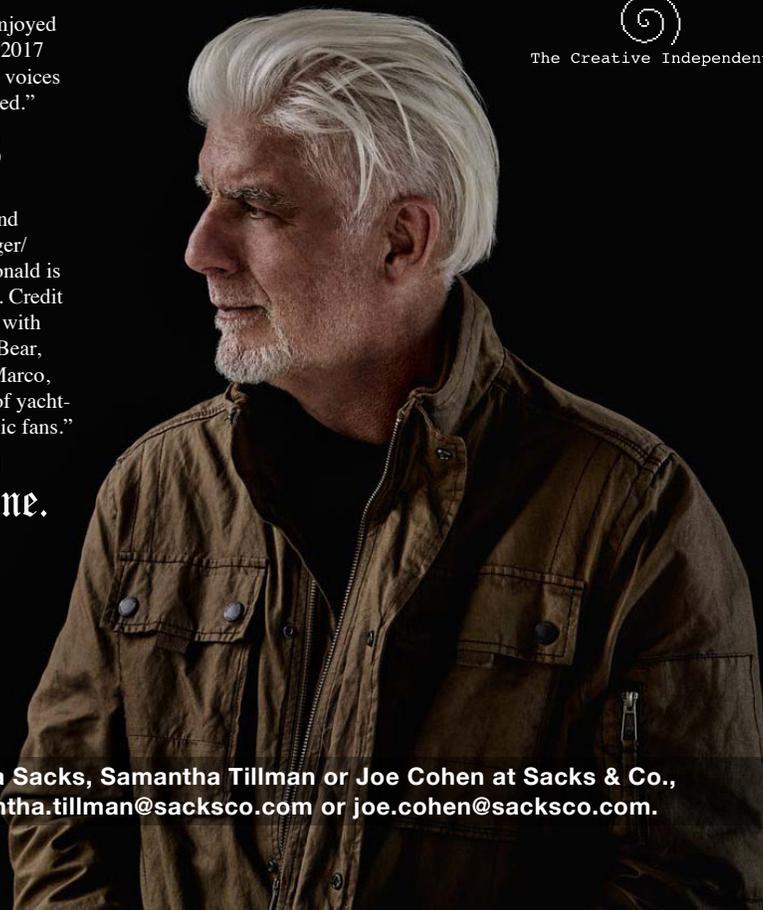
"one of the greatest singer-songwriters to ever sit at a piano"

SPIN

"Michael McDonald is an American singer, songwriter, keyboardist and record producer with one of the most immediately recognizable voices in contemporary pop music...having penned some of the most culturally ubiquitous songs of the last fifty years."



The Creative Independent



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