

David Olney: The Wheel

by Matthew S. Robinson

"Excuse me, my friend. This is not where I want to be." So begins the old time troubadour David Olney on *Chained and Bound to the Wheel*, one of the gruff and tumble tracks from his latest album, *The Wheel*. With at least four other songs that are themed in keeping with the album's title, Olney goes around again in a cycle of spun tales of old cars, old loves and other episodes of the wheel of life. Spinning from snakey bluegrass (*Big Cadillac*) and lazy revival calls (*Voices on the Water*) to lovely ballads (*Now and Forever*) and halting dirges (*Revolution*), Olney bellows into tunnels, demanding to be heard. Through short shots like *Stars, Now I Start*, and *Precious Time*, *Precious Love* (which is actually one track from the closing round that is called, simply enough, *Round*) puts kinks in *The Wheel*, Olney gets the gears going again with his oily vocals and pensive torque.