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FILTER ALBUMS

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Chris Bergson Band

★★★

Imitate The Sun

TWO SHIRTS

**The urban blues stories of
a streetwise gumshoe.**

The ambience of Chris Bergson's music is an Edward Hopper world of suspicion and solitude, dusk-time avenues and dimly lit bars, its soundtrack a terse dialogue of guitar and saxophone. This is the terrain of Tom Waits and Lou Reed, and Bergson has something of each in his gruff, laconic delivery, but his sound is intransigently his own. Admirers of *Fall Changes* (it was MOJO Blues Album of the Year for 2008), hearing *Goin' Home*, *Shattered Avenue*, *Mr. Jackson* and the title track, will swiftly fall into step again. But while Bergson is arrestingly himself in his own songs, he can be handcuffed by other people's: *Dust My Broom* is just a competent genre performance, and Dylan's *Standing In The Doorway*, though ardently sung, is in thrall to its original arrangement. But about two thirds of the album is riveting.

Tony Russell