

Audie Blaylock and Redline, *The Road That Winds*

Patuxent Music [pxrec.com]

Fans of longtime bluegrass Audie Blaylock are no doubt glad to see *The Road That Winds* hit the shelves, as it has been some time since the Grammy-nominee and his band Redline put out a new project. The album is a big step forward, Blaylock has said, offering that this one is worth the wait and is “our best work to date.”

“All Three in Tow” features strong banjo and fiddle work by Evan Ward and Patrick McAvinue, respectively, and maybe the most soulful vocals by Blaylock on the CD. The banjo/fiddle duo return for really clean work again on “Ride and Roll.” McAvinue adds a sweet fiddle kickoff on “Down Where the Wild River Rolls” as well.

On “The Road That Always Winds,” Russ Carson contributes banjo work and mandolin veteran Jesse Brock brings his chops. The album signs off with a sizzling instrumental, “Cousin Sally Brown.” After working through the playlist, it’s clear that this is something a little different from Audie Blaylock and Redline, but in a most pleasing way.

— *Michael K. Brantley*