



Widespread Panic
"Til the Medicine Takes"
 Capricorn Records
 Grade: A

Judging by Widespread Panic's newest release, the band's fans, "The Spreadheads," can expect the same ol' energy plus much more when the band embarks on its fall tour.

"Til the Medicine Takes" is the band's seventh album. On it, Widespread experiments with new musical styles while still managing to stay true to the "jam-band" persona that is so popular. The album deviates from the long jams of the band's previous recordings to a more song-oriented, lyrically fueled and structured style.

Widespread pulls off this structured style by fusing various musical genres in hopes of transcending the constraints of the single genre stereotype.

"Til the Medicine Takes" fuses funk, bluegrass, rock, gospel, horns and even turntable scratches for an interesting new sound that grows on the listener more and more.

The opening track, "Surprise Valley," eases listeners into the album by staying true to Widespread's familiar sound. Rhythmic percussion and guitar riffs reflect the band's roots in a traditional-sounding Widespread song.

Perhaps the changes in style behind Widespread's newest album come from the collaboration with other artists.

Gospel singer Dottie Peoples shares her soulful sound on the track "All Time Low," The Dirty Dozen Brass Band is featured in "Christmas Katie" and Panic's own drummer, Todd Nance, makes his vocal debut in "You'll be Fine." Each collaboration reflects a new, creative sound and energy that is present in the band's live shows.

Widespread averages more than 110 shows a year, and, like the Grateful Dead, it is the cult-like following of the fans that makes the shows a unique experience. The band's "grass roots"

New Releases



approach has given it a loyal fan base, contributing to numerous sell-outs.

This fall, Widespread will tour San Francisco, Austin and New Orleans for multiple shows. Nebraskans' closest shots are in Chicago on Oct. 23rd and in Cincinnati on Oct. 27th.

Audiences can expect a new experience in Widespread Panic's musical style at live shows following the release of "Til the Medicine Takes."

The tour, like the album, is sure to provide a mature and diverse mixture of Widespread tunes that contribute to its already "full-bodied" sound.

- Emily Pyeat

nike.com 



Is your birthmark the spitting image of Brett Favre?



Have you turned your prison-like dorm room into a shrine to sports? Has anyone ever eaten it attempting a skateboard trick named after you? Is your school mascot or your favorite player's number one of your 18 tattoos? Whatever it is, if it combines your personality and style with sports, we want to know about it. And you'll want to tell us about it if you're into free stuff. **All you have to do to get in the game is e-mail us a photograph that shows off your individual sports style.** Every day four people have a shot at winning a Nike bike messenger bag. If you've got one of the top five images of the week you'll win a Nike Triax 300 watch. And if you really kick ass, you could win a custom sports trip for two, to any event, any place. For more details and official contest rules, log on to nike.com/fame15.