

# NASHVILLE SCENE

## ★ Jason Boland and the Stragglers w/American Aquarium

Tue., Nov. 1, 8 p.m.

@ **Exit/In** 2208 Elliston Pl. (map)

Nashville **BROADWAY/ THE GULCH/ MUSIC ROW/ WEST END**

### Rock

Red dirt music is a description that gets at more than just an act's regional roots, Oklahoma or Texas origins in particular. Any band that claims it for themselves — as Jason Boland & The Stragglers have done — is also taking a proud stance against what they see as untenable compromise, namely, any move that smacks of trading authenticity for commerciality. In both ways the term fits Boland and Co. like a glove. They've been grinding it out in country bars for well over a decade and building the sort of devoted following that's hard to ignore, even as their songwriting frontman has had to muscle through a troubadour's gauntlet of health issues. *Rancho Alto* is the sort of album you'd expect from a group like that: one that's full of sturdy, storytelling originals and hardcore, red-blooded country as played by a true-blue band with little use for studio tricks. A band that, you'd have to believe, knows how to put on a good show. \$12

