

THE BUFFALO NEWS

Jeff Miers

Country

Kris Kristofferson, "This Old Road" (New West). It's strange that, out in the broader public, Kris Kristofferson is better known as an actor than as one of the finest songwriters in country music. From "Sunday Morning Comin' Down" and "Me and Bobby McGee" onward, the man has been tirelessly perfecting a rough-hewn, dusty form of country-folk. "This Old Road" is being called a comeback for Kristofferson; he teamed here with producer Don Was, and many see this as indicative that the results are much like Rick Rubin's collaborations with Johnny Cash and Neil Diamond. Fine, if this gets the man some more sales, but in essence, this is just pure, stripped-down Kristofferson. That means it's simple, beautiful, unabashedly honest. Classic stuff. Review: 3 stars (J.M.)