



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OLD 97's RETURN HOME FOR *BLAME IT ON GRAVITY*,
FIRST NEW ALBUM IN 4 YEARS TO BE RELEASED MAY 13th, 2008**

TO APPEAR AT SXSW IN MARCH,
THREE WEEK NATIONAL CLUB TOUR TO FOLLOW IN JUNE

March 4th, 2008 -- Los Angeles, CA -- Old 97's, one of the most acclaimed and beloved bands to spring from the 90s indie rock scene, will release their seventh studio album, *Blame It On Gravity*, May 13th via New West Records. The album is the band's first studio recording in 4 years. The result is a 13-song powerhouse of an album that finds the band turning up the amps and returning to the satisfying crunch of its early records.

Forming 15 years ago, the band credits the new album's enthusiasm and spark to their return to its native Dallas to record for the first time since their debut independent release. Produced by up and coming producer, Salim Nourallah, the album superbly combines the various elements of rock, punk, classic country and pop displayed on previous releases. The collection is easily the band's most well-rounded stack of songs recorded for a single offering to date. *Blame It On Gravity* represents the quality of song-craft fans have come to expect from the 97's past albums and is also reminiscent of the intensity, drive and bona fide joy found on cult favorite and major label debut *Too Far To Care*.

"We went into Salim's studio hellbent on making something great," says vocalist/guitarist/principal-songwriter Rhett Miller. "I could feel the energy crackling every day we were in there. It's like we had something to prove. Not just to ourselves, but to the world. Music should be real and meaningful. And while there is a weird, dangerous element to the stories in some of these songs, at its core *Blame It On Gravity* is a celebration of the brotherhood that is our band and a testament to our belief in the transcendent power of rock and roll."

Old 97's are comprised of: Rhett Miller, bassist/vocalist Murry Hammond, lead guitarist Ken Bethea and drummer Philip Peeples.

Blame It On Gravity's first single, "Dance With Me," is a romantic, infectious track that showcases Miller's classic storytelling prowess (the track is now streaming at the band's My Space page www.myspace.com/theold97s) Other highlights include the stellar and immediate "My Two Feet," and the catchy "Ride," which takes listeners on a coast to coast journey to escape an unrequited love. The album also showcases two fantastic Hammond contributions, "This Beautiful Thing," and "Color Of A Lonely Heart Is Blue."

Since the 97's last studio release, 2004's *Drag It Up*, the band has released a double live album, *Alive and Wired*, a live DVD, and appeared prominently in the romantic comedy *The Breakup* after being written into the script by longtime fan and supporter Vince Vaughn.

Well known as an explosive live act, the Old 97's will be in Austin, TX this year at South By Southwest. Following the release of the new album, the band will headline a three week nationwide club tour with dates to be announced soon.

For up to date tour information and more visit: www.old97s.com

Blame It On Gravity Track List:

1. The Fool
2. Dance With Me
3. No Baby I
4. My Two Feet
5. Ride
6. She Loves The Sunset
7. This Beautiful Thing
8. I Will Remain
9. Early Morning
10. The Easy Way
11. Here's To The Halcyon
12. Color Of A Lonely Heart Is Blue
13. The One

About New West Records:

New West Records LLC is a ten year old, wholly independent record label distributed in the United States by RED Distribution. With offices in Los Angeles and Austin TX, the company is staffed by a unique blend of music and business specialists. The label has had 12 releases debut in the Billboard Top 200 and boasts a number of Grammy® award winning artists including Dwight Yoakam, Steve Earle, Rickie Lee Jones, Kris Kristofferson and Delbert McClinton. In addition, the roster includes Ben Lee, Buddy & Julie Miller, Drive-By Truckers, Jason Isbell, John Hiatt, Old 97's, Randall Bramblett, Ray Davies, Stephen Bruton, The Flatlanders and Tim Easton. New West Records also has partnerships with Danny Goldberg's AMMAL Records, Scott Weiland's Softdrive Records, and exclusively releases CDs and DVDs from the award-winning television program "Austin City Limits".

For photos and bio visit www.newwestrecords.com/press

Press Contacts:

Amanda Hale-Ornelas / New West Records
Amanda@newwestrecords.com / 310-246-5766

Brady Brock / Gold Village Entertainment
bradyb@goldve.com / 212-741-2400

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