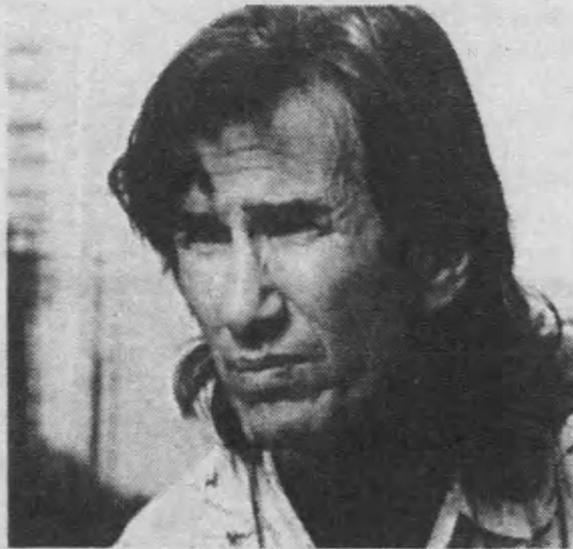




## Country classic Townes Van Zandt

Townes Van Zandt is the daddy of the Texas songwriter renaissance, an influence on everyone from Joe Ely and Jimmie Dale Gilmore to Lyle Lovett and Nanci Griffith. His 'Poncho and Lefty' is a country classic, typifying his blend of sharp observation and startling visual imagery. A tall, cadaverous figure with a dry, flat drawl, Van Zandt roams the no-man's-land between folk and country, battling his own weird demons. His shows are sometimes entertaining, sometimes chilling and always fascinating. He appears



TOWNES VAN ZANDT

Wednesday at Johnny D's in Somerville, on a double bill with fellow Texan Walter Hyatt, whose new 'Music Town' album shows off a talent familiar from Uncle Walt's Band and his frequent appearances with Lovett.

- ELIJAH WALD