



Townes Van Zandt plays Fatso's Wednesday

### CRITIC'S CHOICE

Townes Van Zandt at last may be getting the popular recognition he deserves as one of the all-time greats among Texas songwriters.

Van Zandt plays Wednesday at Fatso's Burgers & Blues in Arlington, a week ahead of another legendary Texas writer, Guy Clark.

His recording career has been spotty, beginning in 1968 with *For the Sake of the Song*. Van Zandt recorded seven LPs during the '70s for the Tomato label, then sat it out until *At My Window* (recorded in 1985 and released in 1987) and *Live And Obscure* (1989), both for Sugar Hill. That's also Guy Clark's record company.

Though the richness of Van Zandt's craft can be found in his own recordings (if you can *find* those recordings, that is), average country fans can relate to his tunes *Pancho and Lefty* (Willie and Merle) and *If I Needed You* (Don Williams and Emmylou Harris).

If Fatso's audience is lucky, they'll hear an odd little tune called *The Shrimp Song*, which dates from the Elvis movie *Girls! Girls! Girls!*

Cover is \$7 per person.

— SHIRLEY JINKINS