

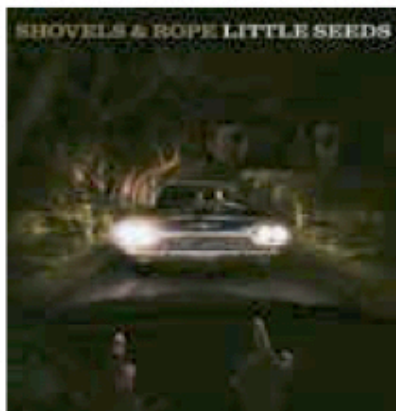
GARDEN & GUN

Oct. | Nov. 2016

TALK of the SOUTH ★ MUSIC

RAW POWER

SHOVELS & ROPE
LOOK INWARD



Relationships are hard enough without the added wrinkle of working together. On Shovels & Rope's new release, *Little Seeds*, music-and-life partners Michael Trent and Cary Ann Hearst tackle those frustrations head-on with "Buffalo Nickel," a warts-and-all confessional about being inextricably linked through music, home, and a new child. Their richest and most personal album to date,

Little Seeds also includes the devastating double whammy of "Mourning Song" and "Invisible Man," both of which deal with Trent's father's battle with Alzheimer's but with a ripping vibe rather than a weepy lament, while the ghostly "BWYR" sees the duo trying to come to grips with last year's murder of nine parishioners at Mother Emanuel AME Church in their hometown of Charleston.—**M.H.**