



What The Press Is Saying About Hayes Carll's *What It Is* So Far...

★★★★ - MOJO

"...it's songwriting that doesn't pander to mainstream country, alt-country, so-called Americana, indie-folk, or what-have you. It just tells its story." ★★★★★ - **Rolling Stone**

"That's 'What It Is' — Carll's prettiest album, and perhaps his best." - **Associated Press**

"On his sixth album, 'What It Is', he unburdens his mind about the volatility of our time so unassumingly, he never comes close to overburdening his songs." - **NPR Music**

"It's taken nearly three full years for him to arrive at the follow-up album, 'What It Is'...and this one is something else again." - **Wall Street Journal**

"...Carll is back with 'What It Is', his sixth studio album that finds the 43 year old settling into his role as middle-aged master craftsman and truth-teller." - **American Songwriter**

"Packed with plenty of his familiar dry humor while retaining the meditative voice he chiseled on his last record, it's Carll's testament to the power of slowing down and appreciating the moment: to having fun, to loving another, to parenting, to engaging with the world around him in an enduring and meaningful way." - **Rolling Stone Country**

"After a solemn post-divorce album, the Nashville-via-Texas songwriter works his endearing wit back into songs about loving someone new and abhorring social trends...this barbed humor recalls vintage Carll..." - **Pitchfork**

"...the recordings he has made are notable in that the last song on an album makes as strong a case to be heard as the first one...they're often song cycles that trace a theme or a mood or a vibe." - **Houston Chronicle**

"His latest record, 'What It Is' will be his sixth and reveals Carll's methodical craftsmanship at creating songs that warily address the modern world." **8/10**
- **PopMatters**

"Hayes Carll has made some great records. This is his best one." - **Glide Magazine**

"Having rediscovered his split-lipped humour, and working with simple, yet propulsive arrangements, this is a league leader back in game shape." **9/10** - **Exclaim**

"Hayes Carll is a big talent whose songwriting skills are on par with the likes of John Hiatt, Lyle Lovett, John Prine and Jason Isbell, and 'What It Is' attests to that."
- **The Alternate Root**

"Over the course of almost two decades and five albums, the forty-three-year-old songwriter has gained a reputation for his own way with words, as his straight-talking lyrics and wry delivery have garnered nods from the Grammys and Americana Music Awards." - **Garden & Gun**

"What It Is' is a solid showcase of songcraft and execution..." ★★★★★
- **Knoxville News Sentinel**

"There maybe younger...singer-songwriters, but you'd be hard pressed to find one as tall or talented as Carll. His wit and pointed observations remain intact..."
- **No Depression**

"...packing just about everything even the most demanding Carll fan could ask for without so much as a hint of play-it-safe pandering." - **Lone Star Music Magazine**

"... an urgency that binds the songs together with a softness and aggression that reveal Carll's unwavering assurance in his ideals." **Grade: A - My Kind Of Country**

"He has a rare ability to blend deft humor with deeper insight." - **Americana Highways**

"The dry wit and uptempo roots music is still there...'What It Is' should delight fans and non-fans alike." - **Twangville**

"...'What It Is' will undoubtedly be touted as Hayes Carll's best album to date."
- **Buddy Magazine**

"An underappreciated songwriter who gets better with every release."
- **Pacific Northwest Inlander**