



Shovels & Rope - *By Blood* Press Highlights

"By Blood' is an impressive feat of song craft from one of roots music's most exciting, unpredictable acts...Trent and Hearst are no doubt individual talents, but together they're a force to be reckoned with. Blood may be thicker than water, but these two have something even thicker still." - **NPR Music**

"...By Blood retains much of the wild energy of the duo's earlier records, but harnesses it or even expands it into something larger and fuller." - **Rolling Stone Country**

"Springsteen and Petty. Sweet and X. Shovels & Rope have certain threads running through their decade-long magic, but 'By Blood' is its own sorcery...this kind of raw, goosebump-inducing realness is so rare you can't waste a second." **5/5 – BUST**

"...a band constantly in motion, creating fresh ventures to the left of center and never looking back over their collective shoulders." - **American Songwriter**

"The duo of Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent display a tightness on the album that transcends typical bandmate cohesion. Married for a decade, the two are perfectly in step on every track, filling the space between one another with Trent's gravelly voice and Hearst's coarse, yet salient vocals." - **Associated Press**

"Over the last 11 years, Shovels & Rope, the duo of Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent, have carved a unique path through the Americana-roots music scene thanks to honest, rustic songwriting—as well as a willingness to experiment." – **Relix**

"With a new studio built in their own backyard and adding a second child to their clan, the fortitude of their family artistry comes through in fresh and powerful ways."
- **Consequence of Sound**

"Even in the long lineage of married musical duos, Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent share a rare chemistry, writing alt-country songs with grit and gut-wrenching harmonies...['By Blood] finds them in top form, seamlessly merging traditional and pop elements. Most importantly, their raw live energy is completely in tact..."
- **The A.V. Club**

"With 'By Blood', Hearst and Trent reach for compositional variations, using volume dynamically and transitioning seamlessly between busy and austere soundscapes. Individual and dyadic vocals are stellar, as would be expected." - **No Depression**

"By Blood' is a great rock and roll record that flies by in under 40 minutes. There's not a wasted note here. Much of their passionate singing on this record is at the furthest register of emotion, nakedly raw, on the absolute edge..." **8/10 – Popmatters**

"On the group's fifth collection of original songs, there is less violence than usual, though they do include one murder ballad, and many of their characters maim themselves with guilt, shame or regret. In characteristic form, the rootsy music mirrors the scarred character: the acoustic based instruments blare, yelp and pound." - MOJO

"In just a short time, Shovels & Rope have become one of our most important bands. This recording and their projects in 2019 promise to lift them higher to even another level." - Glide Magazine

"Peel back the layers and you will find Shovels and Rope cram a lot into their album production package on 'By Blood'. Beyond the rootsy and playful bounce, along with a raw sound, Shovels & Rope have a reverence for their doses of lyrical honesty."

- The Alternate Root

"This record is bursting with ingenuity and the joy of creation, and it's easily Shovels & Rope's most zero-fucks-given release yet, which is pretty damned refreshing and more than a little brave..." - Charleston City Paper

For more information about Shovels & Rope, please contact Jim Flammia jim@alleyesmedia.com or Michelle Steele michelle@alleyesmedia.com at All Eyes Media (615) 227-2770