



Shovels & Rope – Manticore Press Highlights

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8/10 – Holler.

"The new 10-tune set rivals their best work..." – Associated Press

"...this is what stands out about 'Manticore' more than anything: Shovels & Rope are becoming masters at emoting over simple narratives that make their words sound even more profound...it's just as intense musically and it is emotionally." - Relix

"The Americana power couple of Michael Trent and Cary Ann Hearst imagine divorce and dissect fame on their most personal record yet" – Rolling Stone Country

"A vulnerable and visceral exploration of the human experience...'Manticore' is a sweeping, dramatic, poignantly beautiful musical portrait of real life: The kind that's messy and the kind that hurts...both intimate and epic" – Atwood Magazine

"With their new album, 'Manticore', husband-and-wife duo Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent, aka Shovels & Rope, continue to hone their integrations of bar-room Americana, heartland rock, and a DIY sensibility. Their signature vocals, as with previous releases, remain an exhilaratingly seductive calling card." – No Depression

"...a preoccupation with fatigue and the everyman that suggests a post-apocalyptic version of Springsteen or Tom Waits...'Manticore' channels its frustrations into a baroque, rock-infused Americana sound that exorcizes as it unfolds." - The Boot

"The music is simple with wonderful harmonies, but the breadth of what's covered is so intriguingly complex, that while difficult to digest at first, exerts a yearning tug that keeps pulling one back for more listens." – Glide Magazine

"...brims with the boundless ambition of two people still striving to make each release a masterpiece." – American Songwriter

"Messiness is a large part of the charm of Shovels & Rope's latest album, 'Manticore'. The unpolished veneer suggests the authenticity of the material." – PopMatters

"It's far too early to start looking at year end best of lists but Shovels & Rope has already set the bar, delivering a perfectly timed slice of goodness in uniquely uncertain times." –Concert hopper

“...Trent and Hearst got busy in their home studio, beefing up the sonic impact and complexity of the music on ‘Manticore’ to match the topical weight and emotional volatility of its themes...” – Magnet

“Shovels & Rope fans will enjoy the sparkling production and emotion in ‘Manticore’, and the band is likely to have an equally great timesharing it with the world.”
– **Charleston Magazine**

"If you're looking for something wholly different that will take you on a musical journey, hop on ‘Manticore’ and take the ride.” – Outsider

“It’s been 10 years since the two put out their debut as a duo, in their tenure as a band they’ve already released six studio LPs and three amazing eclectic covers albums (‘Busted Jukebox Vols. 1-3’). ‘Manticore’ fits perfectly into that already impressive catalogue of music.” – New Noise

“Shovels & Rope combine gritty rhythms, full throated vocals, and powerful piano to drive forth a myriad of images at one turn playful and exuberant at another dark and mysterious as they embody their self-imposed manticore.....their most deeply personal and reflective journey to date.” – Americana Highways

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