



What the press is sayin' about Shovels & Rope's *Swimmin' Time*, so far...

"Hearst and Trent create such vivid characters and make such opulently open-ended music." – **NPR Music**

"...Swimmin' Time is triumphant in its confidence and variety..." – **Rolling Stone**

"...'Swimmin' Time' is Shovels & Rope's most riveting musical adventure to date."
– **Huffington Post**

*"Shovels & Rope displays a firm grip on its craft on *Swimmin' Time*, and a willingness to use it in service of any stylistic boulevard it chooses to walk."*

★★★★ – **Blurt**

"Lyrics to make the soul shake loose from out of your chest meet harmonies that will convert new audiences through pure emotive conviction." – **PopMatters**

*"...it is when Shovels & Rope explores its dark side that "*Swimmin' Time*" pulls away from its predecessor into album of the year contender territory."*

★★★★★ **Examiner National**

"These songs sound both vintage and modern, and they're better than most music you'll find today." – **Relevant Magazine**

*"...they are deftly able to move through genres like country, Americana, punk, rock, folk and blues. *Swimmin' Time* is dark, gritty, honest and playful all at once, and the 13-song collection will likely be the band's true coming-out party."* – **Relix**

"The new songs are populated with colorful characters, twisted tales, humanism and apocalypticism...It's in Hearst and Trent's ardently locked-in singing that their knowingness and warmth really comes through." – **CMT Edge**

"...a sound that fuses the rhythmic scrappiness and renegade spirit of punk rock with the narrative content and porch-pickin' bones of American roots — and a bit of blues thrown in for good measure..." – **Rolling Stone Country**

"...the elements of Shovels & Rope are still here: born-for-each-other voices, Southern charm, and dexterous (yet ramshackle) multi-instrumentalism. But the most interesting successes come when they turn down darker corners."

– **Consequence of Sound**

"...Shovels & Rope's sophomore LP manages to capture the duo's raucous spirit and live intensity." – **Paste**

"Their mix of raw energy and restrained finesse as they entwine their voices into incredibly tight high and low harmonies while playing a busker's orchestra of instruments, combined with their flair for vivid storytelling, creates an effect so dramatic, it almost leaves you drained." – **Lone Star Music Magazine**

"Swimmin' Time has been touted as one of the most hotly anticipated releases of the summer, and it delivers." – **Creative Loafing (Charlotte)**

"Together, they nail the defiance that defines a key part of the American character." – **Wondering Sound**

"Swimmin' Time is one of those records where you're ecstatic to have heard the previous one so that you can appreciate how much the music has evolved."

– **Elmore**

"...watching Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent onstage is a grace-giving experience. They fight back the banshees on a daily basis with limited machinery. And the audience trusts them to part the seas." – **The Bluegrass Situation**