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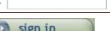
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two gallants what the toll tells (saddlecreek)



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# Blast from the past.

Exactly how a couple of San Franciscan dudes - both of the Nirvana generation - might have become so smitten with folk, blues and country traditionalism is hard to say. However, Adam Stephens and Tyson Vogel are not interested in homage or replication, but rather in channelling the spirits of the sea shanty, the bar-room ballad and the freight-train lament through alt rock and hardcore. Their sophomore album is surprisingly world-weary, but brims with an almost brutal rawness and betrays the pair's striking talent for storytelling.

Sharon O'Connell 16 February 06





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