Mp3 Vital Mines - Knaves And Money Changers



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A blending of stellar musicianship and incisive writing fusing Dylan, Neil Young, Ryan Adams and Wilco into a new strain of Americana stew. 11 MP3 Songs FOLK: Modern Folk, ROCK: Americana Details: Vital Mines taps a rich musical tradition to create its own unique sound. With its focus on well-crafted songs, the band has guickly attracted an avid following of music lovers in Northeast Ohio who appreciate a good tune wrapped around a good story. Fans and newcomers alike say they hear strains of Dylan, Dire Straits, Wilco, The Dead, Neil Young, Whiskeytown, Jeff Beck, and Johnny Cash but still cant quite categorize the music. In the end, they want to hear more. Vital Mines formed in 2004 and consists of veterans from Cleveland bands including The Unknown (pop punk), Rainy Day Saints (alt. pop), The Freeloders (folk country), The Swing Lizards (swing blues) and even some local church bands (go figure!). The music is eclectic and original with the occasional cover thrown in for good measure, played on both electric and acoustic instruments. The band regularly plays local venues including The Barking Spider, The Beachland Tavern and Wilberts and has shared the stage with artists such as The Drams, Anne E. DeChant, Carlos Jones, Michael Stanley, Cats on Holiday, Crooked Mile, Rockabilly Cats, Als Fast Freight, and Mr. Stress Blues Band. The band puts on a great live show and fans flock to see what they're going to pull out next. Music Review - Cool Cleveland 7/11/07 Knaves and Moneychangers Vital Mines Self Released A while back, I was at a Whiskeyhounds show and a fellow attendee asked me why theres an overabundance of Americana music coming out of Cleveland. From where better, I muttered back, thinking that even defining Americana music as a genre is to take a very narrow view. Necessary in some review situations, but narrow nonetheless. To this reviewer, Americana and all its subsets are simply classic American music; more often than not, the historically-aware music serves as underpinning for very human American experiences lyrics. If there arent real American stories and existential anxieties

to be found in the Rustbelt Buckle, after the decline of heavy manufacturing and industry, then where? A lot of local groups tap into that well of emotion with great posture and the quartet Vital Mines is no exception. Led by the raspy, sandy vocals of Dan McCafferty, Vital Mines embraces the jangle of alt-country and roots styles, while leaning on influences that range from Dylan and Springsteen, to classic rock, to Whiskeytown and R.E.M. And while his vocals occasionally veer off-key, he and Brian McCafferty (bass), John Pistone (guitars) and Mark Miller (drums) show a great deal of promise on Knaves and Moneychangers. It sounds a lot like they do live, which makes the 11-track offering a great calling card. After leading off with Quiet Desperation (which could be considered a theme for Cleveland by some) the band settles into a shimmering, laid back sound. Going to Carolina starts off like a Springsteen classic, channeled through Tom Joad; Backroads (to Doug Sahm) shares a sense of purpose with the Grateful Dead and Black Crowes (e.g. She Talks to Angels); the set-closer Wondrous Apparition and End Times works with a much more summery meter -- perfect for you No Depression junkies. In all, this disc has the energy and dynamics in the right places and suggests bigger things to come for them. The backing vocals of erstwhile Cool Cleveland music critic Leslie Basalla are a nice touch throughout the release, too, softening the songs and harmonies quite well.

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