

# RED SAMMY



In 2005, Baltimore songwriter Adam Trice founded the graveyard country rock band **Red Sammy**. The band name, a reference to Flannery O'Connor's story "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (1955), is a perfect pairing for the band's dark and menacing style.

The band's sophomore record is called *Dog Hang Low*. Listeners will naturally relish Red Sammy's signature rollercoaster lyrics, sounds and emotions, but the group has added even more layers this time around.

From electric-guitar, stomp-rock songs like "Lord Don't Break My Back" and "Songbird," and quieter, clean tones in "Cathedral" and "Postmark My Apologies" to the eclectic use of instruments such as pedal steel guitar, musical saw, harmonica, and haunting vocals, the album demonstrates Red Sammy's ability to mix beauty with chaos, and soft reverberations with wrenching eruptions.

Not only has Red Sammy created a genre all its own—Graveyard Country Rock, a unique sound, blending a wide range of musical and literary influences—but the band has always played in a wide variety of arrangements: sometimes as an acoustic duo in smaller venues, or frequently in concert with a number of Baltimore's most accomplished musicians. They've even performed with an aerial dance troupe.

But the driving force behind Red Sammy is singer/songwriter Adam Trice. "I'm experimenting more, not only with the music, but especially with the lyrics." Trice said, "*Dog Hang Low* has a lot more range and dynamic shifts, even within individual songs. It can be quiet and intimate one moment, the next, bold and rocking.

"Graveyard Country Rock is gritty, stark storytelling. Part southwest rock, part Cash and Escovedo. Sparse, but accessible, there's a thread that runs through the music, from Hawthorne and Poe (fitting, since we're from Baltimore), to Faulkner and Flannery O'Connor. You'll find Chekhov and Neil Young, along with an unmistakable Southern Gothic influence.

"The lyrics are about the daily struggles all of us face, work—hard work—love and loss, the blessed and misfortunate. In the end," Trice added, "no matter who we are, we all end up in the same place: the graveyard. It's the collective commonality none of us can escape."



## *Dog Hang Low*

The Beechfields Record Label

BRL 0616

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### FOR FANS OF

Alejandro Escovedo, Tom Waits, Johnny Cash, Frank Black, Neil Young

"It's freight-jumping, wedding ring-pawning music." —*Baltimore City Paper*

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