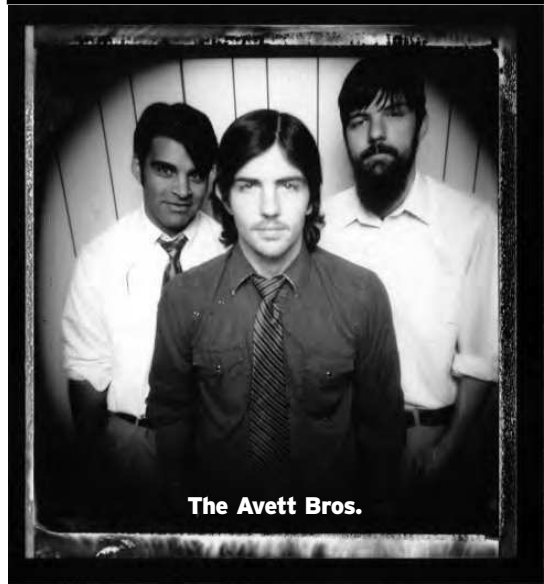




The Avett Bros.

Human Abstract and Arsis play at 5 pm Sunday, Jan. 21 at WOW Hall. \$15 plus two cans (or more) of food. — Vanessa Salvia

Not Your Grandma's Ragtime

Many bands declare they have the best fans in the world. But for **The Avett Bros.**, this may be true. To watch fans is to observe unnumbered swaying bodies singing along to every song with fevered passion. It's this devotion that fuels The Avett Bros.' desire to deliver a high-energy live show.

The trio, from Concord, N.C., is Scott and Seth Avett and Bob

Crawford. Together they use only their voices, a banjo and guitar, bass and kick drum to create an acoustic bluegrass sound reminiscent of The Violent Femmes and Eugene's own Inkwell Rhythm Makers.

According to their MySpace page, "The songs are honest; just chords with real voices singing real melodies. But the heart and the energy with which they are sung is really why people are talking and why so many are singing along."

While the band has only been together for a short time, The Avett Bros.' mixture of folk and ragtime creates the illusion that old-time country musicians are delivering the home-grown sound.

From their 2002 debut, *Country Was*, to their latest release, *Four Thieves Gone*:

The Robbinsville Sessions, The Avett Bros. are consistent in dishing out heart-felt love songs driven by plucks of the banjo and guitar. But their mood can change from track to track; upbeat, high energy songs generally balance out their albums.

"It is not New Year's, and it is not a political convention. It is neither a prime-time game-show, nor a music video countdown, bloated with fame and sponsorship. What you are hearing is the love for a music," declares their MySpace page. Lucky us, we get to hear their love for music twice! The Avett Bros. play a free show at noon Monday, Jan. 22 at the EMU, UO, and at 8 pm Tuesday, Jan. 23 at the WOW Hall. \$7 adv. & UO stu., \$10 door. — Amanda Burhop

TECH 9

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