



IN (C)OLD BLOOD

Hailing from Chico, California, **Cold Blue Mountain** combines the simple, riff-driven approach of moderately paced doom, the frenetic energy of hardcore and the melodic elements of '90s alternative rock to craft a highly accessible, unique brand of metal all its own.

Sparing the diehards from any "clean," or non-screaming, singing whatsoever, vocalist Brandon Squyres is a rare breed in the world of frontmen not anchored by an instrument; he doesn't try to cram vocals into every empty space. His willingness to let the songs breathe allows them to feel that much more dynamic, hinting at a keen understanding of vocals as an instrument rather than focal point.

The hooks present here are more often than not the guitar work of Will McGahan and Sesar Sanchez, building crushing refrains that live on in memory like a vocal melody.

This will be the band's second tour through Eugene in support of album *Old Blood*, a concept record that was already largely written when Squyres joined in 2012. Stepping in, he wrote lyrics based upon the existing song titles.

"My goal was to make the lyrics go with the structures of the songs, like the score of a movie," Squyres says. "Sesar wanted the theme to be about breaking the will of man. I liked the idea, but took it a little further."

Cold Blue Mountain will be joined by Los Angeles sludge act **North** and Oakland blackened doom band **Secrets Of The Sky** 8 pm Monday, June 15, at Wandering Goat, 268 Madison St.; \$5. 21-plus. — *Joshua Isaac Finch*

HARDCORE RENO

Kevin Seconds, founding member of veteran punk-rock band **7 Seconds**, says punk needs young people.

"I always did say punk and hardcore is driven by the youth," Seconds tells EW. "Whether or not I agree with what they're doing with it — a lot of times I don't — it's in their hands."

He adds, "A lot of us who've been at it a long time need to swallow our pride and say: 'Fuck it.'"

Formed in Reno, Nevada, in 1980, 7 Seconds is still at it for the right reasons, Seconds says. "We had a good run and we still love it."

The band is touring in support of 2014's *Leave A Light On*.

The record shows that the melodic brand of hardcore West Coast punk 7 Seconds helped innovate is still sharp. From track "Slogan on a Shirt," Seconds sings: "We gotta spread this shit around, make it more than just some slogan on a shirt."

Seconds says he hopes that when the band does call it a day, its legacy will be a "commitment to doing what you love with as much passion and fire as you possibly can."

He adds, "To never take yourself too seriously; to communicate as best as possible. At the end point, if this is what we accomplish, then I'll be pretty happy."

7 Seconds plays with L.A. punk-rock band **The Briggs** and Seattle pop-punk outfit **Success** at 8:30 pm Sunday, June 14, at WOW Hall; \$12 adv., \$14 door. All ages. — *William Kennedy*



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