

*Music Review: Originally published 08/01/04 in Vital Source.* <u>http://www.vitalsourcemag.com/story/view/100442</u>

## Moonshine Sway Seven Years

By Jeremy M. Rottgen

Shut Eye Records www.shuteyerecords.com

They say the best homemade wine comes from the Appalachian Mountains. Then there's the white lightning from the local trailer park that hits harder than most. When it comes to doublewide-inspired music, Moonshine Sway is a hefty swig of Milwaukee's alt-country scene.

Seven Years is Moonshine Sway's first full-length effort. Despite spending more than enough time in bars, Moonshine Sway is more than just a bar band. Some of the tracks sound like pure rockabilly, while others leave the music open to slower riffs. The vocal stylings of singer Tom Vollman lend a classic rock feel, while the sway of a slide guitar keeps things country-fried.

"1000 Miles" kicks off with pure whiskey-fueled rockabilly. "Austin City Nights" and "Chelsea" introduce the softer side of these corn-liquor heroes. "Gin Mill" is an excellent example of country guitar blended with uncountry vocals. A good number of the tracks keep things mellow on Seven Years, but "Faultline" picks up the tempo again before the end.

The good thing about Moonshine Sway is that you get twang from the guitars, not from a singer's throat. It may not be traditional country or rock, but it's fine for folks who like to relax, drink and listen to songs of heartbreak and booze.

Jeremy M. Rottgen -

© Copyright 2003, Vital Source. All rights reserved.