

Two Gallants are Adam Stephens and Tyson Vogel. Together they are drums, guitar, vocals, harmonica, and piano when the house provides. They grew up in the city of San Francisco and have known each other since they were five. They have been in bands together since they were twelve. They have been Two Gallants since 2002.

Attempting to define the formula that makes this band is an almost impossible feat. Two Gallants have been classified as 'garage-folk', 'countrified-alt-punk', 'gutter country', 'hardcore candyman', etc. Their influences range from backcountry blues musicians of the '20s and '30s like Skip James, Robert Wilkins, and Clarence Ashley, to more recent local punk bands like Hickey and Operation Ivy. They channel the spirit of early Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen, with the Americana sound of John Fahey and a modern punk sensibility. Adam and Tyson source the emotions of every day life that no one can avoid. Still their sound is rooted somewhere far deeper and more personal than a list of influences -- no matter how significant -- could suggest.

Two Gallants songs are often brutal, unforgiving yet comical, intimately confessional but always dignified. Their range moves easily through many different genres and sentiments, at times suggestive of the twangy melodrama of early country, at others abrasive and cutting with the ruthlessness of nascent hardcore. Their poetic vision is beautifully expressed through complex lyrical imagery and a dynamic interplay of drums and guitar that explodes from silence and returns to a lull without prediction or the comfort of repetition. This band challenges the restriction that songs must be brief and pointless -- these tracks spark the imagination, leaving the listener caught in a conflict of emotions and confronted with the need to question everything.