

SHELBY BOTTOM DUO

“Something authentic coming out of Nashville that is fresh, real, fun and yet filled with social commentary set to a distinct style of music... Woody Guthrie meets Robert Johnson meets Steve Earle meets Sam Bush meets Del McCoury meets Scott Joplin meets Steeleye Span might begin to describe the sound of the Shelby Bottom String Band but still doesn't do it justice because of the uniqueness of the lyrical content.” Sharon Cobb, *The Examiner*

“Whether waxing nostalgic about bygone days or lamenting the contemporary scourge of mountain top removal, the **new-fashioned old-time music of the Shelby Bottom String Band is awash in humanity, humor and insight – all of it wrapped in a warm pocket of nimble down-home rhythms.** East Nashville's best-kept, most danceable secret.” Bill Friskics-Warren, contributor to *New York Times* and *Washington Post*

“Near to East Nashville's Shelby Bottoms is a dense intersection called Five Points. Metaphorically, the SBSB stands at its own Five Points, where **humor and history, generosity of spirit, musical skill and an inimitable groove all meet**--and that's a mighty good place to be.”
Jon Weisberger, critic for *Nashville Scene*

Recipient of 2014 Metro Nashville Arts Commission THRIVE funding and a Puffin Foundation Grant for the music video *Displacement Blues*.

The band has four popular YouTube videos: “East Nashville Rag”, “Don't Blow Up The Mountain”, “Obama Back Again” and “Displacement Blues.”

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www.reverbnation.com/shelbybottomstringband

www.facebook.com/shelbybottomduo

CD SALES: www.cdbaby.com/cd/shelbybottomstringband

Label: Rock-A-Lot/Independent
Artist Debut Release

Genre: Acoustic Americana

Sub-Genre: Folk, Bluegrass

Availability: As a duo or band for festivals, house concerts, private parties, meetings, and clubs



Michael August and Nell Levin formed the “formidable” (*Nashville Scene*) **Shelby Bottom String Band** in 2008. **Shelby Bottom Duo** continues the band's tradition of entertaining, irreverent social commentary, humanity and humor. Their repertoire includes originals like “East Nashville Rag”, the title cut of the band's CD, “Displacement Blues”, named by the *Tennessean* as “Nashville's newest social justice anthem” and “Fat and Bald”, an audience favorite about life's unintended consequences. They also delight listeners with some obscure, quirky songs that deserve a wider audience.

Nell and Michael have performed on the stage of Nashville's historic Ryman Auditorium and at many venues, festivals, house concerts and benefits for environmental, community and social justice organizations. They are currently touring their Musical History of Joe Hill and the Early Labor Movement show around the South and released a companion CD, *Joe Hill Roadshow*, in October 2016.

Michael August has been a programmer on Nashville radio station WRFN for 10 years. He is a songwriter and has been the lead singer and rhythm guitarist of Shelby Bottom String Band for 7 years. He has also played as a solo artist.

Nell Levin has played with Americana artist Tom Roznowski, Buffalo Gals, Cadillac Cowgirls, Goldrush and bluegrass pioneer Earl Taylor. She was voted Most Promising Female Songwriter by Tennessee Songwriters Association. She was the primary songwriter, fiddler and back-up vocalist for Shelby Bottom String Band for 7 years.