

spirit. "The feedback was so positive, and we were able to connect with so many people who liked the music. So, we decided to work through a few more ideas we had put together, with the hopes of releasing an EP of four songs. But once we got started, the ideas kept coming and it was hard to stop the speeding train so to speak. And the result is our debut album, with the nine tracks. The best part of the process for me was the excitement about each song and each idea and working through them with Scott. And then seeing that come together and turn into something that we're incredibly happy with." Looking forward, Amy has envisioned the band continuing to grow and try new things musically and exploring other lyrical themes, but ultimately staying true to their overall style, capitalizing on the compatibility of our voices and vocal styles along with a cinematic approach. As far as lyrics go Amy is hugely inspired by Myles Kennedy (Alter Bridge, Slash and Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators, and his solo work), Ben Burnley (Breaking Benjamin) and Dustin Bates (Starset) for their creativity and the way they tell a story. "Breaking Benjamin's 'Diary of Jane,' Starset's 'Halo'—in fact, Starset's overall lyrical themes throughout all of their songs—and Alter Bridge's 'Fortress' are all story telling in a very unique way and through a very creative lens," she explains to me. "Vocally, I love the range and clarity in Amy Lee's voice (Evanescence), the "grit" in Lzzy Hale's (Halestorm) voice and her amazing scream. That's something I need to work on, I think. I also love Jen Ledger's (Skillet) pure, and clean sounding voice. Musically, I love big, heavy guitars. So when looking for inspiration on the sound or

vibe for music, I turn again to Ben Burnley, as well as Mark Tremonti (Alter Bridge)." Music consumes much of Amy's life, leaving her little time for outside hobbies. "For example, Scott and I love to go to music festivals across the country and as many concerts as possible. We also have a few other music projects that we're involved in, so that is how I spend a lot of my time. But, outside of that, I am interested in fitness and nutrition, as well as kayaking," she says. Falling into Red is Amy and her husband, Scott. "For our first album, we also had my brother-in-law, Ray—an accomplished musician in his own right—and our talented friend, Dave Miklos, provide additional support on bass and drums, respectively. We're based just south of Pittsburgh, PA, an area of many unique concert venues and opportunities to be exposed to a variety of musical genres. Both Scott and I come from musical backgrounds and were encouraged to experience and learn about many different musical styles as well as express our thoughts and emotions through writing and storytelling. We've worked on several other projects together prior to Falling into Red over the years, but this is the culmination of our passion for music and our unique partnership. We released our first single in late 2016," explains Amy.



"What makes Falling into Red different from other artists is the way that our individual strengths fit together and our dedicated partnership and

respect for the music that we make. Aside from that, we are fortunate enough to be able to record and produce our music in-house (literally) and have the marketing experience that gives us the ability to not have to rely—or compensate—anyone else to be able to release our music. And that's something that's extremely important to us. We are able to focus on the music, and make the music that we want, without worrying about studio time costs, or adhering to someone outside of the process' rules or wants. It gives us the freedom to drive our own future, which is important in the indie music scene," she expresses. For Amy, there are many highlights throughout the album. "I love that my vocals were the perfect complement to Scott's and were able to emphasize the emotion of the lyrics. Another highlight was 'From the Ashes' because it was my first lead vocal experience," she says with satisfaction. "It was a challenge. Being "in front" puts you out that and makes you vulnerable. That's not a position I'm comfortable with, quite frankly. So, it was an experience that forced me to deal with those type of insecurities and doubts to be able to get to a point that I was comfortable and even happy with the overall song. That was an uncomfortable experience in the beginning. Another highlight was 'The Storm Inside' which was a very personal and emotional lyrical story. The fact that it resonated with so many people who had their own interpretations of that their "storm inside" was pretty powerful," she enthuses. At this point, the band haven't performed live as Falling into Red, but they have talked with local venues and other bands about the possibility of future shows and it's something that Amy is really excited to do. "The goal is to