

# STITCHED SOUND

Issue #14



## AUSTIN GIBBS

The Beautiful Decay, Electric Drip,  
Abandon All Ships, Just The Kid!  
Jacobs Ladder, Falling Awake

+ more

# Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. only not...

November is usually the most horrid time of year. The snow starts to fall and the temperatures drop about forty degrees. Well, not all the time, but it is a dreaded month. It was -40 degrees Celsius with wind chill the other day in Edmonton - talk about torture. But, I guess this means spending more time at home and working on Stitched Sound - ha.

I really like the interviews in the issue, I think they're great. The year's almost over and I'd just like to thank everyone who has helped us along the way, reads our issues, and supports us.

Stitched Sound is an online magazine that brings you the latest news about upcoming and distinguished bands. We do this through interviews, journalism, reviews, updates, and photography. Keeping the mood light and fun is something we love to do. Whether it's through an intriguing interview, simple update, or complete issue, we strive to bring you news and updates about the fast growing music scene today.

We have a Twitter, and Facebook. Links are on our site if you click on Contact. It'd be great if you guys were able to help us promote Stitched Sound.

Whether it be good or bad, we always appreciate feedback. It helps us know what we should change, or what you enjoy so we can continue bringing this to you. Send it to [cynniephotographs@gmail.com](mailto:cynniephotographs@gmail.com) or [stitchedsound@googlemail.com](mailto:stitchedsound@googlemail.com)

- Cynthia Lam

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# OCEANO

Interview with Adam Warren  
Interview by Bianca Delicata

## What makes your band different from others?

What makes my band different is on and off stage (on cd) we possess and omit the same ferocity unto your ears as well as when performing. We try to connect with our fans as friends and try to make them feel as if they're just as much a part of our live performance as the band members itself. Oceano Keeps it heavy and pissed off, BUT above all we keep it real. No B.S. no egos here. Pridefully I can say that about all of us.

## Pepsi or Coca-Cola?

Neither! Carbonation is NO good! also watch what you eat and drink. You may be surprised what you find. Especially in so called "diet" beverages.

## When were you sure that you wanted to play music for a living?

I didn't get into the whole metal band thing until My first year of College. So it took a good year or two after that to fail a

few times and experience the hardships of being in a band, as well as the glory. Upon joining Oceano in 2007, thats when it all began to come into perspective and my life goals were adjusted.

## What's your favourite 90's cartoon?

Batman: The animated series. It was so dark and action packed for an after school children's program.

## What was the bands' first song written?

The bands first song ever written? Oh goodness. I have no idea. We've written and scrapped so many songs, and changed title names before we started taking this band to a serious touring level.

## Who is the most well-prepared, in the band?

The most well prepared, would either be Me or Nick. Were the neatest/cleanest as well. Haha

## What has been the biggest obstacle the band has had to overcome?

The early member changes that occurred. Sometimes those changes are essentially thought to creating a better atmosphere to work in, and I totally feel more comfortable than ever with the solid lineup we have now.

## American Apparel or Urban Outfitters?

YUK!! if I was forced to one, American Apparel. I'd prefer neither and just shop at Macy's or Ecko Unlimited though!

## What do you enjoy doing most in the summertime?

Summertime is best for the following: Parties, sweaty sex, and sports!

## Anything else you'd like to say to our readers?

Lasly, I'd like to close with, be sure to check out Oceano's new album "CONTAGION" in stores now!



# TIGERFACE

Interview by Azaria Podplesky

**Tigerface is the most unique band name I think I've ever heard. What's the story behind the name?**

We wish there was some crazy, intriguing story to it. Maybe we should think of one to start telling people.

**How did the members of Tigerface meet? When did you all decide to start a band?**

We both went to the same high school but didn't actually meet there. During college we were both working on music independently with very similar styles. We had been formally introduced through mutual friends at a party one night and talked about the music we were writing and decided to collaborate.

**Have your family members supported your choice to become musicians?**

For the most part they really have. They may not have approved of some of the sacrifices we've had to make to be musicians but overall they have definitely been supportive.

**What would you be doing if you weren't in Tigerface?**

We'd both probably still be working on music but not as successfully since we realize we work best together.

**In the last few years, many of the bands to come out of Arizona have been pop rock bands. Was it hard to find your place in a very pop-dominated local scene?**

At times it definitely has since our music certainly isn't for everyone. We can understand and appreciate that as everyone has their own musical tastes and preferences. Luckily our music still resonates pretty well with people who only like pop music. We respect many of the acts to come out of Arizona as many of them have inspired us over the years.

**What was it like recording Castlecore pt. 1?**

It was a very intense process recording the latest album. We did a lot of the writing for the EP in the studio. We actually made a last minute decision while preparing to record vocals to switch vocalists for the album. This made it a bit more stressful since we had less time to prepare for the role change.

**What's your favorite song off of the record? Why?**

Chris-Day of the Gnome since the song had been around for a long time. It has so many different parts to the song and the epic feel throughout really makes it so memorable. Ari-Dawn Follows Massacre is my favorite song on the CD as it is the closest to me personally. I remember writing it on the piano a year before it was recorded and it was just amazing to see it come into a whole new light on the album.

**What is your favorite song to play live? Why?**

Chris- Day of the Gnome, for basically the same reasons as above. We get very into the song and make it extra dramatic for the audience. People who hadn't heard us before come up after and always say how intense it is. Ari- I would have to say Dawn Follows Massacre. I feel like this song really shows how big our sound can be and it offers a lot of our energy in the performance we deliver.

**What would you like an audience member to get out of your show?**

First and foremost we hope anyone who comes to a show will get extremely engaged with the music. It is a huge compliment when a fan tells us they have never heard a band like us. We really try to make the show more of an experience as opposed to seeing just another indie rock show.

**If you could share the stage with any band, who would it be and why?**

Chris- Joy Division is definitely one but since that's not physically possible I have to go with The Applesseed Cast and Nachtmystium, that would be quite a diverse show. And maybe possibly a 90's emocore band like Sunny Day Real Estate for good measure.

Ari- Reggie and the Full Effect, Sigur Ros, or Nine Inch Nails would all be awesome. Obviously we would be the worst band on the bill lol but these musicians are all

amazing artists and also put on an incredible show.

**Are there any cities or countries you haven't visited but you would love to play in?**

We'd love to go to play in New York and a lot of the East Coast. Even smaller cities closer to us that we just haven't been to would be great to play.

**What is the biggest challenge you all face as musicians in today's world?**

The biggest challenge in the music industry is learning how to get noticed in the new digital age of the music industry. Social network websites basically gave anyone the chance to become a musician who could set up page and upload music. In many ways this has been a positive for us but it has also created a lot of struggle to get heard amongst the thousands of other "bands". I used " " because I'm not sure if even half of

what is available can even be considered real music, if that is something that can really even be defined.

**Can you offer aspiring musicians a word of advice?**

Practice. No one becomes a great musician overnight. It takes passion, drive, and tons of dedication. You often make many sacrifices and face many struggles as a musician. It's all about overcoming those obstacles and difficult times which will in turn make you a better artist.

**What's next for Tigerface?**

We are about to begin recording our third EP. This is going to be by far our most exciting album yet. We will follow the release of this album with a regional tour and hopefully after that a national tour.





**What made you decide to get into the music industry? Was there anything specific that triggered it?**

**Justin:** I grew up playing music and love inspiring people. My mom actually forced me to take piano lessons as a kid and hated it so I asked for a drum kit and I have played drums ever since I was 7 years old. Then after high school I spent time touring with some metal bands and in that time on the long drives on the road I made beats on my laptop.

**Kody:** I would just say my love for music, and more so my love for live music. I loved going to shows and seeing people rock it, so naturally I aspired to do that. because to me thats more than half of it, sure you can put out a great record but if you cant reach your fans at shows then there really is no connection/no point. Thats why we try to make our shows blow your mind.

**Growing up, who were your biggest influences? Are they more or less the same today?**

**Justin:** Growing up my dad introduced me to such a variety of music from Michael Jackson, The Bee gees, Zztop, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd and The Beatles. They are a lot the same and many are different as I grew up and expanded my music collection.

**Kody:** Likewise, I grew up jamming some U2, Reo Speed Wagon, some Zep and a whole bunch of others. On the hip hop side I remember rocking that license to ill album hard, all the early slim, mobb deep, nwa and everything else coming from the west coast in the 90's and early 2000's.

**What makes Electric Drip different from other artists in the scene today?**

**Justin:** What makes us different is than most other artists is the connection we have with our fans, they like that the fact we don't give a fuck about cheesy shit and we create music that speaks to them, rather than sugary love

songs, Like our song "Ex girl", its about getting over it and moving on and not letting someone control your dreams and life. I think kids get it and it speaks to them.

**Kody:** Yeah I mean we don't even know how you would categorize what we do musically, and I have no problem with that. We aren't trying to be something that were not, and I think people that listen to us understand were just trying to have a good time.

**If you could collaborate with any artist or band out there who would it be and why?**

**Kody:** Haha talk about a tough question. The easy answer for me would be dre n em just because I love that sound dre produces and the tough bars that em has always had. but to be a little different and more on the lines of electric drip I wanna collab with someone like Deadmau5 or Skrillex.

**Justin:** I think i'd like to Collab with Weezy, just so I could get high with him and gotta agree with Kody on Skrillex, he is the shit, that and my boy MODSUN.... Wud up Dylan?

**What would you say the 'recipe' is for an Electric Drip song?**

**Justin:** I'd say it changes, Kody and I stay in the kitchen and adding shit in and keep going till its bassy N' tasty, We put hour upon hours into our music to make it hit hard.

**Kody:** Lets not fuck around the first thing we do is produce something powerful, our main goal with our music is to create a good energetic vibe that while listening to your like, damn this beat is going off. we don't think of anything else until we achieve that. that and some recreational drugs.

**While writing, do you aim for a specific genre or age group? Why or why not?**

**Justin:** Na we just do Electric Drip and keep it us, and we don't really target any age group because theres plenty of songs for every age group to understand and feel.

**Kody:** I agree obviously there are genres and ages that flat out wont get it but that goes for everything, I do think we appeal to the hip hop heads, the electro heads and since we have a upbeat in your face kind of live show

peeps that listen to metal or punk kinda rock will find it entertaining.

**In your opinion, is the internet beneficial to artists in the music industry today? To what extent?**

**Justin:** Hell yea, the internet makes it an even playing field for artists and labels, besides all their capital. I like that I can get my music straight to the fans that care with out jumping through hoops for a label.

**Kody:** I think its good and bad, the bad is that no body out there is trying to develop artist anymore. If you can't make a hit or make something popular on your own they want nothing to do with you. Having said that the internet makes it possible for us to build our base of fans and develop as artist on our own.

**What is your favourite social networking site to connect with fans?**

**Justin:** Personally I like Facebook because I also use it as my personal page and I enjoy chatting with fans and friends every time I get on. Btw you should add us :) Justin Gabrielli and Kody Didier

**Kody:** Yeah if I'm on one it usually is FB.

**Do you have a guilty pleasure music wise?**

**Justin:** Like I said earlier I use to tour playing metal drums, I love cranking up some Attack Attack, Black Dahlia Murder also like my Oldies.

**Kody:** My guilty pleasure? haha I like listening to AP/ Warped tour kinda bands, metal, classic rock, I'll jam me some old from first to last sometimes or some as blood runs black, allegiance is one of my favorite metal albums ever.

**Where do you hope to be in the future?**

**Justin:** Our goal right now is to get on tour and party with as many people as possible and try and get a spot on Warped Tour or Bamboozle and make an impact.

**Kody:** Yeah I wanna meet a bunch of people and get the word out, its kinda hard to say where we think we will be in the future but we know what were aiming for and we aren't stopping anytime soon. Sorry haters.



## CHEAP SEATS

Interview with Vince D'Annunzio  
Interview by Cynthia Lam

**What goals or accomplishments did you want to achieve when Cheap Seats first started? Have you accomplished them?**

The goal for Cheap Seats from the beginning was to create a unique blend of throwback sounds for today's audience that embodies the genuine aspects of music that we feel many (people) have lost touch with. This is accomplished every time we step into the studio, onto the stage, and everywhere in between. Heart, soul, and honesty are what drive Cheap Seats.

**Who would you say are your biggest inspirations or influences? How have they influenced you personally?**

We take influence from and pay homage to soul artists from the mid to late 60's and early 70's including the works Motown, Philly International, Stax and artists such as Curtis Mayfield, Sam Cooke, James Brown, Bill Withers & many more.

**Would you say that you have grown musically since Cheap Seats? How?**

I have absolutely grown since the beginning Cheap Seats. Though the band is still in it's infancy, I've had the pleasure of working with and meeting dozens of talented people in the music business. I hope to never stop growing as a musician or a person.

**How would you describe Cheap Seats (the members, the music, and the lyrics) in one word? Why did you choose this word?**

Timeless. I feel our sound, look & feel, and overall vibe is something people of all ages can relate to.

**What is the writing process for Cheap Seats like? Would you say it's collaborative or not?**

For Cheap Seats, the writing process goes one of two ways. Either one person, usually myself, writes a song and then delegates to the rest of the group what they envision or a number of writers (two or more) create a song and then bring it to the band. As a group we work out the kinks together until we are all satisfied and it is deemed a Cheap Seats song.

**Do you have a favourite song that you have written? Why is it your favourite?**

My favorite song I've written is entitled Holiday. It is a song about being able to separate yourself from the hardships life often presents and enjoying what's in front of you. The song was written for my mother. Without her, I don't know where I'd be.

**What would you say that Cheap Seats is about? Is there a message that you would like to send?**

The name comes from the idea of looking at our world from a far. "I want to see the world

somehow. From where we're sitting, it's just a story on the screen of a drive-in. It's as though life is a movie, and we're just watching it from the Cheap Seats."

**If you could play a show with any artist or band who would it be and why?**

Two acts immediately come to mind: The Beatles and Michael Jackson. Both influenced music tremendously during their time and continue to afterward.

**Is there a song that you'd like to play live but are unable to? Why?**

I've always wanted to play God Only Knows by The Beach Boys. I don't think I could ever, though, for fear of not doing it justice. It is a most incredible work of art and an all time favorite of mine.

**What does the future hold for Cheap Seats?**

Having just released their Truth & Soul Sessions EP, the group is continuing to make a name for themselves by performing regionally and worldwide via the internet. The group has plans to record a full length album this January, 2011 in Philadelphia while beginning to work on new music and continue to prosper and grow.

# INDELIBLE

Interview by Cynthia Lam

## What inspired you to start writing music and be in the music industry?

We both played various instruments and were involved with musical activities since we were very young. I (J Thorn) started to play piano at 7 and continued until 12 peaking at the second highest level attainable in The Royal Conservatory of Music. I started writing songs at about 9, and won first place in a provincial songwriting contest when I was 10. Illucid dabbled in many areas as well and actually played banjo for some time. In grade 7, at age 12, I wrote my first rap song and performed for my school at the year end talent show. Lee (Illucid) and I started writing and freestyling around that time and eventually met some other people that were rapping. By about grade 10/11 (8/9 for Lee) we were freestyling at lunch breaks and after school with a bunch of friends. Eventually we set up a number of makeshift studios in our parents' basements where we could freestyle jam and record on cassette. Shortly after graduating I linked up with a DJ/producer that had gone to our High School and started multi-track recording, making songs on beats he had produced. About a year later I had my first recording system. I suppose the natural progression finally led to us getting really serious about the craft, and in 2001 five of us formed the group "Reverse Priorities" and put out 2 more albums (we had released one album in 2000, unofficially called Reverse Priorities, with a crew of 11 rappers). Essentially, we're musicians at heart and have an unavoidable drive to make music. As such I think eventually you end up, after perfecting your art form, wanting to have other people enjoy your work. It was only after forming Paranoyd Records in 2003 and opening Paranoyd Sound Studios in 2006 that we'd learned enough about the industry and had enough experience to really focus on what we wanted and go for it with our new group Indelible.

## Is there anything specific that inspires you lyrically?

Our experiences do, and our awareness of other people's experiences. A lot of what we do is an attempt to relate to listeners but it's basically what we feel at the time. Nowadays if we're writing it will have some sort of tense but positive spin on it or we probably won't be writing!

## What would you say is the best quality about Indelible?

JT - I'd say musical diversity and the approach that tends to lead us towards. Illucid - I think we're less bound by stylistic "rules" than some artists in our genre.

## If you had to describe "Our Present Future" in one word what would it be and why?

Oh good one... that is tough, can't say Indelible I guess lol! Optimistic - because it's moving and has a motivational and positive theme overall. We're both pessimistic realists so some of that character comes through for sure but it's overall optimistic.

## While writing music, have you ever experienced writers block? What do you do to overcome it?

We keep making beats and experimenting until we get something that works. We really only write to specific songs when the inspiration is right.

## What is the most meaningful song that you've wrote? What is it about?

Probably Inspiration or Our Present Future from our brand new album.

## Do you prefer recording songs or playing shows? Why?

We don't really enjoy recording, especially Jay (J Thorn) cause it's his job lol - jk haha!

Writing, composing, pre-production recording, and performing are all things we enjoy for sure but some of the recording process and mixing etc. can be pretty tedious. Shows are way more fun than tedious recording, more fun in general.

## What makes Indelible different from other artists?

Different lyrical approach, and full composition and production from ground up built around that or vice-versa.

## When did you play your first show? What were your thoughts and feelings before you went on stage?

The last show was Sat. Nov. 6 in Penticton for the "Muskwa" CD release by an associate of ours K.A.S.P. It was an all ages show with a focus on youth and drug and alcohol awareness. Needless to say it was a bit of a change from most of our shows which happen in dark nightclubs so we did have a bit of a different focus - but it's always the same really: Give a killer performance and fire up the energy levels in the room.

## If you could turn back time and do something differently what would you do and why?

No regrets.

## Where do you hope to be in the future?

We want to continue to enjoy this usually testing lifestyle and do what we can to get what we make out there. Eventually we'll probably hit a point where we want to live a more normal life but we'll always make music. JT - We're learning a lot about the business as we go and all of that will help us to grow the label and other aspects of the business along with Indelible.



# JUST THE KID!

Interview by Cynthia Lam  
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**How did you become friends with the other members of Just The Kid and decide to start a band?**

We all met through other bands around our local area. We formed a super band!

**Would you say that Just The Kid! is different from other bands in the scene? How so?**

We are different in a lot of ways! We bring a lot of energy and craziness to our live show! Our live show is what really sets us apart from other bands!

**Do you aim for a specific genre or age group while writing music? Why is this?**

Yes I would have to say! We target more young kids with our radio pop sound!

**What would you say inspires your songs?**

Real life events! Girls!

**As a musician do you ever get writers block? How do you overcome this?**

All the time! You just have to play through it! Keep jamming and eventually something will come! or at least it has for us!!

**What would you say is the best quality about each of your band members?**

Everyone in the band helps out/ contributes to the band in their own unique way! This is what makes JTK what it is today!

**Do you have any pre show rituals that you do?**

A lot of stretching and jumping around! And we always High Five each other on stage right before we start!

**What has been the best show that you've played? What made it so memorable?**

Our one and only show we have played in Canada so far! somewhere in Ontario! the

kids were absolutely nuts! we had all of fun!

**Have you had any embarrassing moments on stage? What happened?**

Yes! Totally fell off side of the stage at a venue! My guitar totally cut out! Everyone knew what had happened! totally embarrassing!!!

**If you could play a show with any bands or artists (disbanded or not) who would they be and why?**

Chris Martin and Steven Tyler! Would make for an interesting show!

**Is there a latest trend that you really like? Dislike?**

Justin Bieber..dislike!

**Do you have a celebrity crush?**

Yes! Jessica Alba!

**Is there a message that you would like to spread through music? What is it?**

Keep on having fun! Never stop!

# AUSTIN GIBBS

Interview by Roberta Quezada



Stitched Sound got the chance to meet and get to know Austin Gibbs when the Evening with The Maine tour stopped by Toronto, Ontario this past July. We got the privilege to sit down with him again as he is currently on tour with The Summer Set on their first headlining tour. We did a short follow-up to see how the last three months have been for Austin and what's next for this Mesa, Arizona native.

**Last time Stitched Sound talked with you, you were on tour with The Maine and This Century. How much have things changed for you in those three months?**

The last three months for me have been kind of the same thing, but different in a way. It's been crazy as always and awesome.

**How different is this tour from your last one?**

For sure the last tour was way bigger but this tour has a good amount of people.

**What's your greatest accomplishment in 2010, in your opinion?**

I'd say my greatest accomplishment is being able to do this. My goal was to tour and I've been on my first big two tours this year so I'd say that touring for sure.

**What was your reaction when The Summer Set asked you to join their first headlining tour?**

[Laughs] I was all smiles. I'm good friends with them and we're all from Arizona so I see these guys around a lot back home. Big thumbs up for sure. [Laughs]

**On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your year so far?**

A 10, for sure. This year has been just great and awesome, definitely the best summer and fall ever.

**What do you look forward to in 2011 and what's next on your agenda?**

Honestly, I don't know [Laughs] I have no idea about next year. I just let everything roll along. I didn't expect what happened this year to even happen at all. Hard work pays off and I'll just leave it that way.



# JACOBS LADDER

Interview with Brian Hernandez  
Interview by Cynthia Lam

## What makes Jacobs Ladder different from other bands?

Jacobs Ladder is a trio from Miami, FL consisting of 3 guys who have played together for the greater part of their 13 year friendship. We play music that will make you feel like the bands you love make you feel, but with a fresh unique sound that isn't just going to blend in with the mainstream trends. We want people to love our band because of what OUR music sounds like and not because we sound like one of their current favorite bands.

## In your opinion, what is the best quality of feature about Jacobs Ladder?

Probably the fact that we're a trio. We like to sound like 5 people without having to have 5 people. Its gives us more of a challenge. We also, have a very fun and energetic live performance which I feel lacks in most bands that are playing these days.

## Is there anything that you learned from touring and playing shows? What is the most important thing you've learned?

We have learned so much from tour. It's hard to really pin point the biggest thing, but I guess we've learned a lot about ourselves. We found out we were able to be around each other on a daily basis. We learned how to meet random people and sway them into letting us sleep on their floors. The most important thing we learned is how to make friends. We've made so many amazing friends while out on the road its unreal. Building relationships with people whom without our band we may never have

gotten the opportunity. We've learned that the road isn't easy, but if we work hard at it we can accomplish anything.

## What has been the best tour that you've been on? What made it the best?

Wow! That's a tough one. Id say the best tour we ever did was Warped Tour! Just being around so many bands that we look up to was such an amazing experience.

## If you could bring any item with you on tour what would it be and why?

I always bring a pillow. Those are essential for catching z's in the van.

## Do you participate in tour pranks? What is the craziest one what you've pulled off?

I do! the other guys not so much. My favorite is to write all over peoples faces when they pass out drunk in the living room. I pulled it off on Oren (vocals) super good one time. His entire face was covered!

## What are your thoughts on illegally downloading music? Do you see this being the downfall of the music industry?

I don't see it as the downfall of the music industry. I think if kids like the music they're going to come to the show. That's were bands need to be making there money. Yea, illegal downloading sucks, but its happening and nobody is going to stop it. At our level, I consider it a compliment if some kid even wants to get our music! So screw it, let em have it! I'll see them at a show and hopefully they'll buy some merch.

## What is your biggest pet peeve?

I hate when other bands breakdown their drum sets on stage. That really grinds my gears.

## Do you have any plans for an album in the near future?

We are extremely excited to have recently signed with Rick Fury Management. At this point in our career it's an amazing thing to be able to share a bigger vision for our bands future. Especially with people whom we respect as friends and professionally. We've tracked 15 songs in the last 8 months, the writing has been very crazy, but the songs coming out are amazing right now. Rick Fury has us flying out to LA November 27th to re-record 5 tracks with Carlos de la Garza. We're at the edge of our seats on this one.

## What or who are your biggest inspirations while writing music?

We have so much inspiration when writing music. It could be bands we're currently rocking. I've been listening to a lot of Bayside and Jimmy Eat World, so I wonder if that will come out. Also, relationships and girls are always influences. Love and family and whatever is happening in our personal lives always comes out in our music as well.

## What should fans expect from Jacobs Ladder in the future?

People can expect really good things from us this year. New management, a new record with a sweet producer and hopefully we'll be able to jump on some sweet tours with a decent package! Stay tunes kids it gonna be a wild ride!



# I CALL FIVES

Interview with Drew  
Interview by Madison Bass-Taylor

## **Out of the bands you have toured with, which one has to be your all time favorite?**

We've toured with some great bands, most of which we never really knew prior to touring with them. In that sense, I feel pretty lucky to have made so many friends and had the opportunity to tour with the bands we've played with. I guess I'd say my favorite tour was our first real tour, in the summer of 2008, with The Wonder Years. They took us out on a 35 day tour with them. We ended up having to do the tour out of my Nissan Altima while TWY pulled our trailer and we shared gear the entire time. It was definitely a learning experience for us and the most important tour in terms of learning how to really be on tour, what to do, and we got to play a bunch of cool shows that tour. So if I had to pick a band, The Wonder Years would probably be my favourite because of all the help they've given us.

## **If we were to step into your van, what would we find?**

It'd be surprisingly clean, I'm crazy about keeping it clean. I don't know, I can't help it..everyone gets annoyed at how often I'm cleaning the thing. You'd find 3 rows of seat that Mike & Chris bolted in and a bunch of pillows and blankets. Nothing too crazy. Jeff hides cookies and snacks and shit so if you tried hard enough then you'd probably find that too haha.

## **So you guys have been a band for about 4 years, how do you think you guys have progressed as a band?**

When we started the band we really had no

idea what we were getting into. I didn't realize how a lot of things worked, we sort of just learned as we went on. Having a van, a trailer, making payments on things, practice spots, merch, going through new members..a ton of things have changed. I'd like to think the progression has been pretty steady and something to be proud of, I never expected to tour as often as we have or to tour the UK or to meet the people we've met. People like The Wonder Years, our manager Eric, No Sleep Records, Black Iris Booking, and many more really have helped just further us and help push us to the next step.

## **When you were younger, what bands/artists were your favorites that maybe inspired you guys to make music?**

The Starting Line, New Found Glory, and Blink182 are probably the easiest three off the top of my head that helped make us a band. Mark Hoppus is sort of why I picked up a bass guitar, I always wanted to play pop punk and that style of music. I think that goes for the rest of the band; we always were into pop punk so it was just pretty natural for us when we started a band.

## **What would you do if you were changed into the opposite sex for a week?**

I'd re-inact The Hot Chick..that movie with Rob Schneider.

## **What is typical day in the life of I Call Fives?**

If we're not on tour then we're working. Jeff works at Best Buy, Christian and myself deliver pizza, Mike works construction, and Chris used to sell these little animals called

Sugar Bears. So I guess we'd all be working. When we're on tour it's pretty typical..we just sleep in as late as possible and head to the next show. Sometimes we hit up malls and try and sell cd's to people and end up getting kicked out.

## **If I were to drop you guys off on some random desert where no matter how far you walk you won't find anything but sand, what band would you take with you?**

The Millionaires. Looks like those girls know how to party.

## **What were your goals for the Bad Advice EP and do you think you achieved them?**

Our goal was to put a new album out, something better than our EP prior to that. We just wanted some new material and to write songs we liked..it was pretty simple for us. We didn't really want to over think, we just wanted to write some fun songs and go on tour and I think we achieved that for sure.

## **If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life what would it be?**

Pizza! You really can't go wrong with pizza.

## **How can our readers find out more about you guys?**

You could pick up our 2 EP's on iTunes or at [www.icallfives.bigcartel.com](http://www.icallfives.bigcartel.com) or just check us out on myspace, twitter, or on our Facebook page...Or come hang out at a show and say what's up.



Interview by Azaria Podplesky

# THE BEAUTIFUL DECAY

How did the members of The Beautiful Decay meet? When did you all decide to start a band?

**Calder:** I met James and the original vocalist through an old grindcore band we were in. He was always talking about getting together a group of musicians to do a technical thrash project. He asked me to play drums for it, which is how I eventually joined The Beautiful Decay.

**James:** That grindcore project was started out of frustration because we couldn't find solid people to form this band, actually. Anthony and I met at a local music store that he was working for at the time, and we instantly saw eye to eye on a personal level, and with what we wanted to accomplish musically. That's where this all really began - for me at least. Throughout the following two years, we had plenty of talented bassists and drummers come and go. But this past year Brett joined the band after supporting us for a long time as just a fan. He actually plays guitar too, and decided that for the sake of the band that he would play bass so that we could all

finally start making legitimate progress. We couldn't have found a better person for the job, honestly. Then Robbie joined the band shortly after that (as we were about to record *Unmanifest Destiny*). We realized what we wanted to do with our live sound was to fully replicate our recordings as much as possible, so he (Robbie) contributes musical ideas as well as samples, and electronic elements which helped to round out our sound greatly.

What is it like playing in Ocala, hometown of bands like A Day to Remember? Is there a lot of support for thrash/metal bands like The Beautiful Decay?

**Anthony:** There isn't a music venue to play at in Ocala. All of the bars are dives, or hip-hop clubs. There's really no underground music scene here aside from a few hardcore bands. If you feel like being a "jam-it-guy" then you can go out and start a cover band and play for beer and peanuts. But, in order to accomplish something bigger than this place, we've had to expand our horizons.

**Calder:** I grew up going to A Day To Remember shows before they were anyone special, so it's been crazy to see their rise from zero to hero and how much it has affected our local scene. There have never really been any "serious" metal bands around here; Ocala has always been a hardcore town. People's ears are starting to perk up though. Most kids tell us they've never heard anything like it before.

**James:** It blows my mind that the "death metal capital of the world" is Tampa, and that's one hundred miles away, but people here don't really recognize it yet. We literally get more recognition from local people by connecting with them on Facebook, or going to our local mall and selling CDs. People in this town seem to be itching for something different though... So, hopefully soon they'll pick up on what's been waiting for them!

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Who are some of your musical or lyrical influences?

**Calder:** Musically, my biggest influences have always come from the Swedish thrash/melodeath scene. Soilwork, In Flames, Opeth, etc. Lyrically however, I look up to guys like Karl Schubach of Misery Signals, Darkest Hour's John Henry, and even Davey Havok from AFI, back when he wrote really dark, imagery laden lyrics. Anything that touches the soul and translates complex emotions and thoughts through beautiful words.

**Brett:** Like James said before, I play bass in the band but I'm a guitarist primarily. Overall my influences are Niccolò Paganini, Jason Becker, Arsis, The Black Dahlia Murder, etc. Lots of death metal, 80's shred, and classical music.

**Anthony:** My musical background was different until I linked up with James. I was into bands like Senses Fail, At The Drive In and Saves The Day. But, now I've gotten into Buckethead, Jason Becker, Into The Moat, All Shall Perish, etc. It's funny to go from At The Drive In, to At The Gates, haha. But, I think it gives our music a little diversity from a writing perspective.

**James:** I've been playing guitar for about 12 years, and I was into classic rock when I began. My father showed me Jimi Hendrix on The History of Rock n' Roll, and I had to start playing guitar because of it. Jason Becker is my biggest inspiration. Darkest Hour, At The Gates, Cacophony, Yngwie Malmsteen etc. have all helped mold me into the guitarist that I am now.

What's the biggest obstacle you've faced during your time as a band?

**Calder:** Having been in this band for pushing four years now has been one of the biggest obstacles of my life, let alone all the miserable stuff that's happened to us as a group...

**Brett:** Finding a dedicated and talented drummer. We're from a small town... So, one of those isn't easy to come by.

**Robbie:** Money. With the economy the way that it is... it's hard to make progress when you're working on such a tight budget. Even though we've got 5 members, we all have other responsibilities. But, hard work pays off

**James:** Last July we were robbed at gunpoint at my apartment. It was a home invasion in the middle of the night. We've had to recover everything that was lost, and it's taken since then to do so. I've had some pretty bad anxiety lately because of it. But, that should give you some idea of the obstacles that we've faced. We've lost hope many, many times... But, we love this too much to ever give up - even when such unpredictable odds are stacked against us.

What was it like recording Unmanifest Destiny?

**Calder:** For me, it was a grind. I was living in Tampa at the time going to school and trying to hold a job. Between my schedule and theirs, I had a weekend to do the vocals in. I came up on a Friday, and due to other setbacks in the process, ended up with about a six hour period the next day to record. Needless to say, I don't feel like I had the time to refine everything the way I wanted it to sound, but I pounded out the songs in that timeframe and got it done.

**Robbie:** Well, I've got an interest in recording and engineering so I was excited to see how it all actually came together first hand. There was a lot more involved than I had originally expected. Overall, it was a learning experience. It was our first time recording. Next time, we'll be more prepared, and we'll take more time to make sure everything is 110% perfect.

**James:** It was an amazing experience. I didn't know what I was getting into and I didn't have much time to prepare. We literally met with the engineer/producer Michael "Jude" Rahme on a Wednesday night, and that Friday we started tracking. It all felt very last minute. But, the end result was much better than what we could have gotten anywhere else local - especially with our budget. I wound up tracking guitar for 14 hours a day for 4 days. It was intense, and big leap for us as a band.

What's your favorite song to play live? Why?

**Calder:** The Reason To Carry On. It's such a cathartic song, and it carries this massive energy with it. It also has our biggest singalong chorus thus far, so kids really get into it.

**Brett:** Soulless Forever! It's the most technical song we have (on bass), which makes it the most fun for me to play!

**Robbie:** The Reason To Carry On, hands down. I run the samples and electronics live, and that song has the widest variety of those things. We prefer when playing live, that the acoustic guitars aren't replaced by a clean electric guitar (it doesn't have the same feel at all) - so we sample them. So, live I'm doing a lot more than many people would think - in that song particularly. Plus, I think it's got the most meaning to the band as a whole.

**James & Anthony:** The Reason To Carry On. It's got our favorite solo, and it means the most to us.

Are there any subjects or themes that are present in several of your songs?

**Calder:** Definitely. I write from the heart. If I don't feel it, it's not going in the lyrics. I touch a lot on heartache, guilt, misery, depression, hate... you know, happy things we all talk about like well balanced human beings, haha. But seriously, a lot of bands these days seem to have nothing to say anymore. I aim to fix that. Anyone can write a song about zombies.

**James:** I also write lyrics, and there's definitely some themes in some of the songs. For instance, we've got two songs on Unmanifest Destiny with the word "soul" in the title. Though they're not marked accordingly, Soulless Forever is a sequel in terms of lyrical content, to (Soul) Separation-Anxiety. There's a third part to this "soul" series that hasn't been recorded yet, and it incorporates elements from both of the songs lyrically as well as musically. When people hear it hopefully they'll understand what we're going for, and that we haven't run out of ideas or something... The title of that song is actually going to be the title of our full length album as well.

If you could share the stage with any band, who would it be and why?

**Calder:** Just one band? Ugh. For me it would be Soilwork. I'd probably piss myself like a little fanboy if I could share the stage with Speed Strid.

**Brett:** Darkest Hour, when their former lead guitarist Kris Norris was still with them. They've probably influenced us the most out of any other band, especially when he was with them.

**Robbie:** At The Gates. They pioneered this sound originally and "Slaughter Of The Soul" is a classic album from beginning to end. But, they're no longer around. So, playing with them if they ever did another reunion (which realistically will never happen) would be unforgettable.

Are there any cities or countries you haven't visited but you would love to play in?

**Calder:** Sweden and Japan. Hands down. Those kids would love us.

**Robbie:** I want to visit as many cities and countries as possible... But, I agree with Calder.

**James:** I'd like to visit/play in Australia, Sweden and Japan like they said. Our music stems from a European style of metal, rather than American. Hopefully they'll appreciate the direction that we're trying to take it.

What would you like a fan to get out of your live show?

**Calder:** I want people to have a religious experience at our shows. We make music for all the hopeless out there, and when they see us on stage, I want them to feel something. That inexplicable knowledge that they aren't alone, and someday, things will be okay. We're all fucked up; music is the only way a lot of us make it through the day. I want that to translate through our performance.

Random question, but if you could only listen to three songs for the rest of your life, what would they be and why?

**Calder:** "Aqueous Transmission" by Incubus, "With A Thousand Words To Say But One" by Darkest Hour, and "Nothing" by Misery Signals. I can't begin to explain what those songs have done and still continue to do for me.

**Brett:** Hour Of Penance's "Incontrovertible Doctrines", for the sheer brutality, Darkest Hour's "The Light At The Edge Of The World" for the emotion that it has always evoked in me, and Arsis' "Failure's Conquest" for the virtuosity that they possessed on their album We Are The Nightmare. All three have been huge inspirations to me.

**Robbie:** He Is Legend's "Do You Think I Am Pretty?", Elliot Smith's "Miss Misery" and City & Colour's "Day Old Hate". I listen to those songs on repeat constantly. They move me.

**James:** "With A Thousand Words To Say But One" by Darkest Hour, "Serrana" by Jason Becker, and "Leaving The Past" by Immortal Technique. I've probably listened to those three songs more than any other songs in my life. I would need them to

continue to inspire me musically, lyrically and personally. I'm a huge Immortal Technique fan, aside from all of the guitar oriented music that I listen to.

Can you offer aspiring musicians a word of advice?

**James:** Practice with a metronome, no matter what instrument! Draw upon what influences you, and develop your own style. Play because it makes you happy or expresses something in you that words cannot. Practice... of course, makes perfect. Once you start playing an instrument, don't stop. Let it consume you. If you ever get caught in a rut, don't get discouraged... But, most importantly have fun!

**Calder:** It's going to sound really corny, but never give up. If you have a dream that you are infinitely passionate about, stay on your grind and don't let anything stand in the way of your achievement. Hone your craft. Never settle.

What's next for The Beautiful Decay?

**Calder:** Taking over the world! haha.

**James:** Well, right now we're searching for a record label that will help us reach all of our goals. We're constantly writing new songs, and refining our old songs. Pretty soon we'll finish writing, record, and release our debut full-length record on whatever label we make our home.

Anything I should have asked and didn't or that you want to add?

**James:** Check us out at [www.facebook.com/thebeautifuldecay](http://www.facebook.com/thebeautifuldecay) and if you like what you hear "Like" us, and leave us some feedback. Tell us where you heard about us! We're about to begin recording more demos for a few record labels, and we'll be posting new music from those sessions as soon as it's complete. We're currently on the market for a new drummer. Our current drummer has decided that he no longer can commit to this project, and we wish him the best. A huge thanks to everyone that has supported us, and to Stitched Sound for this interview.





# THE PARTY FOUL

Interview by Bianca Delicata

## **Do you aim for a specific sound or genre when writing songs?**

We're all into various styles of music and try to incorporate what we feel sounds right in each song. Whether it be pop, dance, or metal. One song might sound really pop-punk, while we have others that are really heavily influenced by metal.

## **Who are your hometown influences?**

We don't really have hometown influences. We try to take what's popular and put our own twist on it.

## **How did you meet the other members of the band?**

Me (Mando), Aaron the singer, and Cesar were in a previous band. We asked Nik if he wanted to play bass for us. He brought along Aaron guitarist from his previous band. Juan was later brought in through Cesar.

## **What is your favorite venue to play?**

Any venue on the road. Whether it be a large venue or a house show. We make the most of our situation, and make sure we play every show the best we can.

## **Is there a special story behind the name "The Party Foul"? If so, what is the story?**

We were at hooters thinking of band names. Aaron singer accidentally spilled his pop. We say pop here in the mid-west not soda lol. So we all said "OOOOHH PARTY FOUL!"...and Aaron said "PARTY FOUL! that should be our band name." We liked the sound of it, but added the word "THE" to it.

## **Coca Cola or Pepsi?**

I'm a Pepsi man! But recently on the road and prior to shows, water and energy drinks have been keeping us going.

## **What has been the most memorable thing a fan has ever given you, if anything?**

Their time to come see us. We just enjoy making sure the fans have fun at our shows. I remember at a show in Oregon a fan didn't have enough money for a shirt and really wanted one. Our merch guy said the kid had left and looked sad. So I chased him down before leaving and gave him a shirt. He honestly gave me a 5 minute hug and looked like he was going

to kiss me haha. I'm pretty sure he'll remember us next time we're in town.

## **Who do you wake up in the morning feeling like?**

Like a guy who wants to get up and play a show that day. If we don't have a show that day I feel like a bum. Just useless.

## **What can we expect from The Party Foul, in the future?**

Many great things! New music. Plenty of tours and doing our best to get people to come out and party it up with us at shows.

## **Is there anything you'd like to say to our readers?**

Check out our myspace at [myspace.com/thepartyfoulband](http://myspace.com/thepartyfoulband), and check out our new album "Halfway To Home." Let your friends know about us and just come out to our shows. Come talk to us and have a good time.

# REGRET NIGHT



## Whats the hardest part about being on tour?

We haven't really toured yet but it is something we are in the works of doing right now. Two things that we are encountering is scheduling a tour and building a budget to keep you on track when your on the road. We've all taken trips with just a bag full of clothes and stinky underwear and a toothbrush so we know that will be something we can manage.

## Harry Potter, Twilight, or neither?

Another questions that splits us huh? lol. Jacob and Edward are pretty hot dudes. We'd let them fight over us any day! lol. But something is pretty sexy about a did that flies around on a broom with glasses and a wand. We just can't agree!

## Was there a certain band, concert, or quote, that got you into music?

Oh definitely. We all either saw a concert or heard a lyric that inspired us to get into music. There isn't one across the board for all of us because our musical taste is so different. But yes definitely for all of us.

## What would be your dream instrument to own?

Dennis wan't a massive church organ to play on stage, Matt would want a triple necked guitar, Nick Kemberling would want a drum kit made out Solid platinum, Nick Sanders would want Max Collins of Eve 6 voice and Tasos would want lessons. lol

## How did the members of Regret Night meet?

Well Nick S and Matt S have been playing for quiet a while. They met Dennis in High School

and convinced him to play piano because they thought he'd be a fun person to go on tour with. They had started numerous bands in High School and won a couple of battle of the bands. After High School they lost their drummer so they put up a drummer wanted flyer around some music stores in the area. A couple of days later they got a call from Tasos wanting to try out. Funny thing is Tasos couldn't play drums he mis-read the flyer and thought they were looking for another guitar player. So it was the four of them for a while with their old band name and no drummer. They kept it low key for a few years, some continued with school, some started side projects. We came back together in the fall of 2007 without a drummer and formed Regret Night. Nick S talked to a girl at his work about the new band was starting up and she introduced us to Nick K. He was the bassist/singer for another Denver band that just broke up. The fact that he was a bassist didn't help at all but she said he could also play drums so we invited him out! We figured it was worth a shot and we hadn't auditioned a drummer in years. Come to find out Nick had only been playing drums for about a year and he was really good at them. We played our first show in 2008, which was a college talent show that we played acoustically. We ended up winning the talent show and then we kept going from there.

## What's the craziest thing you've ever pulled at a show?

Oh every show is crazy. We come out in costumes doing dance routines and even skits. We are always off the wall when we perform moving back and forth, stage diving sometimes,

inviting people up on stage with us! It's always crazy! lol.

## Who are three bands you'd love to play a show with?

Every Avenue, Def Leppard and Eve 6. Hands down!

## What genre would you consider the band to be?

We always describe ourselves as an alternative, pop, rock band. We haven't heard anything different than that really. We have been compared to Valencia but we'll let you be the judge.

## What is your opinion on the new genre, "crunk-core"?

We don't care what the genre is really. It's music and everyone in music is trying to do the same thing. It's all expression through music and crunk-core does that. We don't limit ourselves to any specific genre. We all listen to a wide variety of music and crunk-core happens to be a favorite of some band members.

## Do you ever feel used by your fans?

We don't feel used at all. Our fans are our friends and we will do everything we can to maintain that friendship with them. We sometimes may do more than what's expected but we do that because we know our fans/friends would do the same for us.



Interview by Bianca Delicata

**What makes your band different from others?**

Easy, fan interaction, we are constantly on our Myspace, Facebook and Twitter and answer every email or comment, we even are on AIM 24/7 where fans can message us at Talk2Westland. We also are following tours such as Warped Tour and Bamboozle, meeting new fans daily in person!

**Pepsi or Coca-Cola?**

Definitely Coca - Cola!

**When were you sure that you wanted to play music for a living?**

Since the day we were all born for sure! Music is our lives! and is deff our number one priority!

**What's your favorite 90's cartoon?**

Would have to go with DOUG! Such a classic!

**What was the bands' first song written?**

The title track on our record "Dont Take It Personal"

**Who is the most well-prepared, in the band?**

Honestly, I think we are all very well prepared in different ways, which what makes us very successful

**What has been the biggest obstacle the band has had to overcome?**

Staying on the road non stop, we literally have been gone since last June! there's been some ups and downs but we overcame them!

**American Apparel or Urban Outfitters? Trick question!?**

BOTH! :)

**What do you enjoy doing most during the fall?**

Pumpkin Picking, and thanksgiving dinner!

**Anything else you'd like to say to our readers?**

Well first, thanks for reading the interview!! If you haven't checked us out yet, please please do! Follow us on twitter @westlandmusic & come to the shows and hang out!! we love to be very personal with the fans!! & if your from MA or New England, come see us DEC 26th with WE THE KINGS @ Showcase live in foxboro MA!

# FALLING AWAKE

Interview by Catherine Khom



What cover of a band or artist would you love to perform?

**Alex:** "Ain't Nothing But A G Thang" by Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg. Except I'd be doing the rapping since its my #6 most played song on iTunes...

**Nick:** It would probably have to be Black Dog by Led Zeppelin.

**Chad:** I don't really like playing covers but if I had to choose... probably Avril Lavigne. I love warming up to her songs and it'd be great hearing Nick and Cale singing to her.

Who writes your songs in the band?

**Cale:** All of us have our own part in writing songs. Me and Nick come up with ideas and guitar riffs and then we all jam it out till the song fits and sounds good with everything.

**Alex:** It differs. Cale and Nick write a lot of the songs but we all help write the song.

**Nick:** Cale and I (Nick).

**Chad:** I think we all play a part in it. We write songs quick, but a ton of work goes into them from all of us.

What is one word, to describe the whole band and why?

**Cale:** Enhancement... kinda like male enhancements, but instead band enhancement because we want half stacks and good professional equipment so we sound good.

**Alex:** ADD. We'll start practicing and then Chad will get grumpy so we get lunch and then we'll start practicing again and then we end up playing HORSE in Nicks backyard.

**Nick:** I have two words, love-hate.

**Chad:** Wanting - Ha! It's because we're always wanting new and better gear.

Who are your major influences or inspirations?

**Cale:** Probably Brand New and Blink 182 because they have been my favourite bands since middle school. Also Muse because they are very good musicians and put on the best shows

**Alex:** Brand New, Envy On The Coast, Paramore, Taking Back Sunday, and The Used.

**Nick:** It would have to be Anarbor and my dad.

**Chad:** I'd have to go with Blink 182, New Found Glory, Sum 41, and The Devil Wears Prada. I love alternative rock music and love metal. Listening to bands like that when I was younger just made me want to play music and rock out like they did.

How did your band meet?

**Cale:** I've known Alex since middle school and we started a band our sophomore year and then we started Falling Awake a year ago with Nick and we found Chad a few months later and we liked him and his drumming skills so we kept him.

**Alex:** I met Cale in 7th grade when we had art class together. We were in bands together since our sophomore year and during our senior year we started this band. Nick started talking to us on Myspace and we jammed with him and we all clicked pretty well. After a few drummer fall outs our friend Brittany recommended her brother, Chad, and he's been here ever since.

**Nick:** Well we met by Alex, Cale, and I starting out jamming in my room then we went through 2 drummers and then if it weren't for Alex's friend Brittany, then we wouldn't of found our current drummer Chad.

**Chad:** I met the guys and chick through my younger sister. She came home one day and asked me if I wanted to try playing drums because her friend's band needed a drummer. I was like "yeah lets do it!"

Which songs do you perform most often?

**Cale:** Alibis and Secret Lies. We've played them pretty much every show and practice.

**Alex:** We perform "Secret Lies", "Alibis", "Ripped Off", "Hail Mary", "Ashes", and "The Sky is Falling" the most. We're slowly trying to add in new songs to our set.

**Nick:** Secret Lies.

**Chad:** "Alibis." I haven't played one show with these guys and without playing that song. Its a blast.

What are your rehearsals usually like, with your band?

**Cale:** We have good ones and bad ones but they are always fun and we get better and come up with more ideas every time we rehearse.

**Alex:** Sometimes practice goes by smooth as a whistle and other times we get very cranky haha.

**Nick:** Well we have little arguments in between songs but at the end of practice were all best buds.

**Chad:** Very hot. I usually jump in Nick's pool after playing 2 songs then finish the rest of practice in my underwear.

What are your songs usually about and what are you trying to address to fans?

**Cale:** Nick writes about relationships mostly and I write about not taking life too seriously and not caring about stupid stuff that doesn't matter in the end. I like to send messages about just having fun with whatever you do and not to care so much what other people think about you.

**Alex:** A lot of our songs either make fun of how people act or are about our personal experiences with relationships, friends, and school. I don't think we really try to address the fans with our songwriting, yet. We're growing up just like they are and we're attempting to put a soundtrack to it.

**Nick:** Our songs are just about everyday things that happen in life, and to just move past those bad times and get on with life because its to short to bitch about.

**Chad:** Nick sings a lot about relationships that failed haha and Cale is all about "I don't care" songs.

What are your goals for the future as a band?

**Cale:** To just play music for fun and not focus only on getting signed and famous but to make music and play shows because thats what we love to do. and also get better equipment and play shows at big venues.

**Alex:** One of our goals as a band is to write songs people can always relate too. It just doesn't apply to one type of person.

**Nick:** Just to get on with touring and make music for people who really appreciate good music.

**Chad:** For the future, to have our full-length album complete and to just have fun playing shows. I'd also love to play House of Blues in Hollywood.

Who would play in the movie version of your life?

**Cale:** Justin Bieber

**Alex:** Beyonce because we'd probably be best friends if she answered my fan mail.

**Nick:** Me.

**Chad:** The star.

What other places do you consider touring at?

**Cale:** I would love to do any tour, especially warped tour and if we ever get big I would love to tour the UK and Europe.

**Alex:** EVERYWHERE! We are opposed to absolutely nothing.

**Nick:** This would have to be the U.K. and the east coast.

**Chad:** I've never really thought about touring. I would love to just be on warped tour and go where ever they go.

What was the first song you ever played as a band?

**Cale:** Alibis with Nick and Alex and 12 feet over when Chad joined.

**Alex:** "Useless". We don't like talking about it...haha

**Nick:** Alibis!

**Chad:** I was the last addition to the band and as like a "welcoming" song we wrote one called "12 feet over." That was my first song with the guys and my favorite.

What did you dream about last night?

**Cale:** I don't remember but it was probably about boobies or Chad.

**Alex:** Last night I had a dream about Old Navy. I had just got off an 8 hour shift haha.

**Nick:** Getting signed to Hopeless Records

**Chad:** I can never remember them.

What came to conclusion why you chose the instruments you play?

**Cale:** My dad was in a band and my brother played guitar and sang, so I used to play my brothers guitar secretly when he was gone cause he would have beat me up if I touched his guitar and I started teaching myself and I got better and loved playing guitar and got my first electric in 7th grade.

**Alex:** I had always been interested in playing bass. We started our relationship when I was at the tender age of 12 and I was teaching myself how to play "Sic Transit Gloria" by Brand New and we've been everlasting life partners ever since.

**Nick:** Well I've been playing guitar for about 8 years so its a given.

**Chad:** Music has always been in my life. I could never play sports so I played guitar. Falling Awake needed a drummer so I took up drumming and loved it ever since.

If you weren't in a band, what would you be doing instead?

**Cale:** Probably living in Mammoth running my lodge.

**Alex:** The only things I really enjoy doing are playing music, talking, and making people laugh. I'd start by getting a screenwriting a job and eventually Tina Fey would realize how funny I am and she'd call her friends at SNL and they'd hire me to write for them and eventually I'd join the cast and take over the world.

**Nick:** Oh geez, probably stuck playing baseball in high school.

**Chad:** Producing music.



# ABANDON ALL SHIPS



**How did you meet the other members of Abandon All Ships and decide to start a band together?**

Me and Seb started the band in high school, we went to high school together. Then I met Andrew because we toured with his band, we met his brother the same, and our drummer. We met Martin because he had to fill in for us one time. Long story short, we all knew each other.

**What would you say inspires your songs?**

Just creativity sparks.

**Geeving was released on October 6th. Were you happy with the feedback that you got?**

Very happy. Lots of people like it, it's doing well. The first day it came out it went to number ten on the iTunes charts. It was very exciting and I didn't expect it, so I was happy about that.

**Would you say that this is a change from your last ep or somewhat the same?**

I guess it's a change in a sense, we went a lot more drastic and more heavier.

**So is there a message that the album is trying to send?**

No, it's just all about different stuff. Geeving means I don't give a fuck.

**What is your favourite song off the album?**

My favourite song on the record is "Bro My God" and it's about a guy trying to be God. It was just a fun song to write generally and a fun song to play.

**Would you say that your live show is different from other bands?**

In a sense sure, it's different from every other band, but in a sense it's the same. We have lots of lasers, and fist

pumping, bringing it back to the nineties if you know what I mean.

**What makes a good show in your opinion, from the fans, and the band too?**

Well basically, if the crowd is nuts then it's always a good show.

**How important is it to keep in touch with your fans?**

Pretty important, we all do social networking. The internet is a huge factor.

**Where do you expect to be a year forward?**

I have no idea, hopefully a lot bigger than we are now.

# A DAY TO REMEMBER

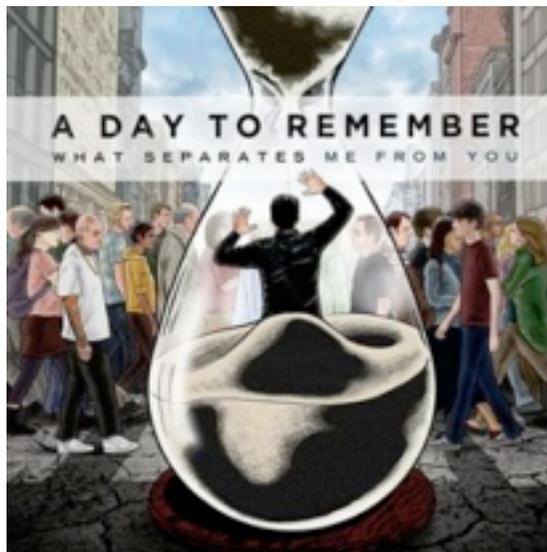
By Sarah Rutz

## What Separates Me From You



The highly anticipated follow up to their 2009 release, *Homesick*, A Day To Remember recently released *What Separates Me From You*, the fourth studio album from the Florida based outfit. The album is an excellent mix of what we've come to know from the band, in addition to some new sounds—in a couple of songs, we can see that they've put aside their hardcore tendencies to turn it down a few notches. However, those songs are quickly brought back up by the intensity of the harder songs that they have. The album is emotional, angry, reminiscent, and a whole other range of emotions, but the album doesn't leave anything to be desired.

There's only a couple of songs on the album that are considerably heavier than other music that they have—"Sticks and Bricks" is one of those, in addition to "2nd Sucks" and "You Be Tails, I'll Be Sonic". "2nd Sucks" was released as a teaser via Victory Records' Facebook page, intended to get listeners pumped up about the new album by releasing a song that people who are familiar with A Day To Remember will be pleased with.



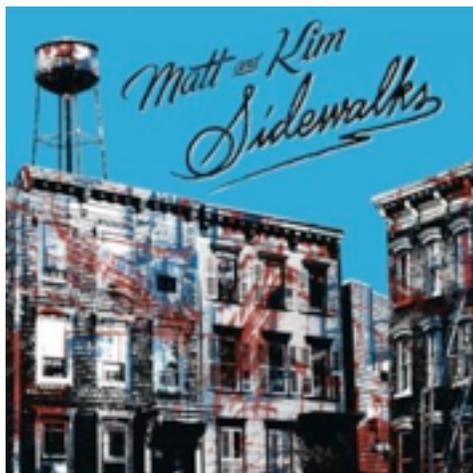
Another song that was released in advance was "All I Want", which showed listeners the other side to A Day To Remember—not all of their songs are loud and hard. Angry and emotional, perhaps, but for a lot of people, that's where the connection to music lies. For new listeners, this song was the perfect introduction to the band, and for new listeners that pick up *What Separates Me From You*, they'll be introduced to the different kinds of sounds that A Day To Remember is capable of producing. The other songs on the album, such as "Better Off This Way", "Out Of Time", and "All Signs Point To Lauderdale" speak about issues that plague everyone, anthems that just about everyone can relate to at some point in their lives.

Although the album is shorter than their previous release, it packs just as much of a punch as *Homesick*. And the songs sound just as good live as they do on record, which is something that many bands aren't able to achieve. This is one band that is going to be around for a while, and that everyone should get the chance to be able to see at some point.

A Day To Remember is on tour now, with *What Separates Me From You* in stores right now. The band will be returning to tour in the spring of 2011.

# MATT & KIM Sidewalks

By Catherine Khom



Mat & Kim, indie rock band released their third album, *Sidewalks* on November 2nd and hit single, "Cameras" on this album made it to the third spot on the iTunes top 100 albums. Their songs are very catchy and to me, their very inspirational and free-spirited. This album, has 10 tracks and are based on alternative and indie rock sound. Their lyrics are worth while and impacts a lot on fans. The band, from Brooklyn, New York with members, Matt Johnson and Kim Schifino. It consists of your everyday type of music that you can be inspired by, to the rest of the day. Their music, is definitely to consider for people who are open to new music because I guarantee you, this band is everything filled with two amazing people who make beautiful music.

# MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE

By Sarah Rutz



## *Danger Days*

It's been a long four years for fans of My Chemical Romance. The band's last release, *The Black Parade*, came out in October 2006. But, MCR is back, and they've got an album and a full tour to make sure the world knows that they're still around. *Danger Days: The True Lives of the Fabulous Killjoys* is the fourth full-length studio album by the Jersey-based band, and at first listen, it's definitely an album that everyone should pick up.

The album takes place in 2019, and soundtracks the adventures of the Fabulous Killjoys. Narration for the album comes in the form of the opening track and "Jet-Star And The Kobra Kid/Traffic Report", a sort of intermission in the middle of the album, where we're updated on in the middle of the story, sort of a status report on what's going on with the Killjoys at that point.

The first single off the album, the highly infectious "Na Na Na (Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na)" is a good

representation of what the band's sound has developed into, keeping true to their creative lyrics and high-energy anthems that they have produced. In addition, there are several songs on the album that are worth giving a listen to, including "SING", "Planetary (GO!)" and "S/C/A/R/E/C/R/O/W". On some songs we can hear remnants of the sound that we've heard on their other albums like *The Black Parade* ("The Kids From Yesterday" reminds one of "I Don't Love You"), which ensures us that we are certainly still listening to My Chemical Romance.

"Vampire Money", a fast-paced, high energy song, closes out the album with a cacophony of sounds, music and talking. As it finishes up, it's like the song that plays through the credits after a high-energy movie, before everything fades to black. The tale of the Fabulous Killjoys has been told, and we've been along for the ride.

The entire album is cohesive, each song complementing the others excellently. My Chemical Romance has a style that is hard to compare to—maybe that's what makes them so unique in the music world today. *Danger Days* is so different from what other bands try to put out that they seem to have created something that's entirely their own. The band has once again created an album that is completely unique to them as My Chemical Romance, and is sure to please all the old fans, and, for people that may just pick up the album on a whim, it'll draw them in and make them fans as well.

My Chemical Romance is embarking on the World Contamination Tour in 2011. Tickets are going extremely fast (most dates are already sold out), so if you want to see them, go and get your tickets right away, and pick up the album while you're at it. It's a purchase you certainly won't regret!



# Hellogoodbye *Would It Kill You*

By Catherine Khom



The indie, power pop band Hello Goodbye, releases their newest album, "Would It Kill You." Their new songs and well - talented lyrics are definitely taken into consideration one of the best. The California based band, from Huntington Beach, Forest Kline on vocals and guitar, Travis on bass, Joseph on keys, Aaron on drums, Andy on guitar and Danny on trombone and percussion. This band is such a quality band with mixes of instruments and a new sound in store in every song off this record. Their overall energy off this record, makes me really want to see them perform at their own headlining show soon. Definitely, check out their album in stores now from iTunes, Amazon and Best Buy!



# PUNK GOES POP 3



By Stefany Bryan

Punk Goes Pop 3; a collection, in this case, of punk bands that cover pop songs. Some of the names of these artists include Breathe Carolina, Artist vs. Poet, Mayday Parade, This Century, The Ready Set, Cute Is What We Aim For, and so on. The album was released by Fearless Records on November 2, 2010.

Half the time, these so called punk bands recorded songs that were hits at least several years ago. So the result is just listening to songs that you're probably tired of because the radio over played them way back when. It's also a bit weird to hear those popular pop songs changed to scream-o, punk-angsty sounds. In addition, maybe Fearless should have revised their title. I don't really consider "Heartless" or "Paper Planes" a pop song. Wow Fearless, no offense, but maybe you should have done your research first.

On the third track, Artist vs. Poet covers Lady GaGa's "Bad Romance," which is fairly decent. Better than the two songs before it. Another one that should deservedly be recognized is This Century's "Paper Planes." I think that they lived up to M.I.A pretty well. There wasn't a whole lot of tampering like some of the others that had added lyrics or some screaming. There's just in general too much screaming for an album full of pop songs. I'm sorry, but The Ready Set's version of "Airplanes" almost sounds like a joke. I just can't even take it seriously. He should definitely stick to his own stuff. I also didn't enjoy The World Alive's rendition of "Heartless," is honestly not enjoyable at all, almost to the point where it can't be listened to.

The whole time listening to this odd little compilation of an album, I couldn't help but constantly think, "This is so weird." That pretty much sums it up. Punk Goes Pop 3 is such a strange mix of songs containing tracks that would have been way better off steering clear from, and yet there still exists a few rare gems that stand out and are actually respectable covers.



# Any comments? Feedback?

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