



Making tracks

By Joseph Simek
Philly EDGE Correspondent

Artist: Dave and Adam of Run Runner

Who is in your band and what do they play?

Graham Gormley - Guitar, vocals
Dave Kain - Bass, vocals
Adam Herndon - Drums, vocals

Where are you from?

Dave: We all live in Philadelphia right now. Graham and Dave grew up a few miles from each other in rural southern New Jersey, and Adam grew up in...Adam, what's the name of the town where you grew up?

Adam: I moved all around Southeastern Pennsylvania, but mostly Doylestown.

Describe your sound in five words or less.

Dave: We are the Rolling Stones.
Adam: Awesome, cool, rad, dope, phat.

What's your quintessential track and where can it be found online?

Dave: All of our tracks are quintessential: We have a machine specifically for that purpose. Right now, four of those quintessential tracks are on www.myspace.com/runrunner, but soon all of them will be able to be streamed at www.run-runner.com.

How did Run Runner form?

Dave: I was honestly becoming a little tired of the band I was in at the time and mentioned it to Graham,

who's been a friend since first grade. From there we started writing; Adam came in after we had the skeletons for about four or five songs. He helped to write and shape the songs, so we booked a couple shows, wrote a few more songs and came up with a name.

When can we expect an album?

Dave: We're done recording the first full-length and just have to put the finishing touches on it for a late fall release. We did 12 songs. ...it will be available in mid-November.

Your sound is really stripped-down. Will your debut feature many bells and whistles, or are you passing on the studio experimentation?

Dave: We went into the studio with the philosophy of having a great sounding record, but one that we would also be able to pull off live, so we had to remind ourselves that we're only three people. The best way we thought to do that is to record exactly what we do live, and from there add anything that would help the recording, but maintain the essence of the songs. We didn't want to go nuts with superfluous overdubs and lose sight of the focus at the expense of the songs. A lot of the records we like have that simple sounding, but great, production, so we tried to stick to that.

Adam: I can't lie to you, there actually is one whistle in one of the songs.

You guys seem to play New York City a bunch. How have you been

Run Runner ready to release full-length

received? How hard is it for a Philly band to get noticed there?

Dave: I think we've always been pretty well received by audiences there. Though, I think garnering an audience can be a bit of a hurdle; but it's the same for every band in NY -- I don't see it as exclusively a Philly band issue. There are so many great bands in NY, but frankly also so many bad bands in NY that it can be difficult to cut through that saturation. That said, I feel like Philly's increasingly getting a reputation for producing some incredible bands, so that point of interest always helps bring out a few people.

Run Runner is playing at the Philly Distance Run on September 17 (a 7:45 a.m. start). How did you guys get the gig?

Dave: Puma asked us to do it, and we thought 'sure.' We have a pretty good band name for the event, coincidentally. It's honestly the earliest any of us have gotten up on a weekend, much less played a show.

What's next for Run Runner?

Dave: We're currently working on releasing the full-length in November, and touring with it. Also, we're in the process of writing more songs that we're not sure what we're going to do with just yet. But as a band, we like to keep moving forward.

See Run Runner

Sun., Sept. 17: Philly Distance Run, Puma Tent, Philadelphia
Thurs., Sept. 28: Mojo 13, 1706

sound check

NEW THIS WEEK

FutureSex / LoveSounds
Justin Timberlake

Continuum
John Mayer

These Four Walls
Shawn Colvin

Open Eyes
Bebek

Cryptically story-boarded with unresolved loss of the singer's mother-in-law, you'd expect Bebek's themes to conjure up a combo of Catholic confessionals and the Wailing Wall. What exists is a no-less moribund experimental indie quality which looms large on *Open Eyes*, their second disc, a decidedly sobering six-song EP that some might consider charming and adventurous. For others, simply too gauzy, dreary, minor-keyed and, at times, dissonant, spacey and unmemorable.

Five male instrumentalists are fronted by spiraling, undulating dinner-club-theatrics, iced-soul vocalist Lynn Michalopoulos who works the Philly group's percolating beats, jazz-bo breaks, guitar distortion like a tripped-out Petula Clark awoken to an all-too eventful actuality.

For all of its duty-bound, straight-faced ambitions, Bebek might be taken as-is more for intermission than feature focus. Pity. Contrasts to Portishead, Beth Orton, Dido, Ryuichi Sakamoto, and even Tangerine Dream are not without merit. PBS, MTV and SXSW digs Bebek and as the title track testifies, "I cringe, I'm a squeaky hinge."

6 out of 10

By Paul Mick / Philly EDGE Correspondent

See *Bebek* at the *Tim Angel* (20 South 2nd St., Philadelphia; 215.928.0770) on Friday, September 15.

Recipe For Disaster
Soraia

In a city with so many very good local rock bands, Philadelphia-based Soraia is a group that is totally worth seeing live. They bring it. The band's four song EP, *Recipe For Disaster*, produced by Obie O'Brien producer/engineer of several Bon Jovi records, proves Soraia can duplicate their sound in the studio too.

The disc is four rocking songs that are in your face and infectious. "Mary," which recently reached No. 1 on Mark Rodgers' Hometown Heroes radio program, is the highlight track here. Meanwhile, a cover of Jefferson Airplane's "Somebody To Love" does serious justice to the original. All through the EP you can feel Sue Francia's powerful lead vocals. Bassist Travis Smith (full-disclosure: he works in distribution for Philly EDGE) and guitarist Joe Francia both really know how to play; the music just smacks you in the teeth the entire time.

8.5 out of 10

By Markus Goldman / Philly EDGE Correspondent

See *Soraia* at *New Hope Eagle Fire Company* (46 N. Sagan Rd. New Hope) Fri., Sept. 15, 6 p.m. Benefit for the family of Officer Tim Johnson, \$25; at *The Pirate's Den* (300 North Broadway, Gloucester City, NJ; 856.456.8080) on Sat. Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m. A fundraiser for *The Knights of the Innocent*, a charity which helps raise money for victims of child abuse.

