

Blue Ridge Outdoors

M A G A Z I N E

The Corduroy Road: Athens' Next Big Thing

By Dave Stallard • July 22, 2009

The Corduroy Road The Buzz

The Corduroy Road is the latest band lobbying to add its name to Athens, Georgia's musical legacy. Begun as a duo by Drew Carman and Dylan Solise in 2006, the group expanded to a quartet in early 2009 and now includes John Cable on drums and Elijah Neesmith on upright bass. An aggressive touring schedule, emotive songwriting, and the band's commitment to performing down home, honest music has established The Corduroy Road as a buzzworthy band on the indie roots rock scene.

For fans of: The Band, Prine, Guthrie, Dylan, The Avett Brothers

This Just In

The Corduroy Road has been on the road all summer following the June release of their full length debut, *Love is a War*. With Athens-based producer John Keane (Widespread Panic, REM, Uncle Tupelo) at the helm, the album offers fine testament to the strength Solise and Carman exude as a songwriting duo.

Outside Looking In

"When I first saw The Corduroy Road, I was blown away by their energetic stage presence and by the sheer quality of the songwriting. It's rare that you have two great songwriters in a band who can write songs that so seamlessly form a cohesive sound. For me, it's all about the melodies and lyrics, and these songs resonate with rich life experiences."

—John Keane, Producer, on The Corduroy Road

On Stage

Catch The Corduroy Road live in Asheville, N.C., at Westville Pub on August 6; in Winston-Salem, N.C., at The Garage on August 8; and in Wilmington, N.C., at Hell's Kitchen on August 13.

In Their Own Words

"Athens is a great town, especially when you are just starting out as a band, even though it's tough to separate yourself from the crowd here. There are so many bands and so many places to play. It's difficult. At the same time, because of that, you can get gigs. We got to play a lot around town. They might not have always been glamorous gigs. We did a lot of Monday nights at two in the morning with nobody there. But we were on stage. And it's a town known for music. People understand what the Athens music scene is. Having what Athens represents as a town and a music scene behind us, and the credibility that brings, has definitely helped."

—Dylan Solise, on the importance of calling Athens home