

SUBSTREAM

SUPPORTING ACTS + AS TALL AS LIONS



It's a pretty tall claim (no pun intended)

to name your band something like As Tall As Lions. I can't think of a more fitting place for a band with such a monstrous ego to come from than dear old Long Island, New York, birthplace of other big name, stellar acts such as everyone's favorite Brand New. And by everyone, I mean me. But, I digress, as I tend to always do. As Tall As Lions, or ATAL as they've sometimes been referred to by the public at large, bring forth a soft, soothing, melodic sound that'll put a smile on the sternest of faces. Coming straight from Death Cab for Cutie type influences, As Tall As Lions are a brilliant journey in smooth, passionate vocals, with sing-song keyboards and a solid framework of guitars coming along for the ride. The drums are slow, but your heart can't help but race even a little bit while listening to As Tall As Lions, who tend to bring up any of a million trillion childhood daydreams upon listening to the yarns spun around each nostalgic, whimsical note.

As Tall As Lions formed from the ruins of the band Sundaze (whose name bears a striking resemblance to a summer camp I attended as a youth) and set out to their local scene like a party of fat brats to a wonderfully stuffed pinata. Though they never really fit in with the style of those bands tearing up the scene around them, As Tall As Lions still wasted no time acquiring a following in their area. Their popularity grew, along with the hype surrounding them. Before long, the band signed with Triple Crown Re-

ords and began recording for a nationwide debut release. Their first album, *Lafcadio*, was released in Spring of 2004, and showed only minimal success for the band. After a few line-up changes, including a vocalist change and several other members of the band, As Tall As Lions got back together and recorded a self-titled follow up album. It was released last August and shows infinite promise for the New Yorkers. Since the album was released, they've been on constant tours promoting the album and professing their unique and wonderful sense of melody and song structure to many, many onlookers. All the while, they've kept it real and remained close to their fanbase, both at home and on the road. You can give them a listen at their myspace website (myspace.com/astallions), where you can also find a link to their personal website and other points of interest involving the band in question. Anyone with an internet connection and a jones for a smile should give this sugges-

tion some serious consideration. Consider it a gift from me to you.

While As Tall As Lions continues along the road to fame, fortune, and general happiness as we know it, all the while growing musically and finding themselves through their polished style of harmony and smiles, they'll continue leaving a lasting impression with audiences across the country. Lions will make you say "Oh my," to yourself, much like their tiger and bear counterparts. If you don't understand that little joke I just made, you really need more culture, man. In any case, as scary as their name may make them sound, you should probably still give them a listen. Lions aren't all that tall, anyways. I promise. ✕

