



THE RECEIVING END OF SIRENS

HQ: Boston, MA

CHECK OUT: *Between The Heart And The Synapse* (TRIPLE CROWN; triplecrownrecords.com)

FOR FANS OF: Thrice, the Mars Volta, Coheed And Cambria

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN AMBITION AND PRETENSE—just listen to any contemporary punk band who's recently discovered Radiohead's last few albums. But on *Between The Heart And The Synapse*, the Receiving End Of Sirens stand firmly on the safe side of the line, expanding the parameters of American post-hardcore in decidedly non-contrived ways. The band—guitarists Alex Bars, Nate Patterson and Casey Crescenzo, bassist Brendan Brown and drummer Andrew Cook—draw inspiration from emo to prog; infuse it with keyboards, electronic flourishes and rich vocal harmonies (courtesy of Crescenzo, Bars and Brown); and distill it into a captivating vision. Since making the album was such a multi-directional undertaking, it only made sense that TREOS supported their debut with a similarly styled touring

ethic, playing an array of diverse support slots alongside everyone from Cartel and Panic! At The Disco to Senses Fail and Alexisonfire. TREOS were also the first act to play the main stage at AP's 20th Anniversary show in Cleveland last summer, impressing the masses enough to give the other bands on the bill a run for their merch money; and 2006 is sizing up to be the quintet's biggest yet, with a stint on this year's Rockstar Taste Of Chaos tour, as well as a European trek on tap. Prior to embarking on TOC—in fact, just as we were putting together this issue—TREOS had decamped to a llama farm somewhere in Eastern Massachusetts to write and rehearse for their next full-length, produced by Panic! At The Disco knob-twiddler Matt Squire. We're betting the beasts will influence the proceedings somehow... [58]

Brendan Brown heeds the Sirens' call.

Between The Heart And The Synapse is filled with dark, unsettling imagery. Is there any unifying thematic thread that combines all of the songs into one unit?

BRENDAN BROWN: The themes double as real-life scenarios, as well as fictional allegories that we have experienced in one way or another. Though a lot of the lyrics deal with real-life situations, we placed them in fictional situations that we didn't personally experience. The album as a whole discusses the battle between the heart and the mind; it encapsulates empathy for the struggle of the human spirit that we tried to describe in a variety of ways.

The lyric "This is the last night in my body" appears on "Planning A Prison Break" and the closing "Epilogue." What are you trying to convey with that lyric?

The lyric is something that, at the beginning of the album, is sort of a cry for help, a desire for a significant change in life. At the end of the album, it sort of progresses to an escape as the change is realized. In a way, the theme brings about the death of a way of living. By the end of the album, the meaning has changed from a want to a declaration of change.

Do you think the next album will have a similar thematic feel?

Our next album will be a concept album, but it will be more complex. It will be less "thought-up," and way more "thought-out" and conceptualized. We will have a lot more time to write with our next album—almost an entire year—and though we don't have any formal plans for a release date, we hope to get the next album out before summer 2007.

Circa Survive's Anthony Green appears on *Between The Heart And The Synapse*, and the band have shared stages with a lot of bands touring in support of the album. Do you have any special guests lined up for the next record?

We've made friendships with a lot of different bands, and we'll try to get as many of our friends as possible to record on our next record. We don't have any formal plans as to a certain person, but there will definitely be guests.

What do you hope TREOS' biggest accomplishment will be in 2006?

Our biggest accomplishment in 2005 was [releasing] our debut LP. Our biggest accomplishments in 2006 would probably include the possibility of getting overseas to either Europe or Asia. Being included on the Taste Of Chaos lineup is a huge accomplishment, and we are excited about our first-ever headlining tour. Hopefully, we'll stay together, as well! **(AMART)**



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