



# EGYPT CENTRAL

## Forever Memphis-Bound

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARKUS CUFF

It may seem strange that a band based in Memphis, Tennessee, calls itself Egypt Central,” but when you tax your gray matter a bit and realize that some 5,000 years ago, a different Memphis was the capital of ancient Egypt, suddenly it all makes sense. Sort of. The reality is, of course, that the two Memphises are worlds apart, both in a geographical and chronological sense—and probably in a musical sense, too.

But that’s neither here nor there as the members of Egypt Central are currently zigzagging the modern U.S. in support of their recently released second album, “White Rabbit” (Fat Lady Music) and will be doing so for some time to come. It’s what they live for. It’s their dream come true. “Absolutely!” says lead singer John Falls. “We’re going to take a short break for Christmas and then we’ll keep going straight through for at least the next two years.”

“It’s nice to see your friends and family for about 14 days in a year-and-a-half span,” he adds sarcastically, “but we’re all fortunate to have great support systems at home.” That would include wives, fiancées, and children, of course, as John is getting married in November, bassist Joey Chicago is already married, and lead guitarist Jeff James has recently gotten engaged. That leaves drummer Blake Allison as the only single guy. “It’s all about Blake, ladies!” John laughs.

Coincidentally, perhaps, Blake is also the only band member without a drop of ink in his skin. According to John, however, he’s been considering getting some in the near future. “He’s scheming right now,” John says.

John, Joey, and Jeff more than make up for Blake’s shortcomings, though. Their ink is personal and connects them to everything that’s

*Jeff James, guitar; John Falls, vocals;  
Joey Chicago, bass; Blake Allison,  
drums (from left)*



For the band's touring schedule, check out their website, [www.egyptcentral.net](http://www.egyptcentral.net).