



Stephen Stroope, vocalist for **meltdown morning**, has been a member of various choirs and is a veteran of musicals in his hometown of Galveston, Texas. This musical training has served him well. Stephen's home, however, is not on the risers of a choir but under the punishing lights of a club with 50 of his closest friends. He navigates the passages of a song like a Talladega driver in a hairpin turn: always at the edge of oblivion and always in control. He takes the listener on a roller-coaster ride with him through the most bitter lows and the loftiest of ecstasies. You are thankful for the trip.

Scott Fari s, has been a teacher of guitar and a master of the visual arts for many years. His guitar lines and graphic designs have graced the projects of many, but his passion is singular: excellence to the n^{th} degree. And that is exactly what he gives at a **meltdown morning** show. Known for his sonic wizardry, Scott's knowledge of psychedelic tone borders on the insane. Scott whips his guitar into a frenzy like a matador in the ring but cradles it like a newborn child. All the while, it's clear the guitar is not a mere accessory but is an extension of his soul of souls. You hear the notes, you feel yourself moving, and suddenly you realize Scott is a snake charmer, and you are caught under his spell.

Shane Shepherd, has considerable musical education, including a Music Composition degree from Texas Tech University and the distinguished privilege of touring with the America's Boys Choir for over 5 years. One listen to Shane, and you'll know where all that education went. He plays with skill and passion rarely seen in this era of Styrofoam music and plastic heroes. With an uncanny sense of melody and harmony, Shane creates bass lines that pulse with agility. He's got tone fat like a Christmas ham and grooves deep like your granddad's Hank Williams LP's.

Amy Fari s, is no stranger to music: she's been composing since the tender age of 3. Though she has a degree in Music Composition from Texas Tech University, music is hardly just an academic pursuit for her. It is breath itself. Amy quite literally dreams music, and she passes her visions on to the audience. She plays with the psychedelic swirl of John-Paul Jones at his incense-soaked best and the fury of a raver in the throes of abandon. This is keyboard the way it should be - dangerous and inviting, just like flooring the gas pedal on your '70 Chevelle.

Brian Tate, a multi-instrumentalist, is what happens when a jazz drummer stops being nice. He has formidable musical education, to be sure, including a degree in Music Performance from Texas Tech University, but it is in feel and taste (things that cannot be taught) that Brian makes his mark. Combining the bombast of arena rock with the finesse of jazz from a smoky New Orleans club, Brian plays with chops well-oiled from years of formal education and the fervor of a kid in his garage who has heard Keith Moon for the first time and discovered his calling.