

# Rome Plows

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and we're older and have had the benefit of being exposed to a lot of so that it faced the two of you. Is that so the band members can see each other, or more for sound?

**Mike:** We always play with the drums on stage left, and it's so that we can see and hear each other, but it's also aesthetic, so that people can see Andy play. For sure, when we go on stage we have definite ideas about our setup, our sound, and how we look. Also, Andy's a great drummer and it is fun to watch him play — you get to see the body movements, and the dexterity that it takes to be a drummer.

**Gaz:** You guys have recently done the soundtrack for a film, which is appropriate considering that much of the band's material seems image-based, and creates a mood or an effect rather than taking on a specific song formula...

**Mike:** Totally, that's exactly what we've been after — mood music.

**Gaz:** What was the film project about?

**Mike:** It's called "Deadlines", and it debuts at the Atlantic Film Festival. There are two full songs on it and three stingers. We pretty much scored the film, and had a five piece horn section come in. [Mike proceeds to simulate horn sounds.]

**Gaz:** I haven't seen your video for "About My Breath...", but I heard that it debuted on Much East over the summer. Was it difficult to create a visual representation of such a disturbing tale of murder and obsession?

**Lenny:** Well, the video's pretty disturbing too...

**Mike:** We're pretty happy with it. It's very Fargo-esque, and the quality doesn't reflect the low budget. We shot it on Super-High 8, and it was filmed during the coldest day of winter. Lenny's car pulls up, and he pulls me, the dead body, out and carries me off to the woods to bury me.

**Gaz:** "Lampshade Aerodynamics" gained national television exposure when it was played on the CBC's "Black Harbour". How did it feel to hear your own creation on national TV?

**Lenny:** I'm really proud, I like CBC a lot and it's a great show.

**Mike:** ...the people at the show were cool 'cause they were in the position where they had the money, and they decided to keep things local.

**Lenny:** Definitely. Why go to

Ontario when you have people here that are just as talented?

**Mike:** I think there are bands here that really work at what they're doing, like Thrush Hermit. They totally put on a show, and their songs are thought-out, well structured and hook you right in. And that's the name of the game, especially if you want to play pop music like a lot of bands here do.

What we do is easy because it's so disjointed to begin with. We can pretty much throw in any time or key change that we want to.

**Gaz:** Maybe, but I think there's a difference. If you guys screw up during a live show, the listener will notice it because your music is more risky. When pop bands here screw up, it's not so evident.

**Lenny:** God, we fuck up all the time.

**Gaz:** Yeah, and you really notice it.

**Lenny:** Oh really, you prick... [laughter]

**Gaz:** So when can we expect some

new recorded material?

**Mike:** Well, the soundtrack is coming up, but other than that, probably not until after Christmas. Also, the CBC will be recording our On Music gig.

**Lenny:** The radio stations have been great. CKDU has been fantastic, and the college station in London has been really supportive too. I guess we fill the "weird role" for their late night shows...

**Gaz:** For all the freaks...

**Lenny:** Yeah, for all the freaks like us...those are the listeners we



From page 13, Cool Blue Halo is one of the bands to watch in this year's Halifax On Music Festival. Photo by Ian MacAskill.

## Wives' Tales

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a little background to the work and proceeded to read from a section in the book. He described the magician's tricks and the awe in which the audience of Arabs and French diplomats observed — the Arabs with fear and the diplomats with satisfaction.

It is a great experience to hear an author read his own work, because only he can give it the life it was meant to have. Any other reader would give it their own interpretation, which might be different from the author's intention.

After the reading he had a very informative question and answer period in which he was asked to describe his writing process, his inspirations, and his film adaptations, among other things. He finished with a book signing where people could buy advance copies of the book.

The evening proved to be both entertaining and enlightening and I am eager to see the other authors in the series.

## Poles to illuminate the Dunn

BY GREG MCFARLANE

Poles, an innovative dance production from Quebec, will be performed at the Sir James Dunn Theatre in the Dalhousie Arts Centre from September 18th to the 22nd. With the use of live action holograms and computer-generated multimedia effects, Poles promises to push the boundaries of conventional dance while telling the story of two exiles stranded on a foreign planet.

The show features award winning dancers Pierre-Paul Savoie and Jeff Hall (known throughout Canada for their productions *Bagne* and *Duodenum*) as the exiles, and is performed to the music of Ginette Bertrand.

To obtain tickets, call 494-3820 or 874-1669. Ticket prices are \$17 for adults, \$16 for students/seniors, and \$12 for Atlantic Film Festival pass-holders.



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