

FIELDING THE BEGINNING OF THE RIDE.

In a generation where music is all about the image and melody is all about the ripping off of other bands, Fielding is there to help incorporate that less, well... corporate sound back into the mainstream.

The simplicity and jumpiness of quirky pop is blended with bare-bones Americana-style folk/rock in Fielding's self-titled debut album. And with lyrics capable of painting landscapes for the listeners with little effort, Fielding is an album anyone would love to get lost in. The husband/wife harmonies are a beautiful balance with each truly melodic track, and the band shows a wide range of knowledge and influence with their wonderful musicianship.

The ride, however, is just beginning for Fielding. Still balancing the band schedule (shows, rehearsals, touring) with schedules of their own (they're all still working "normal" jobs at the moment before rock-stardom hits) these four Californian dudes and one Irish girl know a thing or two about perseverance.

Kevin, the guitarist/vocalist/bassist for the band (it depends on the song) spoke with e360 about Fielding's life in the spotlight so far.

e360: How did Fielding begin?

Kevin: Aaron [bass and keys] and Eric [vocals and guitar] were friends in high school. Then the three of us were roommates. Eric had these folk songs

we'd put together. And Adam [drums] was friends with other people we knew, and things just naturally progressed. Eric met Beth [strings, vocals, keys, accordion and bass... not kidding] when she was visiting from Ireland. It wasn't complicated or anything... it just seemed like that is how it should be.

e360: What is your songwriting process like?

Kevin: Eric is basically the man writer. I've brought a few to the table and Aaron has too. But usually Eric has it all together and we'll work on the arrangements and piece it together. Then it's cool because we all have something different we can add in. People hear things differently and twist them around until it sounds right to them. Then someone could be onto something that is actually better than what you had in mind, and the whole song just takes off. It's the different ideas that make a song what it is."

e360: How would you describe the band's sound?

Kevin: It's always hard for us to answer this! I guess it's a mix of American music, kinda like Wilco maybe, and British... stuff. [Laughs] I mean, it's not revolutionary. We take the American rock and roll dirtiness and that Britpop... majesty [laughs].

e360: What kind of stuff did you listen to

that made you want to be a musician?

Kevin: Well, of course you gotta say The Beatles... I was into a lot of classic rock. But you know the band that did it for me—and this might sound funny but—Weezer. I was in high school and these normal guys do this video out of their garage and I'm going, "that's possible?!" They brought rock-stardom to a blue-collar level for me, I guess [laughs].

e360: How do you guys keep the creativity flowing in your band?

Kevin: We are all influences on one another as well. We call Beth our 'secret weapon.' She's classically trained. And Aaron's a pianist... but then we'll all switch our instruments around to free Beth up to sing or have someone else step up to a different instrument. And we push each other too. We've worked hard... practicing as much as we possibly can, balancing all of these schedules, playing all the shows we can... we push each other to be creative.

e360: Where would you like to see Fielding in the near future?

Kevin: I'd like us to take over the world! [Laughs] No, I'd really like to write a great album, you know? Just a timeless album that is consistent from top to bottom. Then we could tour a ton and get new fans and get out and meet the fans... hopefully we'll be able to do that.

