




OPIUM
SYMPHONY
OPIUMSYMPHONY.COM

**YOU DON'T
DESERVE
★★ MY VOTE ★★
2008**

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*the middle man between
our voters and the president
just isn't right.
We don't need to be
participating in a system
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power and the media is
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Bio



In an age where the radio is dominated by predictability and the current trend of homogenized rock, the Opium Symphony is unafraid to offer rock music transcending the times.

The quartet is a symphonic whirlwind of emotion, poetry, revolution and pure rock. With undeniably captivating vocal melodies intertwined with a fearless message, the Opium Symphony often surprises prospective followers with the band's dedication to revolutionary song craft. But it comes as no surprise to those who understand each member's commitment to push the limits of rock evolution, while remaining true to the heart and soul of rock. The Opium Symphony doesn't just take a listener on a ride, but leads them on an unforgettable journey. With each song in a world of its own, the band truly lives up to the nickname, "The Symphony".

Each member of the band brings with them a unique stylistic foundation built from their range of backgrounds, both musical and geographical. What could cause four very different musicians to come together from all walks of life? A vision of hope for modern rock to be reborn and revived to its true state of existence where one band not only leads rock n' roll into the dawn of a new day, but lives by this vision at each and every opportunity.

Opium Symphony transitioned smoothly into the DFW music scene in November of 2006 playing their first show to a packed house in Denton TX. Since that first performance the quartet has become increasingly popular touring the Texas region, proving that the heart of rock is forever alive.

The band consists of Kellen Ross Singer/Songwriter, Jerry Eakins Bass, Troy Schmidt Guitar/Vocals, and Leigh Underwood Drums, Marilee Haley Manager.

Contact Information: Marilee Haley Manager 310.430.6472
os@opiumsymphony.com • www.myspace.com/opiumsymphony



their instruments include:

GUITARS:

- 1 Marshall 100 Watt TSL 2000 AMP
- 1 Marshall 4X12 Cabinet
- 1 Mesa Boogie F50 50 Watt AMP
- 2 Pedal Boards (power outlet needed)

Mics provided by venue

VOCALS:

- 2 Vocals mics
- **mics provided by venue with boom-style stands**

DRUMS:

- 4 toms (2 rack, 2 floor)
- 1 bass drum
- 1 snare
- 2 crash cymbals
- 1 ride cymbal
- 1 china cymbal
- 1 high hat
- 1 splash

Drum mics provided by Venue

BASS:

- 1 600 Watt Genz-Benz Bass AMP
- 1 4X10 Hartke Bass Cabinet
- 1 Pedal Board (power outlet needed)



Media Credits:

- The Opium Symphony gained two press spots in the Dallas Observer promoting their headlining performance at the Liquid Lounge/Curtain Club. The band also gained two articles in the Abilene Reporter News for the April 21st and July 6th weekend guide "How to Kill the Next 72 Hours" mentioning the band's roots and performance ability. In the July 13th 2007 issue of American Entertainment's Blues n Rock Gazette the Opium Symphony received over 5 photos of their Abilene performance.
- Addictive Entertainment of Dallas Texas adopted the Opium Symphony song "Fiction For Addiction" for its theme song at events and online.
- Dallas Observer's own Megan Feldman wrote online blog for "You Don't Deserve My Vote 2008 "
- In Abilene, The Opium Symphony premiered for a morning interview with Frank Pain at Abilene's rock station KEYJ Rock 108. Since then KEYJ has also aired three songs from the EP "Life is a Cigarette" by request.
 - "Bad-ass...I love that tune."(Deaf Radio)
 - "You're gonna miss one heck of a show if you don't go."(CD Release Abilene, TX)

- Frank Pain: KEYJ Rock 108 Clear Channel Broadcasting
- OS has also received 2 live interviews on CBS affiliate KTAB News 5 in Abilene, TX.
- Featured in Harder Beat June 2007 issue with a Live Review of their April 28th show at Rockhouse Live by Lee Herrera.
 In the magazine the show was described as "the perfect epitaph for a night of 'wanting-to-hear-something-new fever'". Harder Beat describes the songs as "electrifying". "The band sounds raw, yet polished", according to the article, and "kudos" for a "well-received" set.

- Lee Herrera:HARDER BEAT June 2007. Vol.15. Issue 159



Opium Symphony at the Max

By: Keith Ludwick of DFW Noise



As soon as Opium Symphony took the stage, it was obvious that this was not your average rock band. The complex music was full of unusual twists and turns that was not easily anticipated. The only bands I could compare them with would be System of a Down and Queens of the Stone Age. This four-piece band consists of Kellen Ross on Vocals and guitar, J.D. on the bass, Troy Schmidt on lead guitar and Leigh on the skins. During their energetic performance, it became clear that this band was also politically aware and involved and are gearing up to go on tour to boycott the presidential elections. The "You Don't Deserve my Vote Tour, 2008" has the purpose of unifying their fans and protesting the government by refusing to cast a ballot and show the government leaders that the power rests with the people. And that the people are not amused with the status quo. Check out their debut CD, "Life is a Cigarette" at their Myspace page. Myspace.com/opiumsyrphony. From Myspace.com/dfwnoise

Opium Symphony Out to Stop The Vote

By: Megan Feldman of the Dallas Observer

With Obamamania spreading across the country, there's lots of talk about the youth who have been energized to participate in politics for the first time and whether or not they'll actually turn out to vote. Well, here's something a little different — a local band bent not on galvanizing the youth vote, but squelching it.

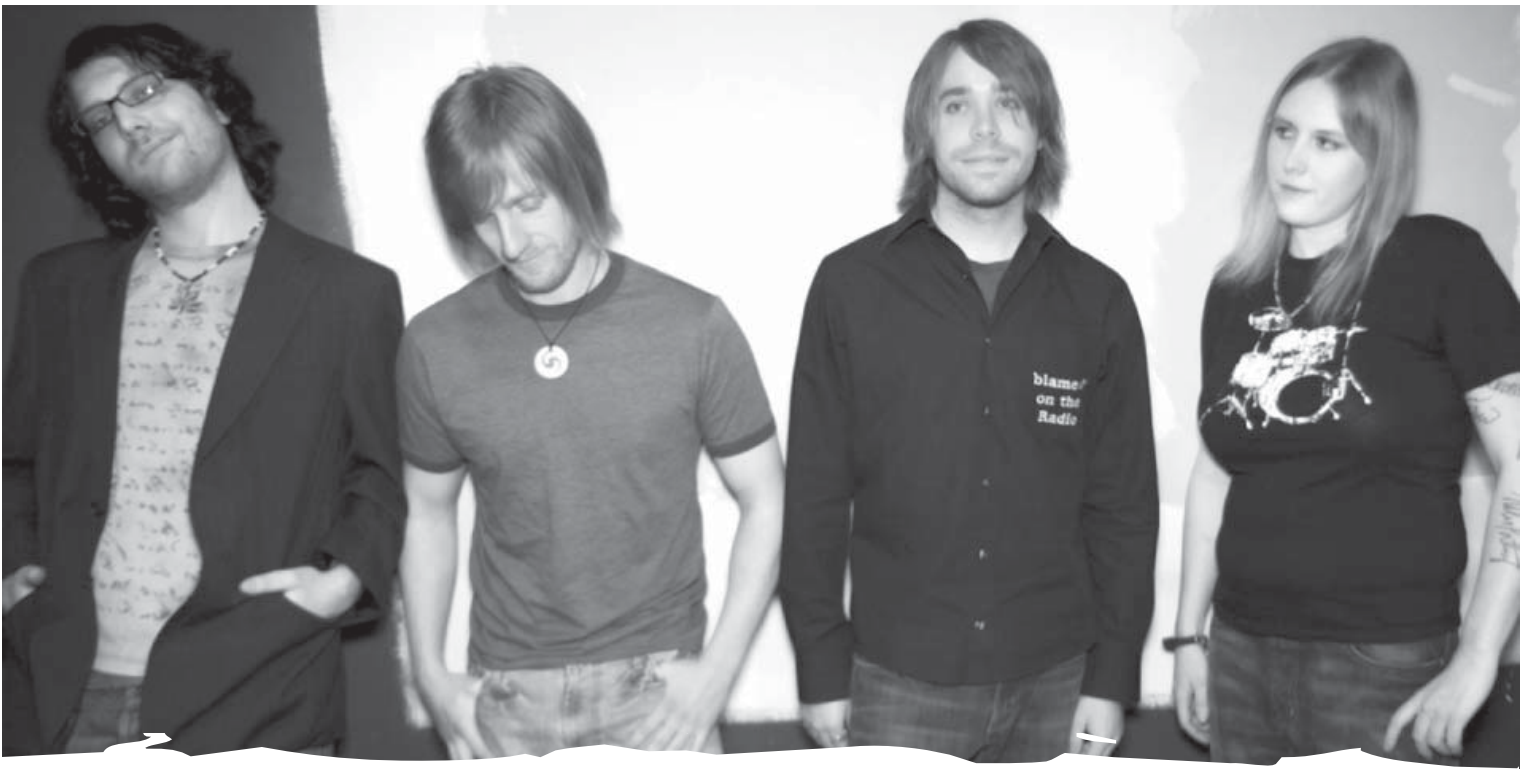
Rockers Opium Symphony, regulars at places like Firewater, The Max and the Curtain Club, are launching a multi-state tour themed "You Don't Deserve My Vote 2008." The tour, complete with boycott T-shirts and yard signs, kicks off March 8 at The Max and then heads to Orange County.

"We're gonna be going around addressing the problems with the Electoral College — the middle man between our votes and the president just isn't right," says front man Kellen Ross, 23. "And the super delegates are another middle man. We don't need to be participating in a system where they abuse their power and the media is basically choosing who becomes president."

So, um, just how is boycotting the election going to cause change, particularly when the candidate most popular with young folks is a Washington outsider whose rallying cry is change? Ross doesn't have a clear answer except to say, "the 13 colonies seceded to avoid a family-run country — my entire life, it's been Bush, Clinton, Bush, and now probably Clinton again, so how's that not a family-run country?" OK, but what about the argument that the fewer young people vote, the more irrelevant they become and the more power the "system" has? Ross will have none of it. "This isn't an angry rage at the machine thing," he says. "It's just, 'let's think about what's going on.' It's about getting things done. The more that spreads, the more we'll have the pull to change the system."

Alrighty, then. Rock on kids, and good luck with all that.





Opium Symphony Deserves a Vote

By: Jason Peterson

The idea that 'rock and roll is dead' has long been repudiated – although the form that rock has taken has varied greatly since its inception and what many consider its peak in the mid 1970s. While comparing current bands to 70s icons is often a fruitless venture, every once in a while a band emerges that carries the swagger, idealism, and – most importantly – the quality songs to be considered worthy of that mantle. Opium Symphony is one of those bands. Hailing from Dallas, Texas, the band brings the Texas attitude that bigger is better – bigger hooks, bigger riffs, and bigger personalities. This combination is on display on Opium Symphony's debut EP release "Life is A Cigarette," seven songs rife with distorted guitars, pounding rhythms and soaring choruses. The band – vocalist/guitarist Kellen Ross, bassist J.D., guitarist Troy Schmidt, and drummer Leigh – also has a gift for dynamics, which gives their songs a surging, cascading sound. Standout tracks include Pretty, Rich, Beautiful, an opus against empty materialism; God or Money, a catchy hook-laden tune reminiscent of the best of Queens of the Stone Age; and Stars and Stripes, an irresistible track full of potent anger and ironic lines like, "my mother taught me one thing you never trust a man wearing stars and stripes." The four-piece has also has big ideas, like a tour advocating a boycott of the 2008 Presidential Election. The "You Don't Deserve My Vote" Tour 2008 is a rallying cry to a generation of disenfranchised citizens, railing a system that continually fails to deliver.

As Kellen Ross says, "Too often it seems voting is our only chance to have a voice. We believe that it is time that we remind ourselves and our government that we are THE voice. We want to encourage people to boycott the 2008 Presidential Election to make it known that we are discontent. The point of retracting our vote is simple. It unifies us in this cause. It has become apparent that only extreme measures will force them to listen to what we have to say." This idea, while on its surface may seem apathetic, is anything but to Kellen and Opium Symphony. As Kellen continues, "We are not a political band, but we are citizens of this country much the same as everyone else. It doesn't take a politician (or a political band) to recognize that times call for a change, and that is why we are launching this Counter-Campaign Tour, You Don't Deserve My Vote 2008. This counter campaign, backed with the solid tunes and a dedicated and growing fan base, will see Opium Symphony raising awareness while committing to great music. With the spirit of the 60s and the musical influence of the 70s, the generation born in the 80s and raised in the 90s is spreading good music and a "question everything" attitude into the new millennium, and Opium Symphony is leading the charge.

What they are now about to embark on is a National Tour called
YOU DON'T DESERVE MY VOTE 2008

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We the Symphony, as a band, have taken it upon ourselves to ask the question "Why?" Why is it that every four years we get what are effectively two candidates to choose from when there are others running? Why can a candidate win the vote of the people, and still lose the election? Why do we put so much energy into getting people to vote in a system with such obvious flaws?

Our philosophy as a band has always been, and will always be, to put music first. We will continue to make the best original music possible. We are not a political band, but we are citizens of this country much the same as everyone else. It doesn't take a politician (or a political band) to recognize that times call for a change, and that is why we are launching this Counter-Campaign Tour, You Don't Deserve My Vote 2008.

Too often it seems voting is our only chance to have a voice. We believe that it is time that we remind ourselves and our government that we are THE voice. We want to encourage people to boycott the 2008 Presidential Election to make it known that we are discontent. The point of retracting our vote is simple. It unifies us in this cause. It has become apparent that only extreme measures will force them to listen to what we have to say.

We will use our voice as a band to spread this movement across the country during 2008.

CONTACT INFO:

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Kellen Ross/Singer/Songwriter • J.D. Eakins/Bass • Troy Schmidt/Guitars/Vocals • Leigh Underwood/Drums
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opiumsymphony@yahoo.com • os@opiumsymphony.com

TOUR DATES AND VENUES FOR THE U.S.

- 11/10/2007 09:00 PM - Old Kelly's w/ Live Concert Coverage by KEYJ Rock 108
- 11/17/2007 08:00 PM – FIREWATER- DVD shot LIVE!!! – Phillip Thomas – Dallas, TX
- 12/08/2007 09:00 PM – Headhunters– Austin, TX
- 01/11/2008 09:00 PM - Old Kelly's with Neverset and Overscene!! – Abilene, TX
- 01/25/2008 09:00 PM - Live at the Max (All Ages) Full Bar – Dallas, TX
- 02/02/2008 10:00 PM - Andy's w/ International Touring Band Zelazowa – Denton, TX
- 03/22/2008 09:00 PM - Firewater Bar and Grill – Dallas, TX
- 03/08/2008 09:00 PM – Live at the Max (All Ages) Full Bar – Dallas, TX
- 03/17/2008 08:00 PM – Bennigan's St. Patrick's Day Party – Dallas, TX
- 03/22/2008 08:00 PM – Lunkers Lodge – Sulphur Springs, TX
- 03/28/2008 08:00 PM - Old Kelly's – Abilene, TX
- 04/03/2008 08:00 PM – Diver Bar – Las Vegas, NV
- 04/04/2008 08:00 PM – Club Chronic – Upland, CA
- 04/05/2008 08:00 PM – Ceros – Anaheim, CA
- 04/08/2008 08:00 PM – Club AC – Venice, CA
- 04/26/2008 08:00 PM - Granada Theater - "Local Euphoria 2008" benefiting
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society - Dallas, TX

TBA

The logo for Opium Symphony features the word "Opium" in a blue, stylized script font with a crown over the letter 'i'. Below it, the word "Symphony" is written in a larger, blue, stylized script font with a white outline. The entire logo is set against a black rectangular background.



VOTE STRIKE '08
»THE OPIUM SYMPHONY«


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