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WARPPED

THE MATERIAL

THE STORY SO FAR: What percentage of bands in this scene contain a classically trained opera singer? The number rose ever so slightly when the Material, with frontwoman Colleen D'Agostino, hit the San Diego area in early 2006. "Female-fronted rock bands are becoming more popular now," says D'Agostino. "[When we formed], there really wasn't a place for an opera-trained female singer in a rock band." But when the Material released the *Tomorrow EP* in 2007, the melodic rock quintet earned a spot on MTV2's *Dew Circuit Breakout*, finishing second.

WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW 'EM: "We aren't a 'here today, gone tomorrow' band," says D'Agostino. "Our success in the *Dew Circuit Breakout* is only a small glimpse into what the five of us can do together." With influences ranging from Foo Fighters to Circa Survive, D'Agostino says the band are prepped and ready to impress you. "To those skeptical of a female-fronted rock band: You have to hear us for yourself."



HQ: San Diego, CA **NOW PLAYING:** *Tomorrow EP* (wearethematerial.com)
YOU LIKE? YOU'LL LIKE: PARAMORE / EVANESCENCE
 THE RECEIVING END OF SIRENS



HQ: East Bay, CA **NOW PLAYING:** *Lights & Sweat EP* (myspace.com/radiosuicidemusic)
YOU LIKE? YOU'LL LIKE: A DAY TO REMEMBER / COMEBACK KID
 FOUR YEAR STRONG

RADIO SUICIDE

THE STORY SO FAR: You know those bands who have trouble committing to a practice every other Wednesday? That's not hardcore punk outfit Radio Suicide. Forming in March 2006, the group practiced four times a week before recording their first EP six months later. "We played like crazy in the early stages," says bassist Jake Round. An opening gig for Enter Shikari in San Francisco led to more serious dedication. "It inspired us to step up our game."

WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW 'EM: They know the effective dosage of screamo mixed with hardcore and aren't afraid to dispense it. "We're not doing anything groundbreaking, and I'm okay with that," says Round. "We have catchy parts with hardcore chants." What the band take pride in, however, is that they remain fans first and foremost. "We're regular dudes who like to go to shows as much as play them," says Round.

TELESCREEN

THE STORY SO FAR: By the time Codeseven released *Dancing Echoes/Dead Sounds* on Equal Vision in 2004, they'd shifted from melodic hardcore toward spacey, experimental rock. It shouldn't be surprising that after they disbanded in 2005, many of the members (guitarist James Tuttle, guitarist/synth player Eric Weyer, bassist Jon Tuttle and drummer Matt Tuttle) would emerge with something even more progressive. Telescreen (featuring Classic Case vocalist Jared Draughon) formed in 2007 and within a few months unveiled their debut EP *The Solar Sea*.

WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW 'EM: More than most, Telescreen are a band you need to see live to get the entire picture. "We perform behind a 15-foot by 12-foot scrim and project visual pieces onto it," says Weyer. "It adds a new emotional element to the music." Not that their atmospheric anthems need any help. "We aim to mix rock with an ambient soundtrack," says Weyer. "It's very epic."



HQ: Winston-Salem, NC **NOW PLAYING:** *The Solar Sea EP* (myspace.com/telescreenmusic)
YOU LIKE? YOU'LL LIKE: DREDD / M83 / SIGUR RÖS



HQ: Bergen County, NJ **NOW PLAYING:** *Run Like Hell EP* (myspace.com/vanattahigh)
YOU LIKE? YOU'LL LIKE: THE USED / SAY ANYTHING / SENSES FAIL

VAN ATTA HIGH

THE STORY SO FAR: New Jersey's Van Atta High seem to have no trouble blending light-heartedness with seriousness. From their name (a reference to *Full House*) to their genre-bouncing sound (listen for traces of everything from All Time Low to Underoath), the five-piece have been at their balancing act since 2006. "We include elements of hardcore as well as elements of pop-rock," says frontman Steve Kellner. "We try to include various genre mixes as much as possible."

WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW 'EM: It's getting more and more difficult *not* to. They're consistently one of the top unsigned bands on MySpace and they've taken stages on Warped Tour, Taste Of Chaos and this past spring's Bamboozle. "To us, it's more about having fun than anything else," says Kellner. "If you're not enjoying what you're doing with over 75 percent of your time, what's the point?"