

SKYROCKET! the guys & girl

Raised within the music and theater communities of Houston, **DARIN MURPHY** (drums, Music Director) grew up surrounded by musicians, actors and DJ's, developing versatile music skills and an encyclopedic knowledge of pop records. Eventually he would climb to the top of Houston's music scene with his sister, Trish Murphy, producing two independent CD's and performing for capacity college crowds. In the mid-nineties they both migrated to Austin. While his sister quickly aligned with members of Austin's alt-country elite, Darin carved his niche in the town's British-influenced indie rock scene. Mixing his Euro influences (Beatles, Cardigans, Costello) with some of his American favorites (Beck, Wilco, Dave Grohl), Murphy re-emerged at the end of 1998 with *Solitarium*, his first self-produced, self-performed solo album. *Solitarium* drew praise from critics, record retailers and curious listeners worldwide, and in 2001 the much-anticipated follow-up, *Haunted Gardenias*, brought songwriting awards, year-end top ten lists and regular airplay on commercial AAA radio. And in 2005, he made his professional acting debut on Broadway in the original cast of Don Scardino's musical biography LENNON. www.darinmusic.com

There are, at last count, too many damn bands in Austin, TX — self-proclaimed “Live Music Capital of the World” — to even bother counting. But when it gets right down to it, there's just a few such rock bands that really matter here and **THE REAL HEROES** leads the pack. The band's sophomore outing, *Greetings From Russia*, was recently hailed by Texas Music Magazine as a “single-serving rock 'n' roll multi-vitamin.” We have supreme confidence that The Real Heroes — by name, singer/guitarist/frontman extraordinaire **BENJAMIN HOTCHKISS**, guitarist **PAUL ENGLISH**, guitarist/keyboardist **KYLE CRUSHAM**, bassist Kenneth Dowling and drummer Joey Spivey — have the goods to hold their own. Yeah yeah yeah ... we know you think you've heard and seen it all before. We know you're swimming in so much great rock 'n' roll, you probably take the stuff for granted. And we're pretty sure you've heard plenty of bands that evoke the majesty of T-Rex, the artful swagger of Ian Hunter and prime Bowie, the thrill of Television, the pop-metal panache of Cheap Trick and even (of so they've been told) the arena-sized, triple-guitar roar of vintage Blue Oyster Cult. But all at once? And delivered by a five-piece band of seasoned (long story) but unspoiled veterans that truly knows the difference between putting on an honest-to-goodness rock 'n' roll show worth remembering and just “playing a gig” ... and always goes the show road? Didn't think so. www.therealheroes.com

From rock and roll front man and band leader to guitar/keyboard playing sideman, for which he won “best keyboard player” in the 2004 Austin Chronicle music awards for his work with indie rock band Endochine, to studio musician playing on such albums as Eliza Gilkyson's *Lost and Found* and Jeff Klein's *Everybody Loves a Winner*, to songwriter's songwriter, writing with the likes of Jane Wiedlin & Charlotte Caffey of the Go-Go's and the ever-celebrated Patty Griffin to name a few, **JOHNNY GOUDIE** (vocals, keyboards, guitar) has earned and maintained the title musician's musician. As former front man/leader of the band Goudie, he gained national attention when the band was signed to Lars Ulrich's Elektra records subsidiary, The Music Company, after the band was together a mere 9 months. The band released one album on the vanity label, the critically acclaimed, *Peep Show* (2000). The album was produced by Goudie, Mike McCarthy (*Spoon*, ... *And You Will Know Us By the Trail of Dead*) and Dan Maccarrol (*The Grays*, *Aimee Mann*) and mixed by Jack Joseph Puig (*No Doubt*, *John Mayer*, *Remy Zero*). The band spent over a year on tour of America in support of the album. Lost in the shuffle after the AOL merger and dissatisfied with his “100% creative freedom” deal Johnny decided to take his band and leave the Multinational conglomerate label and join forces with some friends in a cooperative independent label out of Austin called India Records. After a celebrated second album, *effects of madness* (2002) and another year on the road, Johnny decided to disband the group that bore his name. As strong as Johnny's writing and recording abilities are, those are only part of the package. He is also one of the most captivating and compelling front men around. His presence on stage is larger than life. “You can't take your eyes off of him.” was how he was described in *Billboard* magazine. With a voice that can go from falsetto whisper to blood-curdling scream in two notes and he can go from Robin Zander-like stoicism to Who-like