



American Speedway Gearing Up For Round Two

Ship Of Fools, the latest album from Philly rockers **American Speedway**, definitely brings to mind the hell-raisin', beer-drinkin', petal to the metal aesthetic of bands like **Zeke**, **Nashville Pussy** and **Speeddealer**. While the album is finally getting familiar to many fans now that it's starting to make inroads at Metal radio, American Speedway is actually getting ready to hit the studio to record a second one. *Ship Of Fools* came out in early 2008 and the next effort should be out by spring 2009.

"The next album has more '70s rock, more guitar work – a more **Foghat** influence if you will," says singer/guitarist **Mike Speedway** enthusiastically. "A lot of the songs are about partying but they all have this underlying existentialism going throughout them. We try not to keep it too serious though. We keep it on the fun side."

Speedway notes that even though the band comes from a Punk background and has that '70s guitar rock influence, they've had no problem relating to the Metal crowd. "I never thought we would have a place in the Metal scene, but from the shows we've been playing, I've seen a ridiculous crossover to playing Metal shows as opposed to Punk Rock shows," he says. "I don't know if it's because the kids are really digging something different from the other three [Metal] bands that are on the bill, but we've done really well crossing over into that market."

The quartet will hit the studio in late December to put the second album to tape, and a winter tour is in the works that will consist mostly of east coast dates. The band will record in Speedway's own studio that he constructed in a converted church. He produces other bands there as well. But despite his "day job" as a producer, he's looking forward to getting back on the road.

"I'm just looking to travel as much as possible," Speedway says. "I love being in a band but I really like the side aspect of getting to see a lot of different places, whether they are small towns in Ohio or cities like Chicago. The traveling has been my favorite part of the whole thing. As long as we can keep doing that, I'll be happy."