



June 21, 2006

Snakes and Music

Fri., June 23, 9pm. \$8. With El Toro de Oro, O'Death + Kill Hands. Khyber, 56 S. Second St. 215.238.5888. www.thekhyber.com

Billed as country- and folk-flecked indie rock, Snakes and Music sound more like punks trying to play quietly, with subtler instruments, to keep on their neighbors' good side. "Please Explain" and "Burn the Bushes" could be stripped-down versions of Promise Ring or Superchunk songs, which isn't a bad thing. On their debut album *Isabelle*, Snakes and Music—split between Philly, Jersey and Brooklyn, with two ex-members of the Jazz June—are pleasingly straightforward, though certain lyrics ("Wish there were some drugs to come home to") evoke darker days. At this release show, don't miss the rest of the bill, including the Khyber-formed super-friends that are El Toro de Oro. (D.W.)