

## The 2008 Wave Gathering Wrap Up

Well, it came, it saw, and it conquered, leaving most attendees begging for a Monday off, but one thing is for sure—the festival was a big success. With this year's emphasis concentrating on new entertainment additions and more outside acts, The 2008 Wave Gathering was a sterling example of how a small idea can become a big reality. Pushing "Music, Buzz, Culture, and Rebirth," the Wave delivered it all with a minimum of headaches for festival attendees, while the town businesses reaped the benefits of a centralized community gathering, welcoming new faces and revenue dollars. The atmosphere of celebration and excitement jammed stages at venues from Cookman Avenue to the Boardwalk and beyond.

Along with the entertainment, there were also several educational panels, directed at beginners as well as professionals, and manned by industry gurus including our own Patrick Slevin, who gave much insight with regards to the press

and how it works best for bands, and Jeff Raspe from 90.5 The Night, who showed rockers the "right" way to get stuff submitted to the radio guys. Many others like Ken Shane and Jim Testa helped guide the careers of the attendees that were there and looking to improve and reinvent. My interview with Nicole Atkins was a totally cool experience, and she shed much light on the music industry workings while treating us to some interesting and personal rock and roll stories.

Some of the highlights from this year were Bret Mosley, a talented and gracious Dobro player from New York that brought audience members to tears with his heartfelt rendition of "Amazing Grace," and sultry NYC neighbor Lisa Bianco who worked her magic at Carmines and the curious Dusty Springfield tinged delights of The Tall Pines, who preached their gospel tele style. And who can deny APM kings Joe Harvard, Tony Tedesco and Keith Monacchio, the blue-collar guys who only get better every time they

are turned loose on the musical community. Poor Joe Harvard actually hauled me up onstage to ruin one of his songs (sorry Joe).

So many others were also fantastic on like Arlen Feiles, Divine Sign, Christian Beach, Keith McCarthy, The Jack Lords and The Lonely H from Port Angeles, Washington. And while I don't have time to list all the performers, it's safe to say that they were all integral in this three-day festival.

Keep an eye out here and on the web for festival chatter, it was a big Wave weekend, and I'm sure we'll be hearing all about the stories for a long time to come. [wavegathering.com](http://wavegathering.com)

## The Grip Weeds—Live July 12 at Vintage Vinyl

New Jersey natives The Grip Weeds are back in the garden state and doing a couple of intimate shows at two of New Jersey's more famous record stores. They are here to push their latest release, *Infinite Soul: The Best Of The Grip Weeds*, out on Little Steven's Wicked Cool



PHOTO BY NANCY HEYMAN

Records. The band feels that performing and showcasing the record in such an intimate setting will get them up close and personal with their fans, and it probably won't hurt sales for this disc either.

They will be starting out the July 12th shows at my favorite place to buy real records, Vintage Vinyl in Fords, NJ. Vintage Vinyl has everything, and I can spend hours in the back bins looking for Esquivel discs. There is no charge for this 2 p.m. show so get there early and get your copy signed early. Also, later that same day, The Grip Weeds will be heading over to The Record Collector in Bordentown for an early evening set and admission will be a modest \$5.

The Grip Weeds are well ahead of the pack when it comes to their brand of psyche-tinged pop, mixing the spirit of '60s and '70s rock with Beatles-esque sensibilities and modern rock edginess. The new disc churns out 15 tracks from the bands last four albums, including a new bonus track called "She Brings The Rain," a Kinks-inspired rock nugget that features dead on harmonies and chimey guitar hooks that kick the tune into overdrive and making it shimmer like black top in the hot summer sun.

Label boss Little Steven says, "We like to mix it up in Jersey and The Grip Weeds are a great example of that. A touch of The Beatles, a pinch of The Byrd's, a dash of The Kinks, a bit of The Who and a dollop of The Zombies and you get something quite extraordinary and very cool. This is a great mixed bag collection of live and studio tracks, featuring the vibes of some of rocks best known, but always steering to a compass that is truly their own." Pick up *Infinite Soul*; *The Best Of*

*The Grip Weeds* over at [gripweeds.com](http://gripweeds.com)

## Mike Montrey/A Perfect Reality/Independent

The debut solo album by Mike Montrey, *A Perfect Reality* has debuted at #29 on the [jambands.com](http://jambands.com) radio charts, along side such national artists as moe., My Morning Jacket, Maceo Parker, Widespread Panic and more.

Mike Montrey is a singer-songwriter who mixes somber acoustic drones with upbeat saxophone laced grooves and driving guitars, while adding an alt-country feel with thought provoking lyrics to create a sound that is truly original. With his debut solo release, "a perfect reality," Montrey has created a wonderful slate of music.

As a founding member of the highly successful jam-outfit,

"Water," Montrey has built a reputation as being a commanding frontman. And most recently, his inclusion as a guitarist/vocalist for the epic rock band, The Samples, has cemented his legacy as one of the most recognizable musicians to come out of New Jersey's fertile music scene. You can catch Mike in person on July 16 2008 at Katmandu Indie-Music Acoustic Showcase, Trenton, NJ [myspace.com/mikemontrey](http://myspace.com/mikemontrey)

## The Jersey Shore Roller Girls Extravaganza July 12 At Convention Hall, Asbury Park, NJ

The newest all-women, flat-track roller derby league that has taken New Jersey by storm! Born from the dreams of four women with a love for roller derby, the Jersey Shore Roller Girls is now more than 70 women strong and still growing. I've said it before and I'll say it again. There's nothing better than watching a bunch of attractive ladies hip checking each other around a fast track.

This Saturday night marks the return of the Anchor Assassins, who will be facing off against the Right Coast Rollers in an inter-league bout to the bitter end! Tickets are going fast, so if you want to go, get on over to the Convention hall box office or, should you be fortunate enough to know one of the players, get a ticket from them.

So bring signs. Do the wave. Shout and cheer. Spell the girls names on your chests, or maybe just grab a drink and watch the action from the safety of the bleachers. I say safety, because anyone of these girls has the power to put you through a plate glass window in two seconds. [jerseyshorerollergirls.net](http://jerseyshorerollergirls.net) or [myspace.com/jerseyshorerollergirls](http://myspace.com/jerseyshorerollergirls)

# loud notes

by Jen Kajzer



France's **Gojira** are putting the finishing touches on their forthcoming album, *The Way of All Flesh*, which they hope to release on Oct. 14 through Prosthetic Records. Gojira frontman Joe Duplantier said recently, "That's the theme—it's about death itself. It's also about the immortality of the soul. That's the main subject for us. This album's got a more dramatic feel to it, and some of the lyrics are almost cynical," continues Duplantier. "Usually, with my lyrics, I'm always positive. But on this album, I'm so pissed off with the situation on Earth right now, how we're abusing so much, and we take everything that we can take from the ocean, and we kill off endangered species."

Seattle-based **Himsa** will be calling it quits after a decade. Bassist Derek Harn comments, "After 10-plus years, four releases, countless tours and almost incomprehensible (yet constant) upheaval, the last three years

of the band have been relatively stable. Having sacrificed everything we had in order to ensure the band's survival it's time to let it go. We made a great CD (*Summon In Thunder*/Century Media); reportedly, our best. We've got a great label. We're getting along, we've toured and we're fine. It's all good. We're leaving it at that." Himsa will play their final show at **El Corazon** in their home state of Washington.

**Overcast** which features members of Killswitch Engage, Shadows Fall and Seemless, will release their re-recorded collection of their own material. *Reborn To Kill Again* is scheduled to come out Aug. 19 through Metal Blade Records. This album has 14 re-recorded tracks as well as two unreleased songs, all produced by **Adam Dutkiewicz** of KsE fame. The band is also planning to play some live shows late summer. In other Adam D news, he's handling production once again for **Unearth's** new album

which they hope to release in October.

**Trivium** who recently passed through the area as the opening act for **Iron Maiden**, have announced *Shogun* as the title for their third album, which they hope to release on Sept. 30 through Roadrunner Records. The band gained notoriety in 2005 when they plummeted into the metal world with their debut *Ascendancy*. Members of the band were barely 21 at the time, and some critics compared Trivium singer/guitarist Matt Heafy to James Hetfield and Kirk Hammett. The band recorded their new album in Nashville, Tennessee, unlike their last two albums which were recorded in their home state of Florida. Heafy commented, "We made a cohesive, epic metal album that combines all of the ingredients of everything we feel we have ever done 'right' musically, while adding a new direction that the music called for. We had so much fun creating this album and hope our fans feel that energy when they listen."

UPCOMING SHOWS: **At The Gates** reunite at The Fillmore at Irving Plaza **July 9** and **July 10** for two sold out shows. Tickets will likely be available on the street corner, extremely overpriced. This **Sunday, July 14**, **Suffocation** play BB Kings in New York City.