



■ Mine's a Babycham: Falling Red
 (L-R) Dave Sanders, Shane Kirk,
 Rozey, Matty Penn.

FIRST GLANCE

Falling Red

Wild Cumbrian four-piece giving Sweden's sleaze rockers a run for their dirty money.

WHILE OVER IN Sweden the sleaze rock scene is boiling over with talent, as the likes of Crashdiet, Hardcore Superstar and 69 Eyes continue to prove, the only real notable UK exponents of the genre would have to be Cumbria's finest, Falling Red.

Formed in 2006 by lead vocalist/guitarist Rozey and rhythm guitarist Shane Kirk, the blueprint for Falling Red was put in place when drummer Dave Sanders joined. As Rozey explains: "We brought Dave in not too long after Shane and I got the first incarnation of Falling Red going. We were fortunate to have recruited one of the best rock drummers in the UK."

It was this initial line-up that would eventually record the band's debut album *Shake The Faith*, an eight-track tour-de-force, for Rocksector records. The label couldn't believe its luck in finding the Fallen ones, a story that Rozey is only too happy to tell: "Yeah, we were in the right place, at the right time. They turned up to one of our quietest gigs ever. But they couldn't believe our energy on stage, and were intrigued to see more."

What they saw and heard that night was just a glimmer of the band that recorded the *Shake The Faith* release. With said album garnering them plaudits from all the right places, tours with Sebastian Bach, Dirty Penny and Vains Of Jenna helped them cement a reputation as a band of distinction.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE



Falling Red have been influenced as much by bands' wild and crazy partying antics as they have by their music. But one band in particular has spoken volumes to Rozey - Guns N' Roses. "Yeah, if I could go back in time then I'd love to be around for *Appetite For Destruction*. The shit they got up to... and they still managed to create one of the greatest albums of all time. I wish I could've been there."

However, it clearly irks Rozey that his band seem cast in the shadow of certain aforementioned Swedes, vehemently jabbing his finger in my direction. "Fuck yeah! It bothers me that any band gets more press than us.

We work really fuckin' hard, we're out on the road, but it's more about how to market a band these days. If you have Gene Simmons bank-rolling you, you'll do alright!"

Having recorded a brand new EP, the marvellous *Hasta La Victoria Siempre!* [Latin translation: 'Onward to victory 'til death'], to keep momentum flowing, it sees them in riotous form, containing the anthem *If You Ain't Down With The Rock...*, a song the frontman is rightly proud of.

"It's definitely our anthem for a new generation of rockers out there. Shane's not one to mince his words, that lad; he wrote the lyrics as an ode to all the back-of-the-room posers. If you ain't down with the rock... fuck off!"

The live circuit in the UK is very important to Falling Red, but they've seen it diminish drastically over the last two years, with some great clubs and venues having folded during the recession. Rozey has one last message to the gig-going punter.

"Music fans need to get behind smaller bands and promoters and share the money out to the up-and-coming bands. Don't just give it all to major festivals... or there won't be a club scene in the future, and there won't be bands like Falling Red." **RE**

Falling Red's EP Hasta La Victoria Siempre! and their debut album Shake The Faith are available via Rocksector records.