

**UPCOMING CONCERTS AND COMEDY CONTINUED ...**

**The Captives w/Dark Soul Dealer**, Hollywood Alley, March 8, 8 p.m., \$5  
**Kimya Dawson w/The Black Swans, Music For Bowlers, Business Man's Lunch, Jeff Lewis, Bri White**, Trunk Space, March 8, 8 p.m., \$8  
**Blake Shelton w/Mark Chesnutt**, Mesa Amphitheatre, March 9, 7 p.m., \$50  
**John Tesh**, Chandler Center for the Arts, March 9, 7 p.m., \$48-\$78  
**Why? w/Cryptacize**, Modified, March 9, 7:30 p.m., \$8  
**The A-Sides w/Division Day**, Rhythm Room, March 9, 8 p.m., \$8  
**Matt Nathanson**, Brickhouse, March 9, 7 p.m., \$12 adv, \$13 dos  
**World Inferno Friendship Society w/Subvacuum Of Nothing**, The Phix, March 9, 8 p.m., \$8  
**The Lemonheads w/The Icarus Line, Kinch, Source Victoria**, Brickhouse, March 10, 7 p.m., \$16 adv, \$17 dos  
**Delta Spirit w/Port O Brian, The Virgins**, Modified, March 10, 8:30 p.m., \$8  
**Boss Martians w/Big Vinnie & The Cattle Thieves, Rebel Set**, Hollywood Alley, March 10, 8 p.m., \$5  
**Comeback Kid w/Daggermouth, Crime In Stereo, Cancer Bats**, The Sets, March 10, 6:30 p.m., \$12  
**The Outline**, The One Place, March 10, 7 p.m., \$8  
**Mika Miko w/No Age, Clipd Beaks**, Trunk Space, March 10, 8 p.m., \$6  
**Twiztid w/Boondox, Project Born, DJ Clay, Intrinzik**, Marquee Theatre, March 11, 6:30 p.m., \$20 adv, \$22 dos  
**Beach House w/Papercuts**, Modified, March 11, 8:30 p.m., \$10  
**Ingrid Michaelson w/Cary Brothers, Greg Laswell, Kate Havnevik, Jessie Baylin, Jim Bianco**, Clubhouse, March 11, 7 p.m., \$15 adv, \$17 dos  
**Crystal Castles w/Health, Modern Rivals**, Rhythm Room, March 11, 8 p.m., \$12 adv, \$15 dos  
**Old Time Relijun w/Twin Crystals, Foot Village, Friends Forever, Kevin Shields, Soft Shoulder, Andrew Jackson Jihad**, Trunk Space, March 11, 7 p.m., \$8  
**Awake and Alert w/Tera Melos, Sayvinyl, The Loveblisters, Tugboat**, The One Place, March 11, 7 p.m., \$8  
**The Terrordactyls w/TV Coahran, Invisible Teal, Foot Ox, Daryl Scariot**, The Phix, March 11, 7:30 p.m., \$8  
**Neba w/Yourchestra, The Silent Comedy, City Street**, Modified, March 12, 7 p.m., \$5  
**Silverstein w/The Devil Wears Prada, A Day To Remember, Protest The Hero**, Marquee Theatre, March 12, 6:30 p.m., \$15 adv, \$17 dos  
**Winger w/Big Cock**, Martini Ranch, March 12, 7:30 p.m., \$15 adv, \$17 dos  
**Middle Class Rut w/The Feeling Mutual**, The Phix, March 12, 7:30 p.m., \$7  
**Kinky w/Pastilla, Bosque Discoteca, Torino**, Brickhouse, March 13, 7 p.m., \$15 adv, \$20 dos  
**Vermillion Lies w/Sonorous, Fatigo, Forever**, Trunk Space, March 13, 8 p.m., \$7  
**Beatlemania Live**, Casino Arizona, March 13-16, 7 p.m., \$40  
**The Temptations w/The Four Tops**, Celebrity Theatre, March 14, 8 p.m., \$55-\$100  
**George Bowman**, Rhythm Room, March 14, 8 p.m., \$7  
**Wayne Newton**, Fort McDowell Casino, March 14, 8 p.m., \$40-\$60  
**Jorgen w/Hey Taxi, Jordin Taylor**, The Phix, March 14, 7:30 p.m., \$7

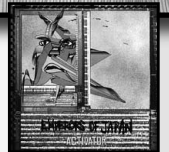
**Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers w/Shooter Jennings**, Celebrity Theatre, March 15, 8 p.m., \$32 adv, \$34 dos  
**Duke Ellington Orchestra**, Chandler Center for the Arts, March 15, 8 p.m., \$28-\$38  
**Major Lingo**, Hollywood Alley, March 15, 8 p.m., \$5  
**Sistah Blue**, Rhythm Room, March 15, 8 p.m., \$7  
**In The Flesh**, Alice Cooper's town, March 15, 8 p.m., \$12

**Destroy Tokyo w/Casy & Brian, Harlequin Babies**, Trunk Space, March 15, 8 p.m., \$6  
**Al Stewart**, Rhythm Room, March 16, 6:30 p.m., \$27 adv, \$30 dos  
**Flogging Molly w/The Reverend Payton's Big Damn Band, The Cherry Cokes**, Marquee Theatre, March 16, 6:30 p.m., \$32  
**Matchbox Twenty w/Alanis Morissette, Mutemath**, Cricket, March 17, 7 p.m., \$24-\$70

**EXTRA**



Courtesy Emperors of Japan



**LOCAL SPOTLIGHT**

**EMPERORS OF JAPAN**  
*Activator*  
 (Dark Black Records)



On their second release, *Activator*, Emperors of Japan have honed their distinctive post-rock sound to near perfection. Wisely, the band mostly bypasses the extended psychedelic freak-outs that made their 2006 debut, *Your Freak Majesty*, more of a hit-or-miss affair. On *Activator*, the Valley trio deftly straddles the line between low-fi indie rock and their more avant-garde leanings. On songs like "Comfort Food" and "Vandals," they utilize the classic soft/loud template of the Pixies, with vocalist Tony Poer building from melodic singing to a Black Francis-like yowl. On "Teenage Girls in Heat," Poer's falsetto and drummer Matt Townsend's driving beat are reminiscent of early Queens of the Stone Age. Keyboardist Masa Schmale provides layers of sonic texture throughout the album, accenting and highlighting the guitar and bass without ever overpowering them. The songs are diverse enough to keep things interesting, but still retain enough similarity to keep the album from sounding too schizophrenic. They're catchy without being overtly poppy or predictable because Emperors of Japan don't craft hooks in the traditional manner. Much like Failure (but with less distortion), the "payoffs" aren't always what you expect, but that's what makes *Activator* so much more rewarding, especially on repeat listens. Following in the footsteps of Radiohead, the band has made the entire album available as a free download on their website, [www.emperorsofjapan.com](http://www.emperorsofjapan.com), but old-school collector types can still purchase a hard copy online, in select Valley record shops or at one of their shows.

**Emperors of Japan and Chief Beef CD release w/Skinwalkers, The Necronauts, Club Mardi Gras**, 8040 E. McDowell Road, Scottsdale, 480.970.5707, March 1, 8 p.m., \$5

- Mike R. Meyer



**Every Time I Die blend metalcore, blues, Southern rock with healthy dose of humor**

By Mike R. Meyer • College Times

Every Time I Die might be known for their sense of humor, but that doesn't mean they can't get serious now and then. As the headliners of the Take Action tour, the band had the opportunity to choose a charity that would receive a portion of the tour's proceeds. Rather than pick one specific cause, the band chose DoSomething.org.

"DoSomething.org is basically like (a wholesaler)," explains guitarist Andy Williams. "You give them the money and then they disburse it to a whole bunch of different charities."

Williams' sense of humor quickly returns when asked why other metal bands are so serious all the time.

"Here's the thing that sucks about metal," he says. "You look back at bands like Celtic Frost and stuff like that, like real metal bands. Those dudes are like real dudes. All the metal bands that are around now are fuckin' dorks. I'm making fun of myself with that. We all have MySpace accounts. We all play video games. I've never tasted blood in my life. I don't wear spikes. I don't wear leather, you know what I mean? It's completely bullshit. There needs to be a new name for metal bands, like 'fake metal.' That's what it should be ..."

"We just went on a tour with Killswitch Engage, and those dudes sit on their computer all day and watch fuckin' wrestling, and they're one of the biggest metal bands around. You take a band like Slayer, their fuckin' singer's a hippie and a Christian, and the dude's singing about (evil) shit. They're dorks. Even though they've been around forever, they're still dorks. They literally transformed into what metal is nowadays. Where Slayer used to be the most metal band, now they've adapted to being lame."

"That's the craziest part about this whole thing. There used to be this reckless abandon about metal, where these dudes were

kinda punk rock. Now it's just like 'Oh man, I'm gonna get free guitars and endorsements, but I'm gonna go home and play fuckin' 'Warhammer' with my friends.' It's like, 'dude, you're a dork.'"

But heavy metal isn't completely devoid of real men, according to Williams.

"High on Fire is the realest metal band out there, because Matt Pike would kick the fuck out of you," he says. "I watched the dude literally do whippits on a fuckin' tour, something you do when you're 13 and the dude's 35, you know what I mean? Real dude. Dude doesn't own a fuckin' computer. The guy plays real guitars, he plays real amps, and he doesn't believe in second guitar players. Dude's amazing. That's a metal band."

Although ETID's sound has evolved over their four albums, Williams doesn't worry about alienating longtime fans.

"If you listen to the new record, it's not that different," he says. "There's hooks and stuff like that, but you've gotta think, when I wrote our demo and when I was writing riffs for *Last Night In Town*, I was a 19-, 20-year-old kid. I'm 30 years old now. So of course I'm gonna become a better guitar player. It's one of those things where, as a musician, we all evolve. You can't write the same record over and over again. That's just wrong. You look at a band like Shadows Fall. They write the same record every time. I'm not talking shit, but it's true ... As a musician and an artist, I can't do that. I don't wanna write the same song. I wanna keep evolving. And if people don't like it, they don't like it. Fuck it. I'll play in Vegas."

**Every Time I Die w/From First To Last, The Bled, August Burns Red, The Human Abstract, Marquee Theatre, 730 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe, 480.829.0607, March 2, 6 p.m., \$19 adv, \$20 dos**