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HOME >> ARTS AND CULTURE >> GREENSKY BLUEGRASS EXCITED TO OPEN FOR RAILROAD EARTH IN KNOXVILLE

Greensky Bluegrass excited to open for Railroad Earth in Knoxville



Winners of the 2006 Telluride Bluegrass Festival Band Competition, Michigan's own Greensky Bluegrass is earning recognition nationwide as a growing force in acoustic roots music.

By Sarah Waldrip

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There's something about bluegrass that generates its own momentum and energy in a live setting, without the need for any stage antics or flash. It's just down-home genuine, something we see less and less of these days. This classic American music that was born right here in Appalachia, and its charm isn't lost on the new generations of fans who are expanding the scope of the genre at an explosive rate.

In proper fashion, Knoxville is set to start the new year with some fantastic bluegrass, or should I say "newgrass", that has many people excited. Downtown's own [Bijou Theatre](#) will welcome Railroad Earth and [Greensky Bluegrass](#) on Thursday Jan. 13. The buzz has been growing about this show for months.

The two groups are collaborating for a three night run of shows in the Southeast this January, the first night starting in Knoxville, followed by one night each in Asheville, N.C. and Atlanta, Ga.

[Railroad Earth](#) has earned a loyal following after touring both the city and festival circuits since 2001. They are expected to attract a healthy crowd on their own, but their opening act [Greensky Bluegrass](#) is not just filler. They actually share a creative history with Railroad Earth that makes this pairing far from incidental.

We really do love playing with Railroad Earth. They are a great bunch of guys and they have really been by us along the way.

-Paul Hoffman, mandolin player for Greensky Bluegrass

met them before that day. We ended up having a great time and, of course,

No strangers to playing shows together, these two bands have increasingly developed a relationship over the last several years, especially after Tim Carbone of Railroad Earth extended the relationship to the studio and assisted Greensky in recording two albums including their 2008 album *Five Interstates*. The result has been nothing less than successful.

Just hours before playing the 2010/2011 New Years Eve show in Colorado, Paul Hoffman, mandolin player for Greensky Bluegrass, reminisced about how it all began.

"The first time we played with Railroad Earth, we were scheduled to play a set with them at festival, and we had never

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[Greensky Bluegrass](#) : Click here to see the Greensky Bluegrass website where you can read more about the band, listen to music, check tour dates and find links to other articles and reviews.

[Railroad Earth](#) : Click here to see the Railroad Earth website where you can listen to their music, check tour dates and much more.

[Bijou Theatre](#) : Click here to visit the Bijou Theatre home page where you can view event schedules and purchase tickets.

"Of course, this is bluegrass. So manic chops mean a lot to Greensky Bluegrass. Yet they are also masterful storytellers. Mandolinist Paul Hoffman in particular pens some true rural balladry."

-Seattle Weekly

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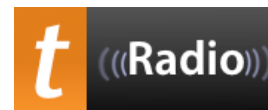
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