



July 2006

Artists Too New To Know

2. RECKLESS KELLY: Austin, TX



FROM CARSON TO KEROUAC

Before they were local alt-country heroes, **Willy and Cody Braun** were budding country/swing celebrities. The guitar-slinging brothers cut their teeth backing their father Muzzie Braun, appearing at the Grand Ole Opry and on Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show* while still in their pre-teens. After discovering rock 'n' roll, the duo formed Reckless Kelly and began gigging around Idaho and Oregon. In 1997, Reckless Kelly relocated to Austin, TX, where they quickly immersed themselves in the city's burgeoning alt-country scene. Hitting the ground running, the group scored weekly gigs throughout Austin, including a series of acoustic shows which stripped Reckless Kelly's sound down to its essentials. "They came out of necessity but those gigs really helped refine our sound," Willy says. Soon after, the group signed with Sugar Hill Records and released *Under the Table and Above the Sun*, cementing Willy's reputation as a thoughtful songwriter. "I draw a lot of song ideas from literature," Willy says. "'Desolation Angels' was actually taken from a line in a Jack Kerouac poem." But onstage, Reckless Kelly still knows how to party: "We love to just rock out up there."

www.recklesskelly.com Mike Greenhaus

###