



BAND ON THE RUN

The acoustic genius
of Sneakin' Out

It is a Sunday night, and Sneakin' Out is playing at a seedy bar near the river in Old Town. Thick, stale smoke hangs in the air. A shirtless bartender hocks cheap beer and an assortment of black leather restraints. That predictable CD shuffle of fanciful lounge music (Elton John, Madonna, etc.) fills the room as the acoustic trio in the back tunes up.

As men in chaps shoot pool and lesbians snuggle on barstools, mandolinist David Gerow steps to the microphone and announces, "This is the gayest thing we do." And with that, the band breaks into a twisted cover of "Hungry Like the Wolf."

The music is crisp and clear, a blend of progressive bluegrass and 1980s pop tunes. Here, in a dive bar filled with drag queens, dykes, old straight couples and campy gay men, the music dreamily extends and wanders, transforming the place along the way.

by Cori Taratoot

Photos by Marty Davis