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BANG

The two members of Bang, Paul Calliris and Billy Adams, may be young, but they have an old-fashioned attitude towards what the components of good, solid music are. "We still believe in melodies," says Adams. "We're a little bit romantic," adds Calliris, "but we still use strong rhythms. And the artists you always remember, the ones who last the longest, are the ones who have something to say with their music." As Bang's debut A&M album **Clockwise** makes clear, this duo definitely has something to say.

Bang formed in London and became a part of the vital British music scene, though both were born in Athens, Greece. "London was the place to be," Calliris recalled. "Since we are both European, we just gravitated there. The reason we formed a team together was that although we're basically different — my orientation was jazz and Billy's was classical — we have similar musical tastes. We discovered that as people and musicians, we had a lot in common. We both loved the Beatles, and we admired the ability of Paul McCartney and John Lennon to write good songs."

Both Calliris and Adams have strong musical backgrounds. "My father is a jazz guitarist," says Calliris. "I grew up with a lot of jazz. In addition, my mother spent several years in the United States as a student, and brought back with her many American records, which later strongly influenced my musical taste. He adds that "Billy's background is very classical, having studied piano since he was 10 years old."

At the time their paths converged in London, the duo was dissatisfied with the bands they'd been playing with. When they were introduced by a mutual friend, a musical spark was instantly ignited.

With Paul on lead vocals and guitar and Billy on keyboards the two have forged a strong musical bond. They collaborate so closely, that Paul can complete a song that Billy has started — without even missing a beat.

Bang was also lucky enough to connect with another dynamic duo — their two managers in New York — who really nurtured the band along. In fact, Bang lived in the upstate New York home of one of their managers while recording their debut album.

"We were very involved in the process of making this record," says Billy. "We wrote most of the songs and played most of the instruments. I was assistant engineer, and together we arranged as well as co-produced the songs. We really wanted to have as much creative input as possible. If you listen to the original demos of our album, you would find that the finished songs sound very close

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