

# Journal Santa Fe

A ZONED PUBLICATION OF



ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL



COURTESY PHOTO

Bostonians Jen de la Osa and Henry Beguiristain make up the indie rock outfit Aloud.

## Duo Shares Songwriting, Singing Duties

■ *Indie group plays 'soothing songs with a great story'*

BY ADRIAN GOMEZ  
Journal Staff Writer

Not even on a day off can Henry Beguiristain rest.

"This is one of our first days off in a long time and here I am working," he said during an interview from his Los Angeles hotel. "But I have a job and I should be grateful for that."

Beguiristain is one half of the Boston indie group Aloud. The band is unusual in that it has two lead singers.

### Aloud

**WHEN:** 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday

**WHERE:** Cowgirl Bar & Grill, 319 S. Guadalupe St.

**COST:** \$5

**CONTACT:** 982-2565

"We're kind of an oddity," he said. "Me and Jen (de la Osa) founded the group in 2002 and we both wanted to sing. So we did."

Aloud has been placed on numerous critics' "it" lists, but Beguiristain says the group's focus is elsewhere.

"We try not to pay attention to a lot of the critics," he said. "We're just trying to make music the way we want to."

Beguiristain said he and de la Osa started writing songs together in high school. For the past decade, they have been honing their skills as both singers and songwriters.

"It's come to the stage where we can finish each other's sentences," he laughed. "But it's good for us because we're both very strong-minded in the way that we write."

Aloud's most recent album, "Exile," came out Oct. 12 and Beguiristain thinks it's their best album yet.

"We knew when we were writing it that we had something special," he said. "In the end, it wasn't difficult to pick songs because they all went together."

Beguiristain said the duo bonded over music in high school.

He said bands like the Beatles and Oasis are what pushed them toward a

career in music.

"We loved the writing of Paul McCartney and John Lennon," he said. "The Beatles made us want to be songwriters, while Oasis made us want to be in a band."

It took nearly a year for the duo to write and record "Exile."

Beguiristain said he and de la Osa were reading works by Reinaldo Arenas, the exiled Cuban poet and author, as a way of connecting with roots that ran deep but had gone underground.

"Our parents came to the states when they were 4 or 5 years old," he said. "It's always been weird for us to comment on our Cuban ancestry."

After a year of working on "Exile," Beguiristain explains that the album is a way of coming to terms with their backgrounds.

"The finished product represents what Jen and I stand for," he said. "We're exploring our lives and understanding our past so we can move forward with our future."

The duo is currently on its first headlining tour across the U.S.

They basically quit their day jobs, packed up their apartment and are traveling for the next two months.

"There's nothing like being on the road and playing a different city," he said. "Trying to win over a new audience night after night is thrilling."

Beguiristain said he's really excited to play in Santa Fe on Saturday.

"We're going to go out there and introduce ourselves to the scene," he said. "Hopefully, the audience will be ready for some soothing songs with a great story."