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NORTHAMPTON, MA INDIE GUITAR ROCK TRIO COLORWAY GET READY TO RELEASE SOPHOMORE RECORD, *THE BLACK SKY SEQUINED* ON MAY 5TH AND UNVEIL NEW SINGLE, “COME BACK JULY”

Since releasing their self-titled debut in 2013, Northampton, MA based Colorway (lead vocalist/guitarist/songwriter F. Alex Johnson; bassist Dave Hayes; and drummer J.J. O’Connell) have evolved into a rousing guitar rock outfit who have been celebrated for their energetic shows and savvy combination of hook-filled pop and rough & tumble rock. Created by Johnson as a way to give home to the melodies that kept awaking him every day, Colorway is proud to announce the release of their sophomore record, *The Black Sky Sequined* on May 5th on CD, digital and 180 gram vinyl.

Named after a poem penned by Johnson’s late mother Judy, the origins for *The Black Sky Sequined* began on Alex’s iPhone’s voice memo recorder before sunrise. Later in the day those short snippets would be turned into demos and then fine tuned at rehearsal. The ten song album was recorded by Mark Alan Miller at Sonelab in Easthampton, MA and mastered by multiple Grammy award-winning engineer Bob Ludwig at Gateway Mastering Studio in Portland, ME.

The first single from *The Black Sky Sequined*, “Come Back July” was coincidentally written by Johnson on July 31st between 9pm and midnight August 1. “I love the summer as any New Englander would,” he says, “but you know what comes after August? The fall. And with it comes the cold, things start to die, and then it all goes straight to hell. So I wanted to write a love song to the time of the year when my little slice of the world feels the most alive—before it leaves us all for another twelve months.”

Beginning his musical career at the age of 14 in Fall River, MA, Johnson moved two hours west to Northampton in the early 1990s, where he co-founded the much heralded alt-country sextet, Drunk Stuntmen. After releasing five CDs and playing upwards of two hundred shows a year in the US and abroad, he left the band in 2008. “It was a long, hard but ultimately rewarding learning experience,” he says. In 2004, he also became the lead guitarist, and still performs with regularly, the senior singing sensations, The Young at Heart Chorus. The group was the subject of a 2007 Fox Searchlight Documentary, and appeared on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and The Ellen Degeneres Show.

In 2008, after twenty years of hard living Johnson finally got a wakeup call in the form of a DUI that helped him make the decision to quit drugs and alcohol cold turkey. The ensuing years of clarity allowed him to finally embrace making original music again. In the winter of 2012 he recruited Hayes and O’Connell to record the band’s eponymous debut album which was released to an enthusiastic response.

The upcoming new offering, *The Black Sky Sequined*, is already making the band new fans. [The Hartford Courant’s](#) Michael Hamad recently wrote, “With Colorway, you sense an

unspoken credo: Stick to what you know, and do it at the highest level. [Their] disregard for what's trendy is exactly why Colorway is worth seeking out.”

With a goal of crafting a catchy tune with edgy guitar, Colorway draws upon the experience and care that only three friends with twenty years of music making can provide. “Music can move people on so many levels. If I even can reach one of those levels with the listener on even one of these ten songs on this album, I'll call it a grand accomplishment,” says Johnson.

<http://www.colorwaymusic.com/>

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For additional information on Colorway and the new record *The Black Sky Sequined*, please contact Jocelynn Loebel at Howlin' Wuelf Media at Jocylibs@yahoo.com or at 917-523-8881.

