

104 Calexico

From a simple drum-and-guitar duo—before the White Stripes even existed—to a six-man band, Calexico has never been one to follow the rules. On their new album, *Garden Ruin*, the band abandoned the Southwestern fusion sound they have become known for and whole-heartedly embraced the pop sound. BY ROB PATTERSON

CALEXICO defies the desert music descriptions with their fifth album, *Garden Ruin*, where they counterpoint an arid landscape of political and social allusions with major chord melodies and even echoes of The Beatles. Will it raise them to the stature of one of the bands that really matters?

RAISING ARIZONA



STORY BY ROB PATTERSON

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