



MUSIC COLLAB- ORATION: SMOKE & JACKAL

So what do you do when your band goes on hiatus? If you live in New York, you go busk in the subways; if you live in Los Angeles, you go tan on the beach; but if you live in Nashville-like Jared Followill of Kings of Leon and Nick Brown of Mona—you go to a buddy's house, drink some booze, and record songs in the basement. "It was definitely spontaneous," says Followill of the collaboration, which they dubbed Smoke & Jackal. "We were supposed to go to a bar, but instead we walked downstairs and started to pick up instruments." Their first single, "No Tell," is atmospheric and sexy and carries an evocative vibe laced with smooth grooves—a new angle for both rockers. "It's trying to be a lot more melodic," continues Followill, "more broken down and simple. We use pads, keyboards, and other things that were a little too far out there for my other band." Smoke & Jackal's debut EP, aptly titled *EP1* (RCA), will be released October 16.

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