

ROCKIN' SIBLING QUINTET

R5 may sound like a droid from Star Wars, but this pop/rock power family isn't from a galaxy far, far away. They're from Littleton, Colorado and chances are you've seen or heard them on stage, screen, or radio. Siblings Ross (lead vocals/guitar), Riker (bass/vocals), Rydel (keyboards/vocals), and Rocky Lynch (guitar/vocals), grew up loving music and performing family concerts in their basement. They moved to Los Angeles in 2007 to pursue careers in acting, dance, and music, but above all, forming a band was a priority. Though they all were musically-inclined, they lacked a percussionist. To fill that gap, their friend Ellington Ratliff (drums) was invited to the lineup—and R5 was born.

Their self-released EP, *Ready*Set Rock, debuted in 2009, and by
2012 they had signed a deal with

Hollywood Records. Headlining and selling out shows across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Australia, R5 gained popularity with their vibrant and energetic compositions. In 2013 they released their first full-length album, Louder, which hit No. 14 on Billboard's Top Digital Albums chart and peaked at No. 24 on the Billboard 200. 2014 saw the release of another EP. Heart Made Up On You, which hit No. 36 on the Billboard 200. Now with a Radio Disney Music Award and more than 135 million YouTube views, R5 is charging ahead with another album. Sometime Last Night, which was released earlier this month.

HEARTFELT POP

Jacob Whitesides got his first exposure to live performance playing guitar in bars and restaurants with his dad's band in Eastern Tennessee. YouTube would soon



become his new stage as the young singer/songwriter with velvety vocals began uploading acoustic covers of pop songs from musicians like Ed Sheeran and John Legend.

His cover of One Direction's "One Thing" in 2012 caught the attention of the band's very own Liam Payne. Payne retweeted the video, boosting Whitesides' audience base significantly. His debut, 3:AM: The EP (2014), featured song covers of the Plain White T's, John Mayer, and Sam Smith, among others. A Piece of Me (2015) peaked at No. 3 on Billboard's Top Independent Albums chart and is Whitesides' first EP composed of all original material. AllMusic.com hails, Whitesides is "a thoughtful musician with a knack for delivering romantic, heartfelt, and lyrical songs."

AMPING UP THE BEAT

The youngest member of the Lynch family, **Ryland** is a DJ known for his charismatic and dynamic live performances. When his siblings moved from Colorado to Los Angeles in 2007 and formed R5, Ryland worked behind-the-scenes and became the band's lighting director. Shortly after, he found his musical calling as a DJ. Today, he tours throughout the world opening for his family's award-winning band.

-Mariam Aburdeineh

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