

# the rationales

## the sordid quasi truth about the rationales

A mix of power pop and alternative. Dripping with hooks & harmonies. Layers of sound. That's the best way to sum up the music of the Rationales.

Described as 'soaring sounds of hope from the edge,' this Boston quintet was formed in 2007 by singer-songwriter/guitarist David Mirabella. The band's wax-and-wane lineup has settled into founding keyboardist Matt Goldfield, powerhouse rhythm section featuring Dave's brother, Mike Mirabella (Scamper, The Future Everybody, The Brendan Boogie Band) on drums & backing vocals, and relocated Torontonionian Sean Black (The Eines) on bass & backing vocals. Founding member Kevin McMahan lent his guitar and vocals to the new record, shoes now filled by Pete Zeigler (Hey Now Morris Fader).

The Rationales' latest full-length release, "The Distance in Between," is comprised of 10 original tracks recorded with producer Ed Valauskas (Eli 'Paperboy' Reed, Juliana Hatfield, Graham Parker) at Q Division Studios. The follow-up to "The Going and the Gone" – the band's debut EP – marks a consolidation of the band's varying styles into a more cohesive direction, while the songwriting and arrangements reach – and rock – a little more.

Tightly focused power pop and rock songs such as "Braedon," "Jaded," "Still We Believe" and "Real Life" share space with roots-washed songs like "Tongue Tied," McMahan's "Try To Tell Me" and "Another Moon," featuring Bill Janovitz of Buffalo Tom on backing vocals. The alternative-jangle of an "R.E.M. meets Tom Petty" sound tethers "Burned Again."



Mirabella's lyrics reflect on the balance between yearning and acceptance, and the distance between what we want and what we already have, through a series of tales both real and imagined. There are lighter moments as well. The absurdist lyrics of "Braedon" were inspired by the story of a friend's 4-year-old son waking from a dream about stolen popcorn and a bee in an army suit. What more perfect fodder for a two-minute pop song is there than that?

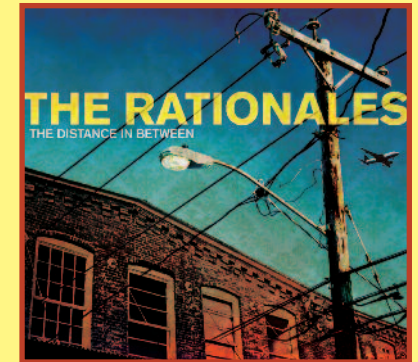
**David Mirabella** - Vocals, Guitar :: **Mike Mirabella** - Drums :: **Matt Goldfield** - Keys  
:: **Sean Black** - Bass :: **Pete Zeigler** - Guitar

## make contact

For interview requests, MP3s or booking info, please contact David Mirabella at [therationales@gmail.com](mailto:therationales@gmail.com) or 978-766-5082  
High-res images available at [therationales.com/press.html](http://therationales.com/press.html)

## "the distance in between"

1. Real Life
2. Braedon
3. Jaded
4. Burned Again
5. Another Moon (featuring Bill Janovitz)
6. Try To Tell Me
7. Slower/Faster
8. Tongue Tied
9. Still We Believe
10. The One You Wanted



All songs written by David Mirabella, published by Beneath This Moon Music (BMI) except "Try to Tell Me" written by Kevin McMahan (ASCAP) and "Still We Believe" written by David Mirabella and Sean Black. Arranged by The Rationales & Ed Valauskas. Produced by David Mirabella and Ed Valauskas. Recorded & Mixed at Q Division, engineered by Joe Tooley.

Available at iTunes, Newbury Comics, CD Baby **Release Date** May 10, 2011  
**Key Tracks** 2, 3, 4, 8 **FCC** (Clean) **RIYL** Big Star, Wilco, Cracker, The Weakerthans  
**Shared the stage with** Jeff Tweedy, Bill Janovitz, The Wooden Sky, The Click Five, Explorers Club

## nice things that have been said, written or made up

"A swell of organ here, a dollop of slide guitar there, sparkling pop tunes all around. All of those elements - not to mention last year's disarmingly excellent debut EP, "The Going and the Gone," which proved one of the finer entries in the local music sweepstakes - are the calling cards of a quintet that expertly blends power-pop guitar crunch with a dash of country-rock flavor." **Jonathan Perry, Boston Globe**

"The Rationales hang on to what makes a great record: chords that count, melody, backing vocals!, straight ahead, earnest, punchy rock, with solid vocals, intelligent guitar. The Rationales are finding new respect for pop in the here and now, with real songs played from the heart." **Chris LeRoy, Songwriter for Cracker & The BellRays**

"Each song is a multilayered hook-fest with carefully constructed instrumentation and vocal balance that makes it one of the better power pop albums you'll hear this year." **Performer Magazine**

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