



**A Knockout!** June 17 marks the official release of the **Knockout Drops'** debut full-length album, *Killed by the Lights*, on Circus Clone Records. **The album is an exciting 13 tracks** - at times you will swear that you are listening to a supergroup consisting of **Tom Petty** and the Heartbreakers, **Mick Jagger** and members of **Weezer**. Dark instrumentation combined with the haunting voice of lead vocalist **Chris Campion** make **this an album not to be ignored.**



Chris Campion

If the Campion name looks familiar, it should. The Huntington native is the brother of former **Bogmen** leader and current **Vic Thrill** frontman **Billy Campion** (who will be performing on June 7 at Stephen Talkhouse, 161 Main Street, Amagansett, 631-267-3117). Chris' voice is quite reminiscent of his brother's and makes the *Knockout Drops* a must-see for any fan of the Bogmen. Rounding out the band are fellow Huntington mates **Tom Licameli** on guitar, **Phil Mastrangelo** on bass and **Vinny Cimino** on drums. In support of their EP, *Nowadays*, they became one of the only unsigned bands to headline (and sell out) Irving Plaza. This led to a slew of opening slots for bands such as **Soul Asylum**, **Pete Yorn**, **Semisonic**, **Violent Femmes** and **Better Than Ezra**. The Drops even got to open with acoustic sets for both the **Beach Boys** and **Jethro Tull** at Jones Beach. Additionally, over the past year the band took up residency at Siberia Bar (356 W. 40th Street, New York City) performing every other Thursday in order to debut new material. Not only did this work from a rehearsal standpoint, but it has become a must-do for the New York rock set. Dignitaries of the New York scene flutter to Siberia, and every once in a while you'll see a special guest take the stage with the Drops including **Gordon Gano** (*Violent Femmes*), **Sid McGinnis** (*The Late Show with David Letterman*), **Mark Pender** (*Late Night with Conan O'Brien*) and a list of others. There are two opportunities to catch the Drops in the near future. The album release party is set for June 19 at the Knitting Factory (74 Leonard Street, New York City, 212-219-3006); on Long Island, you can celebrate Independence Day with the Drops at Stephen Talkhouse on July 5. One word of advice, buy your tickets in advance because these shows will sell out. For more info, go to [www.knockoutdrops.com](http://www.knockoutdrops.com)