



GROWTH: "I've come full circle, doing the kind of project I've always wanted to do," says Yoni. Photo courtesy Yoni

Plantation's Yoni debuts *Extra Credit*

School's back in session for Yoni. The musician is seeking an "A" from listeners with his first CD, the aptly titled *Extra Credit*.

A debut party for the disc is set July 28 at the downtown Fort Lauderdale nightclub Revolution, 200 W. Broward Blvd. The full-length effort is a first for Yoni, a Plantation resident who penned all of the album's 11 tracks.

The idea for the CD evolved from Yoni's college days. He began writing songs while earning a bachelor's degree in criminology and law at the University of Florida.

"My degree wasn't in music," Yoni said. "I never felt fulfilled. I feel like making this album is my own personal extra credit. I've come full circle, doing the kind of project I've always wanted to do."

Getting the disc made follows Yoni's stint as a production coordinator with a major sheet music publishing company. He believed it was time to get his own music career going last year. He began doing solo gigs and now performs with a four-piece backup band featuring guitarist Olaf Andersen, drummer Brett Segal, keyboardist Jon Goode and a rotating lineup of bass players.

Yoni, who also plays guitar on *Extra Credit*, describes the CD's songs as mainstream rock-pop with the kind of catchy hooks and lyrics that get into people's heads.

"A lot of my songs are my stories, but I try to write in a way that other people can relate to it," he said. "Musically, I want it to be a record that someone can put on wherever and enjoy it from beginning to end."

The CD's lead single is *Twentysomething*, a coming-of-age song about making the transition from college into the real world. The tune was released in October and has already been licensed for future use as background music for episodes of shows on cable TV networks, Yoni said.

The *Extra Credit* release party starts at 8 p.m. Call the nightclub at 954-727-0950, or join the revolution.net. Also visit songsofyon.com and myspace.com/songsofyon.

Your band have a club date coming up? Send a high-rez jpeg, MP3 file and band info, along with club details, at least two weeks in advance, to BETH1FL@aol.com.