

## CLEVELAND SCENE

Friday, July 9, 2010

By Jeff Niesel

Singer-songwriter **Kate Tucker** grew up in Suffield, a small farm town outside of Akron, and started playing around the area in the early 2000s. After graduating from the University of Akron, she moved to Paris for a while before ending up in Seattle, where she recorded her first EP. She's been back in Akron the past few months working on a short film and music video for her song "Bullet Train." She's also been performing around town with the Akron band Dolson backing her up. She plays at 8 p.m. Friday, July 2, at Musica (51 E. Market St., Akron, 330-374-1114, [akronmusica.com](http://akronmusica.com)) to celebrate the release of her new album, *White Horses*. Produced by Blake Wescott (Pedro the Lion, Damien Jurado), the CD includes a mix of somber ballads ("How Long") and mid-tempo rockers ("Blue December"), falling somewhere between the Cowboy Junkies and Lucinda Williams.

"We had a rehearsal space in this old paper factory in Seattle, and I would go there during the daytime and write the songs by myself," says Tucker. "I was nervous about it, because I didn't have months to rehearse. I had super-pro players who were totally on board. We did it all in 20 days straight without a break."

After the Musica concert, Tucker will begin a short Midwest tour before returning to the area on July 16 for a show at the Barking Spider (11310 Juniper Rd., 216-421-2863, [barkingspidertavern.com](http://barkingspidertavern.com)). Then it's back to Seattle, where she plans to star in an indie film and start a new album. "I've been trying to work on something called *Ohio* that will be loosely based on Springsteen's *Nebraska*," she says. "I've been writing a lot of songs here, but I haven't had time to do anything with them. I started writing songs when I was growing up in Ohio, and every time I come back here, it brings out the sad darkness that I'm really interested in. It's been cool to be here for a few months to try to figure out what that is."