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Examiner CMJ 2010 pick Terrible Things plays Gramercy Theater

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Live at the Gramercy, CMJ 2010

Lorraine Schwartz

Taking on the [CMJ Music Marathon schedule](#) as an attendee can be overwhelming. There are so many bands listed on the [CMJ site](#) that after reviewing my musical options for Tuesday alone, which was the first day of the fest, my eyes were already glazed over. Some bands were strangely classified (how can a band claim to be bluegrass AND drum n' bass without sounding like either?), and some were just strange. Some bands were well known, whereas some you've never heard of and never will again.

After spending a huge amount of time MySpace and [iLike](#)-hopping, my ears and eyes were fatigued. Until I saw that [Terrible Things](#) was set to play as part of Day 2's lineup. Then I breathed a sigh of relief.

Terrible Things has quickly become a new favorite band since I saw them [this summer](#) upstate at the [Chance](#). The band is comprised of Fred Mascherino (of [The Color Fred](#), [Taking Back Sunday](#), and [Breaking Pangaea](#)), Andy Jackson ([Hot Rod Circuit](#)) and Josh Eppard ([Coheed and Cambria](#)). They play driving anthemic rock with a pop-alternative flavor that was a breath of fresh air amongst the CMJ offerings I waded through all weekend. So of course they were my [top pick](#) and I was not going to miss their show.

On Day 2 of the CMJ Marathon Terrible Things opened for [MAE](#) at the Gramercy Theater (along with the first band on the bill Windsor Drive), playing to a nice turnout of regular ticket holders and CMJ attendees who were granted admission with their pre-paid CMJ badge. Opening with "[Revolution](#)", their current single, the band played (what I felt was) an all-too-brief set full of tunes off their 2010 self-titled CD. The songs, inspired by the arsonist-set fires in Mascherino's hometown of Coatesville, PA from 2007-2009, included "Up At Night", "Lullaby", "Been Here Before", "Terrible Things", and the lovely "[Can't Be True](#)" before wrapping up with "The Arsonist's Wife." Afterwards, the band greeted their fans at the downstairs merchandise booth, posing for photos and connecting with followers of their past work as well as the newly won fans from this current, and awesome, project.

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