

Group promotes electronic music

By Matthew Uhre
Of the Emerald

Electronic music is usually a one person show, and electronic musicians are often pictured as eccentric and reclusive people happy only when surrounded by piles of complicated electronic equipment.

The Eugene Electronic Music Collective, however, is a group of eccentric people surrounded by piles of complicated electronic equipment.

The EEMC is a non-profit organization hoping to promote electronic music in Eugene and the rest of the world. It is a group of electronic musicians who work together to support their individual projects.

Composed of Joel Horwitz, Nathan Griffith, Daryl Parsons and Peter Thomas, the EEMC also is involved in the production and distribution of electronic music cassettes.

Electronic music is music created or modified by synthesizers. The synthesizer is the latest attempt in a historic effort to find the "perfect instrument." Not only does the synthesizer have its own wide range of sounds, but also, through a relatively new process called "sampling," can reproduce recorded sounds.

The EEMC formed four years ago when six aspiring electronic musicians banded together to pool electronic equipment and space. They



Courtesy Photo

Members of the locally formed EEMC, Joel Horwitz, Nathan Griffith, Daryl Parsons, and Peter Thomas collaborate to promote and perform electronic music

have studios in individual members' homes where they perform and record their music.

The EEMC produces its own cassettes and produces master tapes to be batch produced in Portland. It sells tapes through local record stores and through a "cassette culture" network supported by the trade publications Option and Sound Choice.

Besides distributing its own tapes, the group also helps distribute the work of other musicians, and is sponsoring a concert of California-based electronic musician Robert Rich today at the New Zone Gallery.

"This concert will be one of

the very few live performances of electronic music in the Eugene area," Griffith said. Rich is preparing for a European tour and the Eugene concert is a test run to see what sort of problems could present themselves while touring.

Rich and Carter Scholz, an associate musician, will perform trance-style pulse and drone music described by Griffith as "repetitive music that's very sedate, very mellow."

The EEMC has about 15 tapes available locally. The most recent releases are Griffith's "Story of God" and Horwitz' "The Planets."

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