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MUSIC



Art student receives \$500 fine arts grant

Robert Ake, a fine arts student at the University, has received a \$500 art materials grant through the Liquitex Excellence in Art student grant program. The award is a designation of outstanding achievement and excellence in the painting discipline. More than 200 cash and materials awards were awarded this year through the Liquitex grant program.

Eugene Opera announces 1995-96 lineup

The Eugene Opera has announced its 20th Anniversary season lineup. The season will begin with a production of Bizet's *Carmen*. It will star Milagro Vargas, who is currently part of the vocal faculty at the University's School of Music. In February 1996, Puccini's *La Boheme* will take the stage. The last opera of the season will be Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial By Jury*. Season tickets are available now. Call the Hult Center at 687-5000. Student discounts are available.

Buckhorn performs well

There are great bands that have good musicians who can write good songs. This is obviously the best scenario. Then there are some bands that write good songs, but need to practice their instruments, which can still be fine. Finally there are some bands that have great musicians, but can't write great songs.



Buckhorn
Buckhorn
★★★

The latter seems to be the case with the Eugene instrumental hard-rock/jazz trio, Buckhorn. This is sad because you know they can play really well, it's just that it's not that fun listening to their music.

From the opening track, "E-Straight," it's obvious that these guys have logged in a lot of practice. The drums and bass make an explosive rhythm, while the guitar cranks out the riffs. The trio sounds really tight, and this song shows it.

But on the next track, "The Perfect Cowboy," the music slows down to a tortuous pace. The guitarist doodles some chords to a jazzy drum beat. This could work for a beginning or end of a song, but as a song in itself it's way too boring.

"The Perfect Edge" is just a bunch of riffs. With "Bad Cougar" and "Fruit Castle Island," Buckhorn manages to achieve a good balance of hard riffs and jamming, which sounds really good.

A couple of the tracks also touch on the funk territory, like "Shiny Sausage," which makes the band

sound like an instrumental take on Black Happy, minus the vocals and the horns. On "Ticket to Love," Buckhorn sounds like a modern take on a Santana guitar solo, dragged out for four minutes.

Unfortunately, too many songs just don't lead anywhere and lose their momentum and energy. And even though Buckhorn can execute the tracks well, it just doesn't make up for the lack of an interesting tune. It's very hard to make good, rocking instrumental music, and with a vocalist, these songs might sound a lot better. This would also make good background music, for a movie or in a bar, but I can't bring myself to listen to the album just for pleasure.

For the jazz connoisseurs out there, this is a fairly good release, but to those seeking some songs or music to rock out to, this album falls short of the line, with an exception of a few tracks. In concert, things may be different, so if you get a chance, check them out - they will be playing at John Henry's April 22nd and at the WOW Hall on April 28th.

— LES ZACZEK
Oregon Daily Emerald

Tricky really, really bad

Picture bad music, really bad music. Then you listen to Tricky, and it sounds a couple of times worse. It's beyond me why these guys got a record deal, but in today's world one doesn't need much talent to succeed in the music industry.

"There's no unifying force to my album," said Tricky, the producer, lyricist and rapper. He's right, the only common factors of the songs are god-awful pseudo-techno drum beats, some odd noises and a woman trying to sing.

This is not really techno because it's too slow, and it's definitely not rap. It's hard to call it pop because there is nothing catchy about these songs either. It seems that Tricky have made themselves a new category for music - crap.

Of course there are a few brilliant



Maxinquaye
Tricky
★

lyrics that add to this album. "There'll be treats, when we funk we'll hear beats. Beneath the weeping willow lies a weeping whino," or "I drink till I'm drunk and I smoke till I'm senseless."

Impressive, huh? There is really not too much more to say about this album. I'm sure soon you will hear Tricky on MTV and find out how vile this album really is. Don't waste your hard-earned cash on this CD, I wouldn't listen to it if someone paid me.

— LES ZACZEK
Oregon Daily Emerald

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