

She's got her mojo going

Continued from the cover

Lynn Frances Anderson also took private lessons on the trumpet and played it in the school band. After spending some time in the University of Oregon's music school playing the trumpet and singing in the choir, she hooked up with her first group—one of those Top 40 bands, the name of which she's not particularly inclined to share.

"I used to sing 'Pink Cadillac,'" she admits. "In the '80s, 'Pink Cadillac' was a good song."

Then Anderson moved into the '90s, performing for three years as a duo with John Mannenbach, a prolific Portland-based musician and former member of the McKenzie River Band. She began to gain a good reputation with her live performances, while concurrently building a strong song-writing team with fellow guitarist Dave Beckett. Anderson provided the lyrics, and Beckett worked out the music.

"It got to the point where it almost seemed easy," comments Anderson.

During that time, Anderson lived in a Portland neighborhood where she revisited some of those feelings of needing to watch her back: "I heard gunshots in the middle of the night. I woke up one night to an explosion...someone threw a pipe bomb into a car."

Past and present came together, and the song-writing team worked out the tunes that would make up *My Famous Friend*. It was Beckett who encouraged Anderson to record and who found a studio, but he was HIV-positive

and died before the project could be finished. Anderson almost gave up at that point but eventually pulled together with Mannenbach and a host of other collaborators, put out the CD and dedicated it to Beckett.

As a result of the live performances and the release of *Friend*, she began to acquire a following.



Lynn Frances Anderson's new CD is in a mellow key

...you don't have to beg me—I'll just give in... let me crawl inside your naked silky skin You want it? Come and get it

"So, I hear you have quite a lesbian following," I say casually.

"Do I? Woo-hoo!" Anderson howls. "I'm gonna' sing more nasty songs!"

I continue to pry: "It's rumored your fans love you, they jump up and down, they develop crushes on you."

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Lynn Frances Anderson hugs her new best friend and collaborator Sonia Rutstein



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