



Supersuckers perform with Flogging Molly and Throw Rag at the Wild Duck Tuesday.

April Suckers

Eddie Spaghetti lays it all out Tuesday.

What if I told you that the new CD by the **Supersuckers** reveals that they've branched out musically, grown as people and discovered their softer, more sensitive side? You'd know I was lying, right? Good, because what the band's new CD *does* reveal is that they've re-discovered that fiery place in their hearts that lets them channel their alcohol-fueled creativity into smirky, ass-kickin' rock 'n' roll.

The new CD, *Motherfuckers Be Trippin'*, doesn't tread any new ground for the band, but it is the most exciting collection of songs they've produced in years. Lead singer Eddie Spaghetti lays it out when he truthfully declares, "We endeavor to remain as remedial as possible."

The Supersuckers haven't gone soft. Any doubts you had about the virility of this band after 1999's tepid *Evil Powers of Rock 'N' Roll* will be cast down and trodden upon with one listen to *Motherfuckers Be Trippin'*. It starts out with the industry status report — "Rock-N-Roll Records (Ain't Selling This Year)" — and kickstarts right into "Rock Your Ass," with such fist-pumping lyrics as "Have a drink and chug-a-lug/ Have some sex and take some drugs." This bruiser is followed by "Pretty Fucked Up," a solid rocker with the lyrics "She used to be pretty, now she's just pretty fucked up," "A Goodnight for My Drinking" and "The Nowhere Special" will quickly rise to the top of your favorite songs list.

This CD is so fast and furious you won't be able to catch your breath until the final riffs of "Goodbye" have finished ricocheting around your brain. The Supersuckers' sound successfully apes some of the greatest rock and roll bands of all time — the Ramones, AC/DC, Motorhead — so of course we love them. But it's also the band's flannel cowboy attitude and good-natured wickedness that we can't get enough of. The Suckers have cut the record company fat by starting their own independent label, Mid-Fi. They released this CD themselves, as well as last year's live country record *Must've Been Live*. The Suckers will perform at Wild Duck Music Hall, Tuesday April 1, along with **Flogging Molly** and **Throw Rag**. *MFBT* will officially be available April 22.

The Downtown Lounge will host **Life**

After Liff Saturday, March 29th for a night of "poppy melodies (layered) over jazz and funk-influenced grooves." The enamored music critic for the Bend, Ore., paper *The Source* further describes LAL as "like the Dave Matthews Band, Bare Naked Ladies and Karl Denson all at once." The foursome

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— **Eddie Spaghettii,**
lead singer of **Supersuckers**

of Michael Herrman on vocals and guitar, Trevor Rasmusson on saxophone and vocals, and percussionist Michael McQuilken are joined by David Milne playing something called Electronic Wind Instrument. In the absence of a traditional bass, the EWI, as it's known, is breath activated and "is shaped like a saxophone but accesses sounds from a Korg Trinity keyboard." The unique instrumentation leaves audiences to wonder how they can get such a full bass sound from something so unusual.

Based in Portland, LAL are back after taking some time off and a recent personnel change. The band plays plenty of original music, but also adds some funky flava to such covers as Marvin Gaye's "Sexual Healing" and Peter Gabriel's "Sledgehammer." The foursome keeps quite busy off the stage, working variously as audio engineers, recorders and producers in the Portland and Seattle areas. Milne owns and operates Portland's D-liscious Studios while Rasmusson is a music promoter for Big Wheel Productions.

McQuilken recently took a two-month hiatus from the band as he traveled to Los Angeles to perform his original award-winning score to the play *Nickel and Dimed*. Seattle's Re-Bar is currently hosting McQuilken's self-penned and produced performance piece entitled Ballyhoo. The band's live performance is sure to get the floors shakin' with soulful grooves, engaging rhythms and energizing funk 'n' roll. Their press kit says they played for President Bill Clinton, but offers no details. Check out their show and get them to tell the story! **EW**

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