

Cathbert

AMPHITHEATER

ESCAPE to the Stars

summer 2003



Monday, July 21 at 7
Crosby, Stills & Nash

Tuesday, July 22 at 7
Jackson Browne, Keb' Mo', Steve Earle



Steve Earle, Jackson Browne, Keb' Mo'

Sunday, July 27 at 6
Tori Amos with Ben Folds

Saturday, August 16 at 7:30
OFAM with Rita Moreno

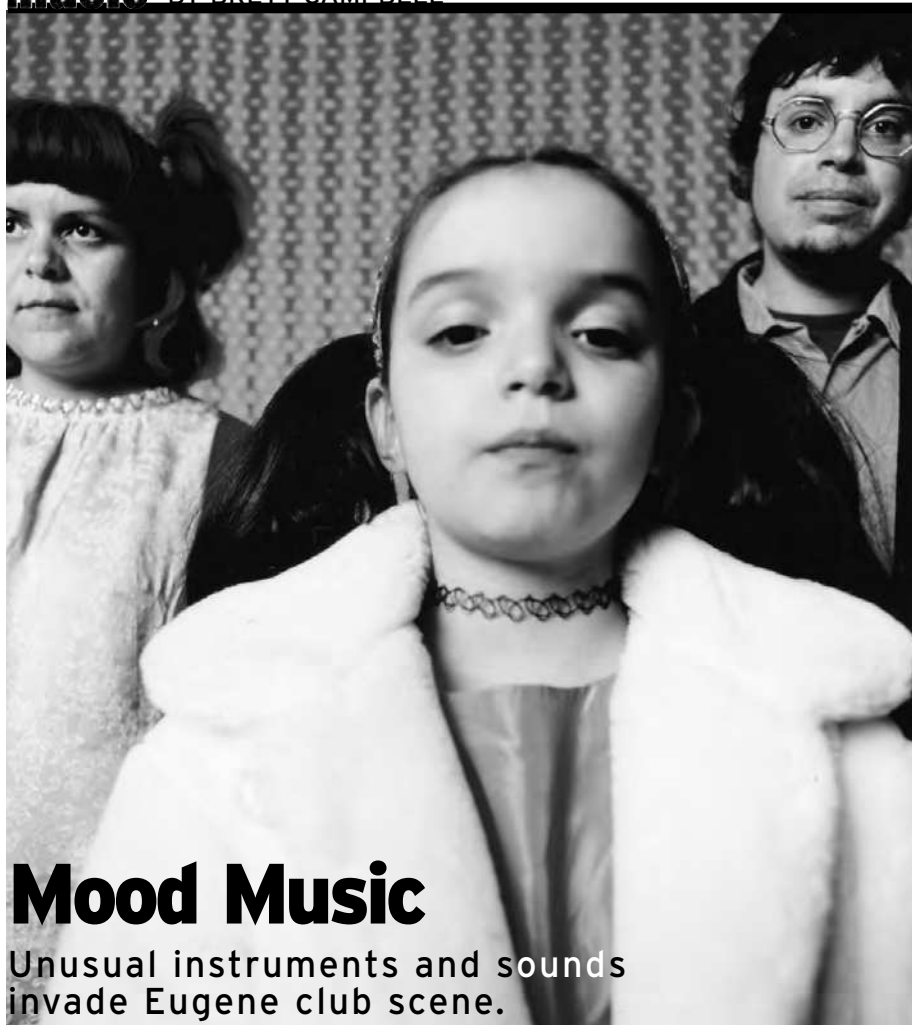
Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 7
Drummers of West Africa

Friday, Sept. 26 at 7
Widespread Panic (ON SALE 7/19)

Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 7
James Taylor (SOLD OUT)

TICKETS:
682-5000
www.hultcenter.org

music BY BRETT CAMPBELL



Mood Music

Unusual instruments and sounds invade Eugene club scene.

Mood Area 52 makes music that's as danceable as it is different from the norm. The "classical" instrumentation (cello, accordion, bass, sometimes violin, sax, and/or vocals), vintage-clothing cool and choice of style — mostly tangos — set this band apart from the usual jeans-clad, guitar-bass-drums outfits. The sound will appeal to fans of, say, Pink Martini, but like that band, MA52 is more than just another neo-lounge act. The members have played with such local groups as the Visible Men, the Daddies, Los Mex Pistols and more, and those influences find their way into the music.

An hour or so of tangos can get old, so the group is diversifying its repertoire, including some nifty originals. For the show on July 25 at Sam Bond's, the core trio will provide a live soundtrack to one of the most atmospheric films ever made, *La Jette*, a series of stills that tells a harrowing speculative fiction story; it was the basis for Terry Gilliam's recent *Twelve Monkeys*. The concert also features an offshoot called **Scrambled Ape**, a small brass ensemble performing some of the delightful music of the great animated film music composer Raymond Scott and other cartoonish jazz. MA52 is also playing on the patio at Taco Loco most Saturdays this summer.

On Saturday, July 19 Sam Bond's hosts another great show featuring bodacious banjoist **Danny Barnes**. I used to marvel at his group, the Bad Livers, at their wild punk/bluegrass shows in Austin, and the guest stars on his new album (Darol Anger, Tim O'Brien, Bill Frisell, et al) attest to the high regard he's earned among musicians. He's added more jazz and art music streams to an already teeming river of American roots music influences. That same night, Celtic music fans might want to head instead over to Café Paradiso to catch **Golden Bough**. Combining traditional and original music, this veteran trio deploys Celtic harp, penny-whistle, fiddle, mandolin, accordion, guitar, harmonica, recorder and bodhran on gentle

ballads as well as upbeat jigs, reels, and more.

Jazzy electronica hits town on Friday, Aug. 1 when Portland's **Surrounded by Ninjas** comes to the Wild Duck, with Eugene's own **Eleven Eyes** opening. With Asher Fulero on keyboards and DJ Joel Barber eschewing the use of samples and sequences, Surrounded by Ninjas is forced to rely on live improvisation to create its danceable soundscapes, which helps counter the mechanistic feel of too many techno/laptop acts. Eleven Eyes leans a little more to the jazz side, but with plenty of lively turntable and electronica accents. This concert shows how jazz and electronic music can combine to produce a really entertaining hybrid 21st century sound.

One day, an eight-year-old **Rachel Trachtenburg** picked up a cheap slide projector at a yard sale, brought it to her parents' Seattle home and her dad, Jason, made up little tongue-in-cheek ditties about the images they found on those and other discarded slides found at flea markets and garage sales. The titles of these songs ranged from "Fondue Friends in Switzerland," and "Mountain Trip to Japan, 1959."

A gimmick and an act were born, and newspapers and magazines around the country have picked up on the outsider-art appeal of the Trachtenburg Family Slideshow Players, with Jason on keyboards and vocals, wife Tina Piña Trachtenburg on vintage carousel slide projector and Rachel on drums. (For a taste of their act, check out NPR's recent "Morning Edition" feature online.)

Now based in New York, the family might appeal to fans of They Might Be Giants, Jonathan Richman and other irony-inflected faux naïf acts, and their anti-corporate angle should go down well in Eugene. Should be a fun show (Wed., 7/23, WOW Hall and so should the next night's WOW concert featuring the **Jazz Mandolin Project**, the ambitious Vermont trio that appeals to fans of avant-garde jazz and fusion along with a jam band audience.

EW



Blue Ribbon Rock!




Pelletgun

Pellet (pel'it) n. A bullet or piece of small deer scat. Gun (gun) n. A weapon consisting essentially of a metal tube from which a projectile is fired. In the case of the exploding music scene in Eugene, **Pelletgun** fires its own projectiles in the form of crafty lyrics and a **Built to Spill** like sound. Instead of a metal tube, their weapons of choice are: Eric Jenson on guitar and vocals, Tara Jenson-vocals, Dave Snider-Bass, vocals and Brian Gardiner-drums, percussion, piano. This is a live show you don't want to miss. Pulse pounding, energetic, raw and in your face...this is **Pelletgun**. Be sure to check them out next Tuesday, July 22. Visit Eugene Weekly's clubs page and www.pelletgun123.com for further details.

www.PabstBlueRibbon.com

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