



Getting Green

The Motet returns with an environmental message.

If you're looking for a band that journeys beyond the jam look no further than **The Motet**. Based in that bastion of hippiedom Boulder, Colo., The Motet manage to genetically splice West African and Cuban percussive rhythms and lively Latin beats with

hippie music's bread and butter, jam.

The 11-piece Motet consistently pack the house because fans know where to get their fix of dirty, funky grooves. The Motet's name has been in common parlance here in Eugene since their earliest days in 1998, thanks to

THE MOTET
Thur., 9:30pm
WOW Hall
\$15/adv.

founding member Jans Ingber's (percussion/vocals) Eugene roots: He graduated from high school here, fronted Boogie Patrol Express and The Benjamins, then joined forces with Dave Watts, The Motet's drummer and brainchild.

Ingber's still with The Motet, along with

an impressive list of musicians: percussionist Scott Messersmith; bassist Garret Sayers; saxophonists Dominic Lalli and Jon Stewart; pianist Erik Deutsch; guitarists Mark Donovan, Dan Schwindt and Jack Silverman; and organist/pianist Greg Raymond.

Thanks to a partnership with Boulder's Renewable Choice Energy, the group's entire November tour — 13 dates throughout California, Oregon and Washington — will be powered by wind energy. The group has also fueled their tour bus throughout 2004 with renewable and biodegradable biodiesel, a fuel source made from vegetable oils.

A new album, *Music For Life* (Harmonized Records), is sure to push The Motet and their environmental awareness further into the public eye. It's their fourth album and first since 2000's *Play* (Anonym Records). The Motet's musical landscape remains unchanged, so longtime fans won't hear anything remarkably different. But the group has more fully embraced Fela Kuti's vision of Afro-Beat, a hybrid of African rhythm and jazz, with more interplay between the basic ingredients of guitar, keys, sax and bass, leading to ever more complex rhythmic lines. **EW**

Gov't Mule Rebuilds

Don't fix what ain't broken.

I spoke with **Gov't Mule** keyboardist Danny Louis from a tour stop in Los Angeles, where he shared their recipe for success and musical integrity. Now that people are taking notice of them, Louis says nothing's changed. "We're still making music in the same way. If people like it and it starts to mushroom and grow, I think the imperative is to keep doing what you were doing. The individuals involved in this band approach music as art and love."

The band has potent history. When The Allman Brothers Band re-formed in 1989 guitarist and vocalist Warren Haynes and bassist Allen Woody joined on. The pair formed Gov't Mule along with former Dickie Betts drummer Matt Abts as a side project. They left the Allmans in 1997 to focus on the Mule. Their debut CD saw light in 1995. The inertia of touring and recording ended when Woody was found dead in August 2000, after they had released what many claimed would be their breakthrough album, *Life Before Insanity*.

Louis joined them as a guest on 2001 and 2002's *The Deep End I and II*, recorded in tribute to Woody and featuring many of his favorite play-

It's really, really a
HOT BAND!

ers, before he was accepted as a permanent member. "I became the third member in lieu of a bass player, which we finally got last year [former Black Crowes member Andy Hess]. So now there's four of us." *Deja Voodoo* is the group's newest recording, "a collection of songs we put together, some of them older, some of them brand new, some of them in between." It's the first Gov't Mule album to feature the new, permanent lineup. Louis says "We're quite clearly a loud rock band And what's unique to us is ... the band is definitely fearless in weaving across style lines. What's also unique is the level of musicianship in the band. It's really, really a hot band!" **EW**



WARREN HAYNES OF GOV'T MULE.

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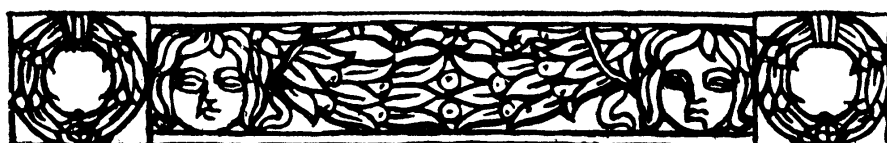
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