

tion of lightweight and fraught with resonance. Simple guitar parts underlie the vocals, which can tend to a chant-like rhythm; other instruments pick up noodling, suggestive tidbits of melody reminiscent of certain fragments of Led Zeppelin songs. Faun Fables could be a strange second soundtrack to *Lord of the Rings* – the dark and earthy songs of the ordinary folk in an extraordinary world. Faun Fables and

Faun Fables



Dum Dum play 7:30 pm Sunday, July 24 at John Henry's. \$5. – Molly Templeton

No Kellys Here

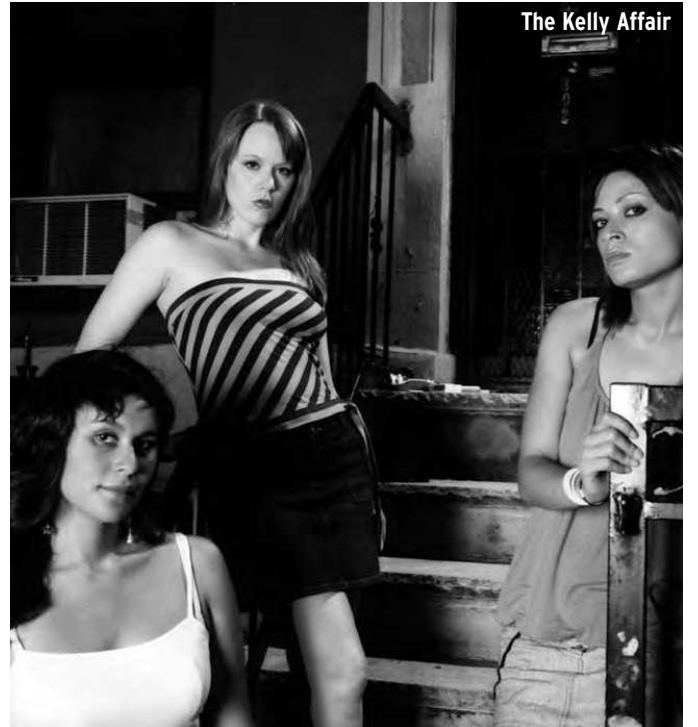
Empowered females have been making rock music for a long time, but **The Kelly Affair** lead singer and guitarist Amanda Christie says she still gets surprised reactions from people when she tells them she's in an all-

female rock band.

"People are still always just amazed that I think that girls can sort of do something that's traditionally thought of as like a masculine thing," Christie said. "And even though I don't think its very strange or outrageous or anything, even people that I know and respect think that it's a little bit crazy." Though the band is called The Kelly Affair, there aren't any actual Kellys in the group; The Kelly Affair got their name from "Beyond the Valley of the Dolls," a Russ Meyer film about a band of hot, small-town female musicians who set out to make it in the sharktank of Los Angeles. In the Russ Meyer movie, The Kelly Affair gets into the big time, but so far the real-life Kelly Affair is unsigned and doing all of their own booking. This is Christie's first "real" band, but in not much more than two years of existence, Christie, bassist Rania Haditirto and drummer Amanda Cantrell have made a name for themselves in New York City and are ready to embark on their first tour ever.

"We wanted to [tour on] the west coast because a lot of our favorite bands are from Portland or from Olympia," Christie said, citing Sleater-Kinney, Team Dresch and The Thermals as examples.

"At first we used to joke and call ourselves a geography rock band, because we have a



song about Hawaii, we have a song about California, we have a song about Canada, then we also have a lot of mean songs about boys," Christie said. "We like to call those our 'disappointment songs.'" Whatever the subject matter, it's opinionated, bold and catchy, just like the women in the band. And when they write their emotionally charged lyrics, they're not wasting time worrying about what the public reaction will be.

"We say what we want to say," Christie said. "We're not nervous or embarrassed to say anything in our songs." The Kelly Affair plays with Armored Frog and the Ginger Hustlers, 10pm, Wednesday, July 27 at Luckey's. \$3-\$5

– Sara Brickner

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