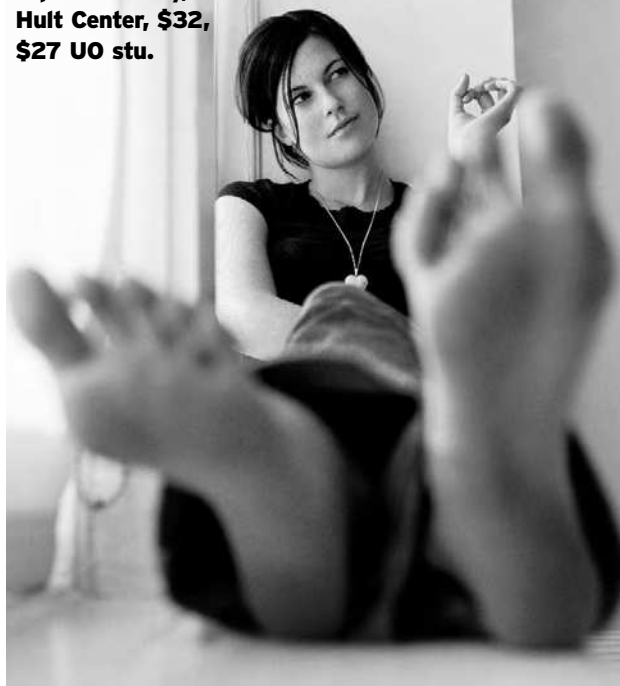


Jason Mraz, Tristan Prettyman, James Blunt
7 pm Thursday, Nov. 10
Hult Center, \$32,
\$27 UO stu.



Pretty Mellow

Tristan Prettyman's peaceful acoustic sound catches on nationwide.

Everyone looves **Tristan Prettyman**. Virgin records loves her; *Rolling Stone* loves her; fellow acoustic artist/boyfriend Jason Mraz loves her.

But I only like her as a friend. She's that really cute friend that you totally respect but you just know, deep down, that it wouldn't work out ... but that's just me. There's someone out there for all of us, so if you're interested in a 23-year-old singer/songwriter (aren't we all) from San Diego who plays an acoustic set as smooth and honest as her most-adored predecessors, Ani DiFranco and Jack Johnson, then Prettyman might be the one for you.

Prettyman's debut full-length album, *twentythree* (she turned 23 this year on May 23rd), is an 11-song collection of seaside love songs that sound like they're straight from the campfire ring. She says that songwriting just kind of happens naturally for her and that she leaves the more politically driven coffeehouse acoustic style to her contemporaries like DiFranco. "I don't like to go there. I think we have to think

about so many things every day," she says. "If they want to get something from it they can, if not they can just let it play."

She's an avid surfer with deep nostalgia for her relaxing, wave riding lifestyle and this comes through in her recordings. In "Love Love Love" (the lyrics of which are printed on a photo of ocean waves slowly rippling away), she describes a beautiful, sunny life while talking a friend through doubt. While both lovely and pleasant, this song is pretty much the reason Tristan and I just can't be together. When the *EW* internship duties come crashing down on me I need a pumping fist to relate my troubles, not a full body massage and a cup of cozy chamomile tea.

Prettyman is every bit of what she's advertised though. She writes all her own music and lyrics. Her soft, bluesy voice is just dusty enough to sound genuine and her songs stay true to her relaxing, optimistic lifestyle. Her 2003 independent release, *The Love EP*, sold over 10,000 copies by word of mouth alone. **EW**



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