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music BY AMANDA BURHOP

The Dandy Warhols
 9 pm Thursday, 3/1
 McDonald Theatre
 \$15 adv./\$17 door

We Dig, We Dig
 After 12 years, fans still dig The Dandy Warhols

There was a time in the mid '90s when The Dandy Warhols and The Brian Jonestown Massacre were convinced of their power to contrive a full scale musical revolution. While the latter band imploded under the weight of its ego and self-destructive behavior (mostly on the part of frontman Anton Newcombe), The Dandy Warhols pushed forward to consistently churn out records over the last 10 years. As front man Courtney Taylor-Taylor explains in the indie documentary *Dig!*, "We're the most well-adjusted band in America."

While The Dandys aren't completely without rock-star ego — at one point in the film Taylor-Taylor says, "I sneeze and hits come out" — the group has successfully overcome the cruelties of the record industry, the clashing of bandmate personalities and the struggle to maintain artistic freedom in the corporate rock world.

1995 marked the Portland-based band's first release, *Dandys Rule OK?* Not long after that, The Dandys were picked up by major label Capitol Records. Since then the band has held on by the skin of its teeth as it's been told time and time again that it isn't a hit-producing machine — even though the band has supplied songs to cult

films and TV shows like *Daria* and *There's Something About Mary*.

While "Not If You Were the Last Junkie on Earth" and "Bohemian Like You" have kept the Dandy Warhols treading water with their label, it's consistency and longevity that stand as testaments to the band's success.

The latest album, 2005's *Odditorium or Warlords of Mars*, is rooted in the band's early years; it's been described as less *Welcome to the Monkey House*, with its heavy dance beats, and more *Dandys Rule OK?* According to the band's press release, "Born of long sessions that found the band experimenting freely with new instrumentation and adding new flavors to their trademark mix of seamless rock hooks, turned-on drone, deep psychedelia and a big shot of country blues, *Odditorium* is an expansive rock and roll album that could only come from the minds (and homes) of the Dandys."

Like all artists, The Dandys struggle to define their success and the future of it. There's a delicate balance between wanting enough financial success to continue in this cutthroat business and maintaining some bit of integrity, and that keeps artists on their toes. From the looks of it, The Dandys stand firmly on solid ground. **EW**

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