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**music** BY STEVEN SAWADA

# Under the Influence of the Beat

Garden Entertainment and Anne debut new hip hop influenced releases

The beat strikes twice this weekend as hip hop's intoxicating rhythm courses through the music of two performers heralding different styles of music. In one corner we have the distinct, Northwest hip hop sounds of The Kid Espi and Hot In Pursuit of Garden Entertainment, and in the other corner the crunktastic electro punk of Anne. With their new, straight-shooting contribution to the local hip hop scene, *Healthy Portions*, Garden Entertainment have positioned themselves to become a major player amongst local hip hop crews. At the opposite end of the spectrum, with a fresh single on the new 7" picture-disc comp from Olympia's Crunks Not Dead label, Anne has reclaimed the sound of the South and infused it with a brash punk aesthetic that seems to be clamoring through underground dancehalls all across the Northwest.

If her solo album, *Plastic Surgery Center*, defined her sound, her contribution to the new Crunks Not Dead comp will undoubtedly solidify her reputation as a rising star amongst the region's dance punk notables. Hosting the likes of Nicky Click, Scream Club and the notorious Joey Casio, Crunks Not Dead represents Olympia's new breed of dance punk, carrying the torch originally lit by folks like Calvin Johnson and Kathleen Hanna. Anne's offering, "Hot Girls are Not the Enemy," contains a much bleaker, more nihilistic sound than the tunes of her compatriots. As her shaky vocals tenuously ride her basic, no-frills drum beats, early Suicide immediately comes to mind. Not quite rap, not quite punk, and the hip hop purists will spit in your face for saying it, but perhaps crunk has spawned yet another illegitimate child.



Anne

Grounded in a more traditional sound, the cats at Garden Entertainment have taken their years of training in the local cipher circuit and crafted a solid new album

full of banging club hits. This was achieved largely though employing several gifted up and coming NW producers (including Sapient of Sandpeople and Mo Poundz of the Reps), all of whom manage to concoct bouncy beats that relentlessly drop major bass. Slap on top of

that the domineering flows of Kid Espi (aka Jacob Espinoza) and MC JG, and you have yourself a mature collection of danceable, crowd-pleasing cuts. *Healthy Portions* also features guest verses by Scarub of the Living Legends (who totally lights up the head-bobbing "9-5") and 2Mex of The Visionaries.

Reserve this weekend to check out the different directions hip hop has taken with these two sweet record release parties. **EW**

**Garden Entertainment, Cool Table, ENDR-1 and Stupendous and guests**  
9 pm Friday, March 2  
John Henry's • \$3  
21+ show

**Anne, Nicky Click, Diamond Beats**  
10 pm Saturday, March 3  
Black Forest • Free  
21+ show

FRIDAY 3/2 AT 10 PM:  
**THE KID ESPI AND HOT IN PURSUIT**  
WITH LESSIN LYRICIST, COOL TABLE  
ENDR-1 AND STUPENDOUS AND GUESTS

SATURDAY 3/3 AT 7 PM:  
**BRIAN VANDER ARK OF THE VERVE PIPE**  
PERFORMS A SPECIAL EARLY SHOW

SATURDAY 3/3 AT 10 PM:  
**JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE NIGHT**  
WITH WHOPNER COUNTY COUNTRY ALL-STARS  
FISTFULL OF CASH AND SPECIAL GUEST JOHNNYS

SUNDAY 3/4 AT 7 PM:  
**DEKE DICKERSON & THE ECCO FONICS**  
PERFORM A SPECIAL EARLY SHOW

THURSDAY 3/8 AT 6:30 PM:  
**BRETT DENNEN** WITH SPECIAL GUEST **TOM FREUND**  
PERFORM A SPECIAL EARLY SHOW

FRIDAY 3/9 AT 10 PM:  
**DJ JIMBO VS. DJ LIBBY**  
4 HOUR DJ PARTY FEATURING HIP HOP, ROCK, 80'S, 90'S & ELECTRONIC

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**DJ JIMBO VS. DJ LIBBY**  
4 HOUR DJ PARTY FEATURING HIP HOP, ROCK, 80'S, 90'S & ELECTRONIC

SATURDAY 3/10 AT 10 PM:  
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