



Brooke Parrott

Traveling on a Song

It seems that **Brooke Parrott** can't sit still. She has sung her way from Eugene to Seattle to Boston and back again. This week she's in town for a short while after graduating from Berklee College of Music in Boston and before heading off to London. Before she takes flight to find more musical inspiration, Parrott is celebrating the release of her first full-length album, *Another City*.

Her music is a complex combination of powerful lyricism and bluesy pop. Parrott's lyrics impose themselves upon you in an endearing manner, but her musical talents are maybe even more impressive. The songs on her album feature a wide array of instruments from the cello to the fiddle, and Parrott not only concentrates on vocals but also plays both the piano and organ.

While music is undoubtedly the focus of Parrott's life, for the last couple of years she has also dedicated her time to raising funds for AIDS education in Ghana through an organization called LifeLovers. LifeLovers is working to fund a refuge and education facility for homeless orphans, and to help in this effort, Parrott will be holding a raffle at her release party.

The emotion Parrott feels for LifeLovers translates into her music through her new single, "Maybe She Just Doesn't Love You," and "In Any Light," which has a slow but resonating sound.

Celebrate with Parrott and support LifeLovers at her release party at 7 pm Friday, May 9, at Cozmic Pizza or at a free in-store set at 3 pm Saturday, May 10, at CD World. — Megan Udow

Dark Waters Ahead

It's hard to know what to write about groups that have been critically compared to other really famous and beloved acts. **Mia and Jonah** pose this problem in spades. I almost don't want to say which bands other writers think this Bay Area duo sounds like, or who their guitar and upright bassist played with in the recent past; those tidbits are probably best left to the Internet savvy. What I will say is that Mia and Jonah's second full-length album has an appealingly live, folky feel to it, spontaneously emotional yet heavy with intentional musical decisions. Both lead vocalists deliver this collection of painfully human stories without burdening their songs with distracting production or indulgent instrumentation. If you care to devote your listening energy to simple



Mia and Jonah

The 'N Thing

The Midwestern indie band **Tapes 'N Tapes** is more than just a bunch of thrift store T-shirt clad hipsters; they're thrift store T-shirt clad hipsters who are trying to make a difference. The band is encouraging its fans to participate in this year's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and/or Avon Walk for Breast Cancer event. Register in your hometown as "Team Tapes 'N Tapes" and, upon finishing the walk and reporting back with the funds you've raised, you'll be in the running to win a personalized signed copy of the band's appropriately named sophomore effort, *Walk It Off*. (Get it? Because you're participating in a walk, and it's called ... oh, never mind.)

The band's sound is in the vein of fellow indie rockers Wolf Parade. Josh Grier's wavering vocals paired with tight guitar and bass riffs make for intriguing, upbeat tracks that you can't help but do the indie sway to. (You know, when you bop your head slightly, sway your hips, tap your foot, maybe swing your arms a bit all while staying completely in place.)

This is the Minneapolis natives' follow-up to their critically acclaimed debut record, *The Loon*, and the band is promoting the shit out of it by playing close to 30 shows in two months. They won't be in Eugene until the second leg of their tour, so the boys will probably be pretty tired, but I'm sure that won't prevent them from rocking out, or you from involuntarily breaking into the indie sway. Tapes 'N Tapes plays at 9 pm Monday, May 12, at the WOW Hall. \$12 adv., \$14 door. — Katrina Nattress



harmonies saturated in serious poetic musings, Mia and Jonah have a cache of material that will delight you. Those seeking a more immediately visceral experience may struggle through the quiet intensity their fans have come to appreciate.

Rooms for Adelaide opens with a healthy dose of Mia Mustari's unapologetic alto on the disturbingly catchy track "3 Stories High." After exploring this impressionistic slice of urban despair, track two takes listeners through the musings of a lover who has sacrificed self-love for longing on the beautiful ballad "Wish." And so it goes, all the way through *Rooms*; relentlessly intimate yet musically soothing enough to keep you from resisting the pain. If there is a "hit" on this album (and I don't use that word with any particular value attached to

it) it is probably "Junkyard Dog," a raunchy little number about life on the down and out, likely to stir audiences from the magical trance induced only by those special performers who create what they live and live what they create. Mia and Jonah, Half Acre Day and Leo London play at 9:30 pm Friday, May 9, at Sam Bond's Garage. 21+ show. \$5. — Adrienne van der Valk

Eugene's Queens of Blues

Barbara Healy and **Deb Cleveland** have been sharing their love of blues, soul, Motown and pretty much anything else that makes you shake your rump for some time now. The two divas of the local blues scene have won a handful of Best of Eugene awards in *EW*'s readers' poll and collaborated on a number

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