

Breathing Fire and Pageantry

Portland-based rock group **The Slants** only started playing shows in mid-2007, but they've already caused a bit of a stir. They're reportedly the only Asian band so far that's been featured by Fender Music, and they were once banned from a venue when their frontman breathed fire. Their latest album, *Pageantry*, combines glam rock, alternative and punk into one sleek procession of candy for your ears.

Vocalist Aron Moxley's tone, which reminds me a bit of The Killers, adds its own style to The Slants' sound, with just the right amount of attitude and not too much whine. Johnny Fontanilla's guitar nicely compliments Tyler Chen's drumming, which is energetic but also a little behind the beat, avoiding an overly hyper sound. And warbly keyboards, especially in songs like the title track and "Running With The Dead," lend a poppy edge that helps the band live up to its reputation as "Chinatown Dance-Rock."

The Slants say their name has offended plenty of people. Though not overtly political, the bandmembers take pride in their varied backgrounds and poke fun at themselves and stereotypes, writing on their website, "We're proud of who we are and aren't afraid to say that, 'yes, we do have slanted eyes.'"

The Slants play at 9 pm Saturday, May 15, at the Muse Lounge. 21+. Free. — Darcy Wallace

Snap, Crackle and (Progressive) Pop

Kaki King burst into the music scene in 2003 with her exquisite fretwork and primarily instrumental pieces. "Playing With Pink Noise" (from 2004's *Legs to Make Us Longer*) thrust her more in the indie rock spotlight, showcasing a guitar that she played as if it were trying to run away from her. The video for "Pink Noise" was simply a white backdrop with King effortlessly plucking and slapping away among randomly timed pink rose petals and balloons. It helped land her hands on the silver screen — as the up-close guitar "stunt double" for Freddie Highmore, who played a guitar prodigy in 2007's *August Rush*. Later that year, King was nominated for a Golden Globe for her score for Sean Penn's *Into the Wild* (alongside Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder).

With her fifth album, *Junior*, a more mature songwriter has emerged. She still brings the famous fretwork to her songs, but *Junior* brings vocals more to the fore. King woos us with the subtle and intricate pop of "Spit It Back In My Mouth," the drive of "Falling Day," the indie pop feel of "Communist Friends" and the hard rock of "Death Head." The vulnerable and heartfelt "Sunnyside" brings the album to a close and shows off King's more personal side. Kaki King is for fans of the indie rock of Sleater-Kinney and Tegan & Sara, or for those who like a bit more virtuoso musicianship mixed in with their lush pop melodies.

Kaki King plays at 2 pm Sunday, May 16, at CD World (free in-store) and with An Horse at 8 pm Sunday, May 16, at WOW Hall. \$15.

— Dan Temmesfeld



**WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 25
WOW HALL**

291 WEST 8TH AVE
7:30PM DOORS • ALL AGES
TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-745-3000

ticketmaster



AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH EUGENE'S OWN

MAT KEARNEY

**SHOOTER
JENNINGS
AND
HIEROPHANT**

with special guest

**IKE
REILLY
WEDNESDAY
MAY 19
WOW HALL**

291 WEST 8TH AVE
7:30PM DOORS • ALL AGES
TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-745-3000

ticketmaster



**LANDON
PICC**

**& MADI DIAZ
THURSDAY MAY 20
JOHN HENRY'S**

77 WEST BROADWAY
6:30PM DOORS • 21 & OVER
TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-745-3000

ticketmaster



DREAM THEATER

**& PRESTO
BALLET**

**MONDAY JUNE 21
ROSELAND
THEATER**

8 NORTHWEST 6TH ST • PORTLAND
6:30PM DOORS • ALL AGES
TICKETS AT
SAFEMART/TICKETSWEST LOCATIONS
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-992-TIXX

(S) TicketsWest

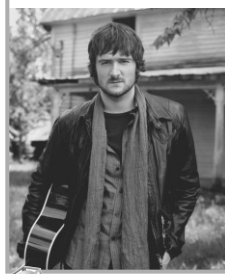


ERIC CHURCH

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 23
CRYSTAL
BALLROOM**

1332 W BURNSIDE ST • PORTLAND
7:00PM DOORS • ALL AGES
TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-745-3000

ticketmaster



**STRAIGHT
NO CHASER**

MON NOV 1 ELSINORE THEATRE
170 HIGH ST SE • SALEM, OR • 6:30PM DOORS • ALL AGES
TICKETS AT SAFEMART/TICKETSWEST LOCATIONS
CHARGE BY PHONE 1-800-992-TIXX

(S) TicketsWest



Annual time.. Again?? Ugh!
Who was my friend telling
me about?

- A specialist in women's health
- Be seen on time. Suffer no waiting
- Ask questions without feeling rushed
- Safe, comfortable, and confidential

Anne Marie Moore Gynecology and General Health
Women's Health Care
Nurse Practitioner
MA, MSN, RNC, WHNP-BC
(541) 393-2334
Insurance Billing or Private Pay