



WARPAINT AT WOW HALL, MARCH 17:
(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) THERESA
WAYMAN, EMILY KOKAL, JENNY LINDBERG
AND STELLA MOZGAWA

process is really democratic,” she says. “This happens a lot, just kind of stitching things together.”

Technically speaking, *The Fool* — a record that’s making a lot of critical top tens right now — is Warpaint’s full-length debut, though it’s hardly a “new” album. “A lot of these songs developed over six years,” Wayman explains. In the studio, the tracks were laid down individually, with Lindberg and Mozgawa recording the rhythm parts first, followed by guitars and then those lovely vocals. The sound is crystalline and contagious; with each successive listen, *The Fool* becomes richer, more complex and compelling, unpeeling layers upon layers like the skin of an onion. The album as a whole evokes the spectral atmospherics of Pink Floyd-meets-Sonic Youth-meets-Motown-meets-The Ronettes, by way of lesser-known bands like Hugo Largo and Helium.

“It sounds great when you’re stoned,” Lindberg says of *The Fool*. She’s proud of the album, though she says that in concert the songs are “one hundred thousand times better than our record.” Lindberg — who grew up listening to “lots of old school R&B” along with such retro/recherché artists as the Cure, Depeche Mode, Smashing Pumpkins and Kate Bush — says that the best way to experience Warpaint is live, where the band’s dynamic fosters an explosive tension that constantly pushes songs over their own borders, into new sonic territories. “I’m a firm believer in always changing it up and doing something new,” she says

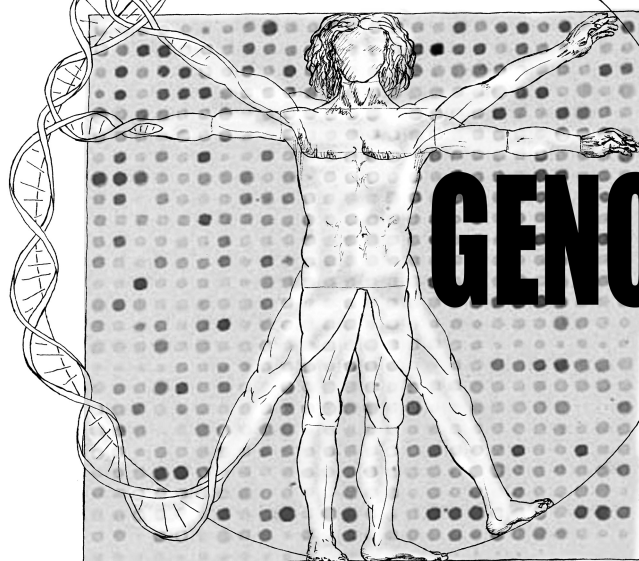
According to Lindberg, this productive tension derives in part from the opposing but not opposed poles of Warpaint’s two halves: namely, the more ethereal, jammy, songwriterly Eugene vibe of Kokal and Wayland up against the edgier rhythmic pairing of the Australian-born Mozgawa and Lindberg, who grew up in the shitsville of Reno (the “biggest little city in the world”). Lindberg, who sports a Minor Threat sticker on the flipside of her Rickenbacker, says that she and Mozgawa represent the tougher, rougher side of Warpaint, anchoring the gorgeously cosmic flights of Wayland and Kokal.

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