

BLACK  
BEAST  
REVIVAL



# THE RAGE BEGINS ON STAGE

Performances at the Block Party BY ANDY VALENTINE

The Block Party is blasting off with nine stages this year, and each and every one of them is destined to keep you captivated, no matter how much Ninkasi you've managed to slide into your belly. The Ninkasi Patio Stage, on that note, is full of local icons — including Adventure Galley, Basin & Range and Marv Ellis, to name a few — but there's a whole lot more to unearth this year in terms of novelty.

If you're walking through the masses and your ear happens to catch a rusty sea shanty rising in rich crescendo above the clamor of people, then you're probably about to stumble upon **ManOverBoard**, who'll be roaming the Block Party throughout the daytime and playing their unique brand of Celtic pirate punk. Seriously, just picture every pirate film you've ever seen and take away the images. The music you're left with is pretty much exactly what ManOverBoard sounds like, and it's great.

The G Spot Stage will feature **Mufassa**, a burly offshoot of the once-legendary Sea Bell. I once had a man lean over and tell me that he thought the Mufassa show we were at was "like having sex." I think that about sums it up. It's adventurous, sword-wielding indie rock for the masses, and it's very difficult not to enjoy.

This claim also holds true for **Black Beast Revival**, out of Bellingham, Wash., which has a grungy Black Keys sorta thing going on, except it sounds more like a flaming hot rod flying off a cliff with lead guitar player Zach Vanhouten standing on the roof ripping a solo, his hair flying like a flag in the wind. In short: That shit is incredible.

The **Spoken Word Stage** is a perfect addition to the Block Party, considering the extremely large (and often undervalued) literary arts scene in our town. The Eugene Poetry Slam will kick things off at 3 pm with some epic slam poetry, which fuses traditional reading techniques with theatricality, and that'll be followed an hour and a half later by The StoneCutters Union, who read vicious and compelling short fiction. The stage's night will be rounded off by local comedians Bryce Jones, Karmichael McG, Andy Bradwin, Seth Milstein and Josh "Fatty" Finch. Get ready to laugh your ass off.

As the night goes on, many of the acts subside, and by 10 pm — the Block Party's official end time — **Blue Lotus** takes the stage. If you haven't had a chance to hear these cats jam yet, you're in for a treat. It's severely reminiscent of anything the Dead ever made happen, although Brandelyn Rose, who strums rhythm alongside Felix Blades' lead, doesn't quite sound like Bob Weir. The group is tight as bondage and trucks on through those jams like Further's wheels rolling across the nation. This is one group you definitely don't want to miss; the Grateful Dead comparison is fairly astounding in its uncanniness. **ew**

For more information on acts at the Whiteaker Block Party, visit [whiteakerblockparty.com](http://whiteakerblockparty.com)

# PRESSING MATTERS

On-the-street printing press rocks Whit Block Party BY DANTE ZUÑIGA-WEST

When it comes to screen printing, Revaud Godwin only comes out at night. That is, unless it's Whiteaker Block Party weekend. Then you can catch him on the street hard at work behind his press. Keep your eyes open for a man of shorter stature surrounded by T-shirts, working at a machine that looks kind of like a new-age catapult or something out of a *Transformers* movie. That's Godwin.

He is an old-school Whiteaker resident, enthused by the independent spirit and funky ambiance of the Block Party.

"I've lived in the Whiteaker for 18 years now," Godwin says. "It's the proximity to entertainment and good food and friends that I love."

Godwin found his way to screen printing shortly after dropping out of the advertising program at the UO journalism school. It was right around this time that he began hanging out in Eugene's thriving independent music scene, inspiring him to put even deeper roots in the Whiteaker neighborhood.

"I dropped out and started hanging out with bands," Godwin says. "I realized I didn't want to work with all the people I was studying with. I was like, 'God, I hate these people.'"

After taking work as a printer for several large-scale advertising companies, producing CD packaging for the likes of Sony and Universal, Godwin moved on to a smaller operation. But that smaller company preferred him to work during office hours, in the daytime, and Godwin is a creature of the night. One thing led to another and he wound up starting his own company.



PHOTO BY TRASK BEDORTHA

"I pretty much always work at night," Godwin says, "which is why I named my company Nocturne Screenprinting."

Godwin's tool of the trade is a six-color, four-station screen printing press that he uses on a nightly basis to create designs you've probably seen on someone walking around the Whit or elsewhere in town. His studio, located just off West 11th and Conger, is filled with his latest designs and previous accomplishments.

Godwin says he views T-shirts as a form of advertising — but more creative and unique. He enjoys screen printing T-shirts because of how much he loves to work with ink.

"T-shirts are fun because it's a canvas that you can wear around," he says. "I always feel that my role isn't so much as an artist, it's more like what a sound engineer would do for a band."

It's apropos that Godwin would use a comparison to music when describing his print work. He also happens to be a member of one of Eugene's older indie rock bands, Hot For Chocolate. When he isn't sequestered in his cavernous studio cranking out designs, he is at band practice cranking out tunes. In fact, Hot For Chocolate will be gigging the Whiteaker Block Party at 8 pm Saturday, Aug. 4, at the G Spot Stage.

At the Block Party, Godwin will print T-shirts with a special Whiteaker Block Party design. You can even bring him your own shirt; he will happily print his design on it.

"Last year Block Party was a lot of fun," Godwin says. "It's a lot of work, though, because I'm running around and playing music. But it's pretty incredible that this all started with some neighborhood kids who had an idea and made it big time." **ew**