

PREPARE FOR BATTLE(ME)

One thing is for certain when you listen to the music of Portland's **Battleme** — you are going to rock 'n' roll yourself silly in the grooviest way imaginable. They don't get to the point of making you bang your head, but they do fill their tracks with electric riffs, catchy drums that often growl more than they roar and the sort of memorable choruses that will burrow into your mind and live there for weeks. And the stories and vocals of Battleme's mastermind, Matt Drenik, will have you thinking you're on one hell of a trip in more ways than one, so there's always that to look forward to if that's your thing.

The hypnotic riffs and off-kilter time sensibilities of the fuzzy rocker "Shoot the Noise, Man" demonstrate Drenik's ability to get you moving and singing along. "Closer" has the distorted guitars and heavy drums to make it sound like a parody of an REO Speedwagon tune by way of Queen, and it rocks something fierce. The psychedelic flourishes on the boiling rocker "Touch" — to say nothing of the bizarre, morphine-induced dreamscape that is this track's accompanying video — will get you wondering what Drenik was on when he came up with this idea. And even when Drenik slows things down as he does on the down-tempo shuffler "Doin' Time in my Head Ain't Cheap," or the epic ambient ballad "Lights (ft. The Forest Rangers)," the echoing atmospheric and his even-keel vocals make you feel like you're taking part in a languid dream.

Whether the song is an energetic one or more easygoing, Drenik succeeds at making you experience something with each song he creates. Sometimes it's euphoria, other times it might be a healthy dose of paranoia, but you can be sure you'll be grooving the whole way through.

Battleme plays 9 pm Thursday, Dec. 13, at Sam Bond's, \$5. — *Brian Palmer*



VENUE GUIDE

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BLACK FOREST 50 E. 11th • 686-6619
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HOT MAMA'S WINGS 420 W. 13th • 653-9999
HOUSE CONCERT Info at jacobs.strain@gmail.com
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THE SHEDD 868 High • 687-6526
SIDE BAR 1680 Coburg • 343-1200
SIDE POCKET TAVERN 846 W. 6th
SONNY'S TAVERN 533 O, Spfd • 741-1953
SPIRITS 1714 Main, Spfd • 726-0113
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SUZUKI MUSIC ACADEMY 170 W. 12th • 285-6655
SWEET CHEEKS WINERY 27007 Briggs Hill
SWEET ILLUSIONS 1836 S. A St., Spfd. • 762-1503
THE TANKARD 330 Hwy 99 S., Junction City • 998-3123
TAPATIO 725 Gibbs, Cottage Grove • 767-0457
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TINY TAVERN 394 Blair • 687-8383
TOM & JOHNNY'S 471 S. A St., Spfd • 357-5022
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VET'S CLUB 1626 Willamette
VILLAGE GREEN 725 Row River, Cottage Grove
VFW SPRINGFIELD 5344 Main, Spfd • 747-7564
 ★ **WANDERING GOAT** 268 Madison
WASHBURN CAFE 326 Main Street, Spfd • 746-7999
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WEST END TAVERN 563 W. Centennial, Spfd • 726-7720
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LEARN TO MAKE CHEESE A Series of classes at Wise Acres Farm. Please visit: herbaltransitions.com or 541-736-0164 for class information! Taught by Dr. Tilgner.

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MAITREYA THE WORLD TEACHER IS HERE NOW. With Jesus and 12 other Masters of Wisdom. Since 2010, Maitreya has been interviewed on US, Mexican and Brazilian television over 70 times, speaking simply as an ordinary man. **LOOK FOR HIM** www.share-international.org

Classes

CUBAN SALSA DANCE FOR BEGINNERS Classes are Fridays in January (4, 11, 18, 25) from 6-7:30pm at Eugene Flamenco Arts studio (11 & Chambers). No experience/partner necessary. \$35/month.

EUGENE FENCERS CLUB Modern Olympic Fencing, Foil, Epee & Saber. USFA/USFCA Certified Coaches. Roosevelt Middle School, Tuesday & Thursday, 6-8:30pm, 541-688-6574, eugene-fencersclub.org

FROM CANVAS TO CAREER IN 10 WEEKS – learn practical tools for success as an artist! Survival Skills for Artists, 10 week class @ the Hult Center, Tues eves 6-9pm Jan 8-March 12, \$125. Call 682-5000 for info.

PAINT YOUR WAY TO PROFIT – get some practical tools for success as an artist! Survival Skills for Artists, 10 week class @ the Hult Center, Tue 6-9pm Jan 8-March 12, \$125. Call 682-5000 for info.

WHETHER YOU WORK WITH POTS, PAINTS, PAPIER-MÂCHÉ OR PIXELS, practical skills pay the bills. Survival Skills for Artists 10 week class @ the Hult Center, Tue 6-9pm, Jan 8-Mar 12, \$125. Call 682-5000 for info.

Opportunities

ICE HOCKEY! ANYONE CAN PLAY! Adult, non-checking, coed ice hockey leagues and classes in Eugene! No skating experience necessary. Classes with free loaner gear begin October 6! 541-521-1650 icecenter@gmail.com www.ice-centerhockey.org

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Pets

GREENHILL HUMANE SOCIETY Everybody Deserves a Good Home. Fri-Tues 11am-6pm, Closed Weds & Thurs. 88530 Greenhill Rd, 541-689-1503 green-hill.org Look for our Pet of the Week!

SHELTER ANIMAL RESOURCE ALLIANCE S.A.R.A.'s Treasures Gift & Thrift Shop. Volunteer, Donate, Shop, ADOPT! 871 River Road, Open Daily 10am-6pm. 541-607-8892 saratreasures.org Look for this week's Rescued Cat.

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