

MUSIC LISTINGS CONTINUED

ON THE ROAD

NOTE: *On the Road listings take place in Corvallis unless otherwise noted*

BIG RIVER MUSIC

SA Plaehn-Hino Blues Band—8pm; Blues, n/c

CLOUD & KELLY'S

TH Improv Comedy Theater—9pm; n/c

FR Trixy & the Nasties, Space Neighbors—10pm; Funk, rock, n/c

SA Syndicate & Maca Rey—10pm; Reggae, n/c

TU Gumbo, Privatized Air—9pm; Ragtime, garage, n/c

FIREWORKS RESTAURANT

MO Southtown Open Mic—9pm; n/c

LASELLS STEWART CENTER

FR Flying Home, the Best of Benny Goodman—7:30pm; Jazz, \$20

SU Inon Barnatan—4pm; Piano, \$20/\$25

SQUIRRELS TAVERN

SA Sweetspot—9pm; n/c

SUNNYSIDE UP CAFÉ

SA Mark Weiss & Tim Hardin—6pm; Acoustic, \$5-\$15

TRAVELER'S COVE (FLORENCE)

SA Peter Giri Band—6pm; Rock, blues, n/c

FRESH (INC.) COMMUNITY-BASED HIP HOP

"Eugene has one of the most talented hip-hop scenes around," says Kendrick Gilkey (aka Mac Nut), who is a founding member of local hip-hop group **Fresh Inc.** "There is everything for everyone here." And on Feb. 8 at Luckey's, Eugene is hosting two of the scene's most vital up-and-coming acts: Fresh Inc. and **The Architex**.

Fresh Inc. are celebrating their second album, *You're Now Rocking With Tha' Fresh!* "This project is a nod to the true school sound of the '90s golden era of hip hop," Gilkey says. "We paid attention to song structure and arrangements." He says the group used more traditional songwriting arrangements to make it different from other hip hop.

The Fresh Inc. duo of Gilkey and James Cachero (Tzarkazm) has already built a following in Eugene, thanks in part to their live show. "Our live shows thrive on the energy level that people set," Gilkey says. "When we do a show and someone expresses interest in the performance, we engage with and interact with them. We are disciples of the 'old school' vibe and like to do a lot of call and response and crowd participation antics," he says. "To us hip hop in all its elements has always been community based."

Joining Fresh Inc. is The Architex. Comprised of six emcees, The Architex are celebrating *Let's Build*, their debut album released on Jan. 22. Similar to Fresh Inc., The Architex build a party atmosphere at their shows and have opened for such big names in the rap world as Rza (of Wu-Tang Clan), The Pharcyde and Kool Keith.

Fresh Inc. and The Architex play 10 pm Friday, Feb. 8, at Luckey's; \$5. — *William Kennedy*

MUSIC

BY WILLIAM KENNEDY



ON THE RECORD

The Eugene Record Convention is stronger than ever after 25 years

In an era when iTunes and iPods reign supreme, when acquiring music for free on the internet is as easy as keeping tabs on Lindsay Lohan, a funny thing has happened; there's a growing resurgence of interest in vinyl, one of the oldest physical formats for recorded music. The trend begs for tired clichés such as "what's old is new again," and yet it also proves that even today's youth market isn't so quick to disregard, as some would like to believe, the sentimentality of beloved objects.

"Records have been around a long, long time," says Bill Finneran, Eugene Record Convention coordinator. "The record companies did a pretty good job trying to kill the

thing, but when I was a kid every house had a pile of records. There's still so much stuff out there." The Eugene Record Convention, celebrating 25 years this February, isn't just a place to find moldy oldies; with a resurgence of record sales, more and more new music is being released on vinyl.

And local businesses like House of Records and Skip's Records & CD World are reaping the rewards. Vinyl records make up nearly 25 percent of sales locally at Skip's Records & CD World, a store that only began carrying the format seven years ago. "We started to change the name of the business from CD World to Skip's Records & CD World," owner and founder Skip Hermens says, "just to let everyone know that we were now back in the vinyl business."

Recalling the early days of the convention, Finneran says he had no idea it would last as long as it has. He attributes the success of his event to Eugene's unique personality. "In just an average town you might not do so well," he says, also noting the event's ideal location between California and Portland.

Over the past quarter-century the selection of music at the convention has, of course, changed. "There's stuff people are

looking for now that wasn't even out 25 years ago," Finneran says. At the beginning, people wanted '50s rock and classic country, but now there's a demand for metal, punk, hip hop and contemporary pop. New vinyl also gives listeners the best of both worlds and the most bang for their buck, typically coming with a free digital album download coupon.

"A lot of people download their music these days. It's a very instant way of attaining music," says Ryan Boyd, a Eugene record collector who has attended the convention for 14 years. "The quality leaves something to be desired, and I think it's easier to take the music for granted when it's a file on your hard drive or iPod. You engage physically with a record: You hold it in your hands; you pull it out of its sleeve, set it on your turntable and drop the needle. And the sound experience you get is rich, warm and organic. Records are also things to be taken care of, preserved and even displayed in one's home. No matter how convenience-oriented we become, human beings out there will desire the latter experience." ■

The 25th Annual Eugene Record Convention will be hosted 10 am to 5 pm Sunday, Feb. 10, at the Eugene Hilton.

Friday the 8th
Saved By The Bell
90's Jams

Monday the 11th
Nashville Pussy
w/Harley Bourbon
and Electric Funeral
\$10 Tickets Avail. At
www.brownpapertickets.com

Nightly Drink Specials
77 W. Broadway
Open Tuesday-Sunday
Doors @ 9

Thursdays
80's night
ladies free before 11
\$3

First Friday
BOUNCE
Dance Party w/ DJ SassyMouff
NO COVER

1st and 3rd Saturdays
GLAM!
no cover before 9:30
\$5

Sundays
John Henry's Broadway Review
Burlesque
\$3 for service industry
\$5

50 Breweries!
100 Craft Beers!

KLCC Microbrew Festival

February 8 & 9
Fri 5-11 pm ♦ Sat 1-11 pm
Lane Events Center, 796 W 13th, Eugene

Fri - Sol Seed
Sat - Sallie Ford & The Sound Outside

21 & OVER

\$12 advance - Includes glass, 3 beer tickets & separate entrance!
Sold online at klcc.org - no fees!

\$15 at the door - Includes glass & 3 beer tickets!

PLUS MEGA MUSIC SALE! Used Records & CDs!

KLCC
www.klcc.org
A benefit for KLCC