

**DOC'S PAD**—Karaoke—9pm  
**DOWNTOWN LOUNGE** Open Mic—6pm; n/c  
**GOODFELLA'S** Karaoke—9pm; n/c  
**GRANARY** S.I.N. Night & Karaoke w/Nick—9pm; n/c  
**HOT MAMA'S WINGS** Open Mic—8pm; n/c  
**IZAKAYA MEIJI CO.** Cowboy Karaoke—10pm; n/c  
**MAC'S** Roosters Blues Jam—7pm; n/c  
**LUCKEY'S** Private Stock w/KI, Architex—10pm; Hip hop, \$2  
**THE O BAR** Karaoke—9:30pm  
**OAK ST. SPEAKEASY** Karaoke—9pm, n/c  
**RED LION HOTEL** Trivia Night—7pm; n/c  
**SAM BONDS** Bluegrass Jam—9pm; n/c  
**TINY TAVERN** Joey Molanaro & Others, Punk Pirate Show—9pm; n/c  
**VILLAGE GREEN** Dylan James—7pm; Contemporary guitar, n/c  
**WANDERING GOAT** Katie & The Lichen, Okay Vancouver Okay—8pm; Indie, all-ages, don.  
**WHISKEY RIVER RANCH** Karaoke—9pm; n/v  
**WOW HALL** Disclosure, Jason Burns—9pm; Dubstep, \$12/\$14

## WEDNESDAY 5/29

**5TH ST. CORNUCOPIA** Karaoke—9pm  
**BLACK FOREST** Karaoke—9pm  
**THE BLIND PIG** Karaoke w/Jim Jim—9pm  
**COWFISH** "Hump Night" w/Connor J, Club Bangers—9pm; n/c  
**COZMIC** Whole Earth Nature School Fox Den Evening Family Nature Program—5pm; all-ages, n/c; Open mic night—7pm; n/c  
**DEXTER LAKE CLUB** Acoustic Sessions w/Morin, Sorseth & Steve Ibach—7pm; Acoustic, n/c  
**DOWNTOWN LOUNGE** Bikes, BBQ & Blues Jam—8pm; n/c  
**GOODFELLA'S** Karaoke—9pm; n/c  
**GRANARY** Jazz jam w/Gerry Rempel & Thierry Renoux—7pm; n/c  
**THE GREEN ROOM** Karaoke—9pm; n/c  
**JERSEY'S (FORM. TANKARD)** Karaoke—8pm  
**JOHN HENRY'S** Wild Style EDM & Dance—9pm  
**LUCKEY'S** Alicia Molin, Lauren Joiner, Chris Juhlin & The Collective—10pm; Indie, \$3  
**MAC'S** Wine, Jazz & Variety Show w/Gus Russell & Paul Biondi—6pm; Jazz, blues, n/c



PHOTO BY ALEXANDRA WAESPI

## XX-RATED

Love or hate Baz Lurhmann's *The Great Gatsby*, one of the most hypnotic scenes of the film is the first. There's no Leonardo DiCaprio or Carey Mulligan, simply the camera zooming in on the metallic, Art Nouveau Gatsby crest as **The xx's** "Together" pings with melancholy coolness.

"I have yet to see it," The xx's singer-bassist Oliver Sim tells EW with a laugh. The track, which perfectly captures the fashionable aloofness and pending tragedy of Fitzgerald's novel, was not written for the film specifically. "We wrote it for *Coexist*. It didn't fit on the album," Sim says. "Then Baz Lurhmann approached us and asked if we wanted to write for it and we tried, but then we remembered this song and we went back to it and it fit perfectly with the brief he gave us: melancholic yearning, and the scene that he had told us to visualize with Gatsby and Daisy lying in bed staring at the green light."

The xx's sound is a lot like that green light: gently pulsing, ephemeral and distant. And whereas Daisy Buchanan tells Gatsby with envy and admiration, "You always look so cool," I would say of The xx: They always sound so cool, in every sense of the word. On 2012's *Coexist*, echoing guitar and keyboards fold into restrained vocals that tell stories that ache with a self-possessed longing.

"There's no moral of the album or anything," Sim says. "The first album came from a very different place than the second. We started writing those songs when we were so young, 15, 16. When you're writing songs at that age, for me, it wasn't really coming from a place of experience. So there was a lot of sharing my expectations and observations of other peoples' relationships ... Then *Coexist* was a bit more — it came from a place of experience. It was a bit of venting and it was therapeutic to make."

Whether writing from observation or experience, the English indie rockers have hit a global nerve: *Coexist* received top praises from *Rolling Stone*, *Pitchfork* and *Spin*. "We try to be universal," Sim notes. "I don't mean to exclude people in our songwriting, which is why we use a lot of 'you's' as opposed to 'he's' or 'she's.'"

In the future, he says that The xx would like to explore poppier dance music, and Sim would like to write music for other artists. When asked if he could write a song for anyone, who it would be, Sim didn't skip a beat. "You know, might as well aim for the stars. I'm a huge Beyoncé fan ... That would be a dream." The xx and Beyoncé? That's a dream EW can get behind.

The xx plays 8 pm Tuesday, May 28, at McDonald Theatre; \$35. — Alex Notman

**MAX'S** Lonesome Randall—7pm; Rock & roll historian, n/c  
**MUSIC MASTERS** Bluegrass Jam—7pm  
**OAK ST. SPEAKEASY** Comedy Showcase—9pm; n/c  
**OLD PAD** Trivia night—9pm; n/c  
**POUR HOUSE** Karaoke—9pm  
**QUACKERS** Karaoke—9pm; n/c  
**THE ROK** Karaoke—9pm  
**SAM BOND'S** Laura Cortese, Fish & Bird, The Bony King of Nowhere w/Douglas Firs—9pm; Indie, folk, \$5  
**SPIRITS** Karaoke—9pm  
**TAYLOR'S BAR & GRILLE** DJ Crown—10:30pm; Hip hop, top 40, dance, n/c  
**TINY TAVERN** Open mic comedy night—8pm; n/c  
**VILLAGE GREEN** Safar & Larsen—7pm; Jazz, n/c  
**WESTEND TAVERN** Patrick & Giri—8pm; Acoustic, n/c  
**WOW HALL** Mike Pinto, Natural Vibrations, Three Legged Fox—9pm; Reggae, \$12/\$15

## CORVALLIS (AND SURROUNDING AREAS)

**BENTON CENTER**  
**FR** Tom & Ellen Demarest, Jon Franke—noon; acoustic, n/c

**BIG RIVER MUSIC**  
**SA** Bill Beach Duo—8pm; n/c

**BOMBS AWAY! CAFE**  
**TH** Despite the Whiteness—10pm; Jazz, funk, n/c  
**FR** Psych Country Revue—10pm; Psychadelic country, \$5  
**SA** The Svens—9pm; Cowboy surf poetry, \$5

**CLOUD & KELLY'S**  
**TH** J Boone Band—9pm; jazz, funk, n/c  
**FR** Turntable Enabler, La Shmoove, Cloudydee—10pm; n/c  
**SA** Creighton Lindsay & Dave Plaehn—8pm; Double album release party, n/c  
**SU** Jazz jam—4pm; n/c  
**WE** Bradford Loomis, Junior Raimey—10pm; Roots, Americana, n/c

**FIREWORKS RESTAURANT**  
**MO** Southtown Open Mic—9pm; n/c

**IMAGINE COFFEE**  
**SU** Nicasio Ralph—11am; Americana, folk, n/c

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Broadway

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