SWIFT SOUNDS

New York musician **Marco Benevento** recorded his 2014 release *Swift* about as far away from the big city as possible: Cottage Grove.

Renowned producer and musician Richard Swift (The Shins, Foxygen) lives in Cottage Grove. Swift consistently supported Benevento's shows at local venue the Axe & Fiddle. When Benevento heard Swift's production work on Foxygen's *We Are The 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic* (also recorded in Cottage Grove), he knew he wanted to work with him.

"I thought to myself: The sound on this record — the drum sound, the bass, the overall production quality — I want to work with Richard," Benevento tells *EW*. "We showed up at his place and he captured it." He continues, "We flew home and he just mixed it."

Working with Swift was a different creative process for Benevento. "Normally I go into the studio and record some vague sketches. I mess with it, cut it up and make a record like that." This time he handed over more creative control to Swift. "He decided when it was done. It's not too crazy overproduced. It's simple."

The result is possibly the most "pop" sound in Benevento's catalog, if for no other reason than Benevento sings on the record. Previously, Benevento has been known for extended, instrumental quasi-jazz, electro-jam mash-ups.

"In my ears and in my mind I find that the new record is a lot like my others," Benevento says, "but instead of a synth or piano playing the melody, I'm singing the melody. For the most part it's easily digestible, simple stuff." He explains that the record focuses less on his signature keyboard work than previous releases.

But Benevento feels *Swift* "has a lot of the same sort of atmospheric, ambient, upbeat music. It's the same sort of vibe." Benevento says a friend calls the sound "electro-pop," and the name stuck.

"There's a lot of drum machine action and synthesizer action," he adds, noting that LCD Soundsystem was a big inspiration for the record.

Every time Benevento comes through the Eugene area he makes a point to play the Axe & Fiddle, calling it an underappreciated gem among West Coast venues.

"We love playing there," Benevento says. "We played the Axe & Fiddle first four or five years ago. It was so much fun. They treat us well and the crowd was dancing the whole time."

Marco Benevento plays 8:30 pm Thursday, March 12, at Axe & Fiddle, Cottage Grove; $12. 21-plus. — *William Kennedy*

LCC DOWNTOWN Gaye Lee Russell & Her Badass Band—7pm; PIELC reception, $12 adv., $15 door

LEVEL UP DJ food stamp—9pm; Rap, breaks, soul, n/c

LUCKEY'S Frankie Hernandez & the Old Soul Parade, Sol Seed—10pm; $6

MAC'S Bill Rhoades & The Party Kings—8pm; Blues, $6

MULLIGAN'S Uncle Stumbles—9pm; Rock, n/c

NOBLE ESTATES TASTING ROOM Peter Giri & Lloyd Tolbert—6pm; n/c

THE O BAR Karaoke—10pm

OAKSHIRE PUB Dirty Sppon—5pm; Old-time breakbeat, n/c

O'DONNELL'S Karaoke—9pm

PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE Olem Alves Duo—6:30pm; n/c

PORKY'S PALACE Karaoke—8pm

RAVEN A PUB Karaoke—9pm

RIVER STOP Heavy Chevy—8pm; Blues, soul, rock, n/c

SAGINAW VINEYARD Monroe Street—6pm; Americana, n/c

SAM BOND'S BREWING The Misery Whips—6pm; Blues, country, n/c

SAM BOND'S GARAGE Casey Neill & The Norway Rats—9:30pm; Rock, $7

THE SHEDD Siri Vik—7:30pm; Edith Piaf tribute, $18-$36

TAYLOR'S DJ Victor—10pm; Hip hop, dance, n/c

TERRITORIAL VINEYARDS The Miller Brothers—7pm; n/c

TRACKSTIRS Karaoke—9pm; n/c

WANDERING GOAT Red Cloud, Free Beard, White Wail—8pm; Hard, stoner rock, don.

WHITE HORSE SALOON Karaoke—9pm; n/c

WOW HALL Fashawn, SonReal, DJ Exile, Earthgang, Sammy Warm Hands, Mes One—9pm; Hip hop, $13 adv., $15 door

YUKON JACK'S Eddie Butler Band—9pm; Rock, n/c

SATURDAY 3/7

5TH ST. CORNUCOPIA Beef Bottom—9:30pm; n/c

ATRIUM BUILDING Eugene Peace Choir—2pm; Songs of Change, n/c

AX BILLY GRILL Mike Denny Trio—7pm; All ages, n/c

AXE & FIDDLE McTuff, Sol Seed—8:30pm; Funk, jazz, reggae, $10

B&B LOUNGE Karaoke—9:30pm

BEALL HALL Oregon Percussion Ensemble—3pm, $5-$7; University Symphony Orchestra—8pm; $5-$7

COWFISH Sup! w/Michael Human—9pm; Trap, hip hop, twerk

COZMIC Soul Vibrator—8pm; Jazz, folk, fusion, $5 adv., $10 door

DOC'S PAD Evolve Saturdays—9pm; EDM, hip hop, n/c

DUCK BAR & GRILL Karaoke—9pm; n/c

DUCK INN Karaoke—10pm

EL TAPATIO CANTINA DJ & Dance Music—9pm; n/c

EMBERS Coupe de Ville—8:30pm; n/c

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION Dr. Barbara Baird—4:30pm; Organ recital, n/c

HAPPY HOURS Christie & McCallum—8:30pm; Americana, n/c

JAZZ STATION Andy Armer Trio Plus One: Tony Glausi—8pm; Jazz, $6-$8

KENNETH B GALLERY Florence Spoken Word Contest—5pm; n/c

LEVEL UP DJ Rock 'n' Roll Damnation—9pm; '70s & '80s rock, heavy metal; n/c

LUCKEY'S G.L.A.M. Night—10pm; $5

MAC'S The Gaye Lee Russell Band—8pm; Jazz, rock, R&B, $5

MULLIGAN'S The Allegations—8pm; Americana, rock, n/c

OAKSHIRE PUB Cross Current—5pm; Folk, n/c

POUR HOUSE Karaoke—9pm

QUACKER'S Ladies Night & DeeJay—9pm; n/c

RAVEN A PUB Karaoke—9pm

SAM BOND'S BREWING South Hills String Band—6pm; Bluegrass, n/c

SAM BOND'S GARAGE The Project—5pm, n/c; Water Tower, McDougall—9:30pm; $7

THE SHEDD Siri Vik—7:30pm; Edith Piaf tribute, $18-$36

TAYLOR'S BAR & GRILLE DJ Crown—10:30pm; Hip hop, dance, n/c

THELMA SCHNITZER HALL Future Music Oregon—7pm; $5-$7

TRACKSTIRS Karaoke—9pm; n/c

WANDERING GOAT 64-Bit Sushi, xboyfriends, Everyday Automaton—8pm; Punk, rock, don.

WESTEND TAVERN Karaoke—9pm; n/c

WHITE HORSE SALOON Karaoke; Code Red—9pm; n/c

WOW HALL "March Attacks!" w/ Love & Light, NATO Feelz & more—8pm; EDM, FOOD for Lane County benefit, $20 adv., $22 door, $35 VIP, $20 door w/ canned food don.

YUKON JACK'S Eddie Butler Band—9pm; Rock, n/c

SUNDAY 3/8

AGATE ALLEY BISTRO Karaoke—9pm; n/c

BEALL HALL UO Community Music Institute Solo Recitals—Noon-6pm; n/c

THE BOREAL Broken Dead, The Angries, Girls Punch Bears—8pm; Punk, hardcore, all ages, $5

COWFISH Just Listen w/Qamron Crooks—9pm; Pop, deep house, n/c

COZMIC Single Mothers—9pm; Punk, $10 adv., $12 door

CUSH Open Mic—8pm; Variety, n/c

HULT CENTER Eugene Symphony: Oz with Orchestra—2:30pm; $29-$60

JAZZ STATION All-Comer Jazz Jam—4pm; Jazz, $3

LUCKEY'S Broadway Revue Burlesque Night—10pm; $5

SAM'S Open Mic Night—7pm; n/c

SAM BOND'S GARAGE Hollow Wood, Kevin Lee Florence—8:30pm; $10

THE SHEDD Siri Vik—1:30pm; Edith Piaf tribute, $18-$36

TRAVELER'S COVE Paul Biondi Quartet—6pm; Variety, n/c

VILLAGE GREEN Dave Boch—7pm; Guitar, n/c

THE WEBFOOT Karaoke—9pm

WOW HALL Janet W. Hardy: "50 Shades of Kink: The Fantasy & the Reality"—7pm; Spoken word, $15

MONDAY 3/9

BEALL HALL Eugene Symphonic Band—7:30pm; Classical, $5-$8

BLACK FOREST Karaoke—9pm

THE BOREAL The Shondes, Hailey Wojcik—8pm; Garage rock, indie, all ages, $5

BUGSY'S MondayBug—7pm; Acoustic, n/c

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