

BB BACK BEAT

MUSIC NEWS &
NOTES FROM
DOWN IN THE
WILLAMETTE
VALLEY

KEB' MO'

Now that Eugene has recovered from our “was-he-or-wasn’t-he-really-here” Justin Bieber fever (Bieber-fieber, if you will), it’s time look ahead at the upcoming week in live music. But first some show announcements:

Portland indie rockers **The Thermals** play alongside rising Portland punk band **Summer Cannibals** 8 pm Saturday, May 14, at Hi-Fi Music Hall. And popular rapper **G-Eazy** plays Matthew Knight Arena April 8; **Bob Dylan** hits the Cuthbert Amphitheater June 7, followed by **Weird Al Yankovic** July 29; and, also at Matthew Knight Arena, **James Taylor** performs July 15 and **Def Leppard** is slated for Sept. 30.

Speaking of summer shows, how stoked are we that the **B-52s** are coming to the Lane County Fair July 22?

As the summer lineups come out for Eugene’s bigger venues, EW is excited to see some new faces, but also embarrassed to see such a lack of diversity on our stages. So far, Cuthbert has only booked white dudes. Matthew Knight Arena is a close second with the exception of G-Eazy, a black dude. Where are the women? Kudos to Eugene’s smaller venues, who are setting the pace for progress and innovative lineups that better reflect a 2016 reality.

Back to this week: L.A.’s **Insects vs. Robots** bring their “space gnome thrash folk” to Sam Bond’s Garage 9 pm Thursday, March 10; \$8 advance, \$10 door, 21-plus. Also performing at Sam Bond’s is well-known Portland songwriter **Jerry Joseph** 9:30 pm Friday, March 11; \$10, 21-plus.

At 10 pm Saturday, March 1, Portland hard-rockers **Ape Machine** play alongside Eugene’s **Ferns** and **Pseudoboss** at Luckey’s Cigar Club. And on Friday, March 11, Luckey’s boasts an all-Eugene lineup when **Chest Cavity**, **Mr. Tang**, **Melt** and **VCR** play at 10 pm. Both show are \$5 and 21-plus.

At 7 pm Sunday, March 13, Christian hip-hop artist **TobyMac** comes to Matthew Knight Arena; \$15-\$69.50, all ages. And neo-grunge rockers **Breaking Benjamin** perform alongside **Starset** at McDonald Theatre 8 pm Tuesday, March 15; \$42.50 adv., \$47.50 door, all ages.

Also at McDonald Theatre, **Yonder Mountain String Band** plays with **Polecat** 8:30 pm Saturday, March 19, \$25 adv., \$30 door, all ages.

Expect an evening of psych and indie rock when **The Boyfriends**, **Mommy Long Legs**, **VCR** and **The Real Smoothies** play Wandering Goat 8 pm Saturday, March 12; \$5, 21-plus.

At Hi-Fi Music Hall, **TAUK** joins **Yak Attack** for an evening of heavy instrumental fusion 8 pm Wednesday, March 16; \$12 adv., \$15 door, 21-plus. The next night at Hi-Fi, Portland’s **The Quick and Easy Boys** celebrate St. Patrick’s Day alongside Eugene’s **Blue Lotus** 9 pm Thursday, March 17; \$12 adv., \$15 door, 21-plus.

Popular blues musician **Keb’ Mo’** returns to Eugene this week in support of his latest release — *Keb’ Mo’ LIVE: That Hot Pink Blues Album* — out April 15. Keb’ Mo’ plays 9:30 pm Tuesday, March 15, at The Shedd; \$35-\$59, all ages.



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