

Unique sound sets Formica Blues apart

By Monica Whitney
Staff A&E Writer

Mixing different styles to form nothing less than an interesting, mellow brand of music, **Mono** shows a lot of musicality with its current album, *Formica Blues*.

Siobhan De Mare shows off a nice feminine voice that nicely complements the style of music this album captures. Consisting of blues numbers, retro flashbacks and modern pieces with a new age twist, this album is definitely worth adding to your collection.

One of the most original pieces on the album, "The Outsider," has an erotic beat to it likely to steer anyone's thoughts to a more carnal direction.

Mare's voice is sultry and seductive as it wraps around and caresses the lyrics. The very beginning of the song starts off with a taste of India, hinting you are about to take a journey.

Different notes quiver slightly behind a variety of per-

cussive ideas. This song definitely shows the synthesizer wasn't just useful in the 80s.

Taking a U-Turn in a completely different direction, the group captures the essence of the 60s girl group with "High life" that would remind most baby boomers of groups like **The Chiffons**, **The Supremes** and **The Crystals**.

Never losing the whole new age theme of the album, they simply give past styles an interesting twist that is pleasing to the senses.

Mare proves to be a very flexible vocalist reproducing the cutesy, vulnerable sounds of the previously mentioned groups with accuracy.

"Life in Mono" is the first song off the album. When first hearing it, one might think this could very well be the next theme song to a James Bond movie. But indeed, it was the theme song in the movie, **Great Expectations**.

Adapting a variety of styles, this song is a crossbreed of many different styles. Techno, blues, alternative and anything



photo courtesy of Mercury Records

Mono belts out meaningful tunes on their new album "Formica Blues."

else you can think of was thrown into the mix...except maybe country.

Overall this album is a creative, innovative gem that stands above the bulk of New Age artists that take themselves too seriously.

Mono captures many different moods, and the album is so mellow and interesting, people won't have a problem listening

to it repeatedly.

Showcasing their abilities and unique ideas all the way from 60s retro pop to ethnic flavored seducers, the two individuals that make up Mono prove to have a wealth of talent.

This is an album suitable for any person's collection, and hopefully listeners will get the opportunity to hear more of this group's material on the radio.

NO USE: This band needs a songwriter

drum most bands of this sort use.

Hopefully, No Use For A Name will create some music that matches the feeling and thoughtfulness of its lyrics the next time around. One can only hope they will have someone in the studio who will make sure the listener can actually hear the singer and recognize the lyrics that are sung.

Wait a second! All of a sudden the pulsing mess of an album ends when...alas a hidden track appears beyond the horizon. A very energetic remake of the **Kiss** classic "Beth" appears making the listener do a double take on the evaluation of talent in this band.

A guitarist that can play quite well, a singer with a good vocal range and a band that has energy and vibrance all of a sudden appears. One begins to realize that all this band needs to possibly achieve greatness is someone who can write music!

Then, yet another hidden track appears where these seemingly musically inept group of guys actually harmonize, and for just a few seconds the listener can savor the sounds of acoustic strums. Then the album is over.

REBELPALOOZA: A festival of music

ing it "a landmark record designed to smash borders." *The Los Angeles Times* agreed by writing that the album is "a raw and unconventional treasure from start to finish."

Band members include Gabriel "Vicentico" Fernandez Capello, Flavio Ciacciarullo, Ariel Minimal, Fernando Ricciardi, Gerardo "Toto" Rotblat, Mario Siperman, Fernando Albareda and Dany Lozano.

More information on *Los Fabulosos Cadillac* can be accessed at www.fabulosos-cadillacs.com.

Obscurely joining *Cherry Poppin' Daddies*, **The New Morty Show** is a 10-piece swing band willing to blast its horns for all to hear. Together, all 10 members recapture the spirit of the late 50s and early 60s when swing was the talk of the town in Las Vegas lounges.

However, this band doesn't swing to old hits by Ol' Blue Eyes, **Frank Sinatra**. Instead, *The New Morty Show* gets creative with swing versions of songs originally performed by **Metallica**, **The Ramones**, **The Sex Pistols** and **Billy Idol**. If nothing else, the strange and unusual specks of this band should make its music interesting.

The long list of members in this band include bandleader Morty Okin, lead vocalist Kat Starr, singer/comic Vise Grip, trombone player Van Hughes, saxophonist David Murotake, pianist and composer John Quam, baritone sax man Tom Griesser, bass player Tom Beyer, drummer Kevin Stevens and guitarist David Metzner.

Point your browser to www.newmortyshow.com for more information on *The New Morty Show*.

Local bands' **Floor 13**, **Upstream** and **Under Oath** complete the lineup for *Rebelpalooza*.

Whether you're a freshman or a senior, *Rebelpalooza* is an event that shouldn't be missed. Circle Friday, April 24 on your calendar.

UNLV will hop like it's never hopped before. With all forms of music represented, there is no conceivable way this music event can fail to satisfy even the most pessimistic listener.

Rebelpalooza is free to all UNLV students with a valid ID. Tickets are \$12.00 for non students and limited to the first 1,000 people through ticketmaster only. There will be no on-site tickets sales.

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