The Daily Tar Heel

Diversions

DIVERECOMMENDS.....

Album from the Vaults:

Kansas, Song for America: For the genre of progressive rock, Kansas' contribution has largely been ignored. Maybe it has something to do with their '80s venture into born-again Christianity and subsequent power pop folly, but Song For America has enough conceptual jams to redeem even the worst religious pop rock. The title track rivals Yes' arrangements with its instrumentation and staccato articulation.

Movie from the Vaults:

"Bladerunner": This movie will take your mind, spin it around and then turn it into a pile of space-age Jell-O. Sound unpleasant? Well, it's not take our word for it. Harrison Ford makes love to a robot, and it's not even awkward (in context, at least).

Events:

THURSDAY

Thee Dirtybeats, The Malamondos and Los Naturales Local 506 | The 506 might be dark

and cavernous, but it's no garage. At least on most days of the week. But leave it to local guitar gurus Thee Dirtybeats, The Malamondos and Los Naturales to turn a humdrum Thursday night into a raging garage rock shindig The Seeds and the The Hombres would be proud of. 9 p.m., \$5

FRIDAY

The Pneurotics

Nightlight | This veteran Chapel Hill trio, recently joined by drummer Chris Burzminski, crafts tight

rock 'n' roll ditties with infectious hooks and instantly memorable lyrics. The music's great and all, but the band's stage presence seals the deal — husband and wife Rich (a mathematician) and Mimi McLaughlin have as much on-stage chemistry as their years of marriage might suggest. Gambling the Muse and Steph Stewart and The Boyfriends also play. 10 p.m., \$5

Jonas Sees in Color, The Decour

Local 506 | Their band name may be a reference to that book you hated reading in high school, but Jonas Sees in Color brings big band indie rock. 7:30 p.m., \$8

SATURDAY

In the Year of the Pig

Nightlight | In case your eardrums aren't ready for a rest by Saturday night, In the Year of the Pig is ready to blast them to outer space. Don't come here expecting some wussy indie rock — ITYOTP will have the amps on high, and you best believe that you'll be witnessing some face-melting rock by the time the band's finished its set.

Last Year's Men and Defamiliar will also play. 10 p.m., \$5

7

MONDAY

Secret Boyfriend

All Day Records | The noise scene is percolating as of late, and if there's ever an opportunity to dip your toes into the genre, this free All Day Records set is ideal. These songs have a pulse, but you won't mistake them for a typical pop ditty — where linearity is lacking, each song has a focus that will hold your attention. 8 p.m., Free

MUSICSHORTS

AKRON/FAMILY



S/T II: THE COSMIC BIRTH AND JOURNEY OF SHINJU TNT



PSYCHEDELIC FOLK

Akron/Family is delivering the first radically diverse folk album of the year with the release of S/T II: The Cosmic Birth and Journey of *Shinju TNT*. This album balances innumerable influences from across the globe with the band's folk-rock roots and odd personality.

An unmarked cardboard box containing a futuristic dinosaur diorama, 3 pictures and 3 song snippets recorded on a CD were dropped outside Dead Oceans, the band's record label, in November. The leak-paranoid group wasn't ransoming anything – just informing its label that it wasn't sending the completed album to anyone but the printing company.

The album was written in a cabin in Akan National Park in Hokkaido. Japan, then recorded in an abandoned train station in Detroit. These unorthodox means of production imbue the album with a lively sense of camaraderie, but create an inside joke that the listener can't crack. One can only enjoy the

whimsicality from afar.

electronic bleeps of "Silly Bears" not only start the album with a bang, but its anyplace attitude leaves listeners expecting the unexpected. The clapdriven breakdowns are discordant still there, along with the granfrom the call-and-response guitar diose backing choirs and instruriffs, but in the grand scheme of S/T II: TCBAJOSTNT, their oppositions meld with an air of ethereal tastefulness.

Akron/Family has created an album that lacks any sort of polishing or singles, an album best experienced from beginning to end. The band has taken the liberty of enjoying the music-making process on S/ *T II: TCBAJOSTNT* and come out on top, but maybe a little too high for the sober listener.

-Joe Faile

BRITISH SEA POWER





BRITISH SEA POWER VALHALLA DANCEHALL

ROCK/PO

After three previous studio albums, British Sea Power still sounds like it is trying to achieve a combination of U2's stadium sound, Bruce Springsteen's working class appeal and The Clash's rock sensi-

With love, from me to you

bilities. Those are some lofty goals, The tribal drums and ascending and if you're wondering whether or not all that trying can start to wear on a band, you've got confirmation with Valhalla Dancehall.

The group's sweeping sound is mental buildups from its last three albums

While it's a pleasing formula, there's nothing exciting or new about it, and it's readily apparent that British Sea Power cannot exist outside this box. As a result, there is a noticeable lack of purpose to the album

After all, could frontman Yan possibly be serious when, on opener Who's In Control," he sings, "over here, over there, over here, every fucking where?'

The radio-friendly British pop of "Living Is so Easy" is ruined by a mind-numbing chorus of "Living is so easy, Shopping is so easy, / Dying is so easy, All of it is easy." This kind of hokey songwriting is indicative of a band that's just going through the motions.

The album begins to collapse under its own weight in the last half. "Luna" attempts the classic portrait of a troubled girl, but without enough charisma to make you care, and "Baby" is a vaporous, etherealsounding ballad with about as much substance.

The punkish rock of "Thin Black Sail" is a standout, but it's buried between so much filler it can barely retain any interest.

While Valhalla Dancehall is a harmless, head-nodding rock album, it's ultimately plain and less than memorable. British Sea Power can keep putting out as many albums as it likes, but if it doesn't regain a sense of creativity and vitality, future efforts won't hold our boardist HouFei Yang. attention.

-Anna Norris

Between The White Stripes, Sleigh Bells, Matt & Kim and the Triangle's own Veelee, there's no shortage of guy/girl rock duos cranking out good tunes.

This is not the case with Primal Static, a duo comprising singersongwriter Greg Thuman and key-

Both have studied music for much of their lives, but the pair's experience hardly shines through its second release, The Curtain of

Many Faces. Primal Static's website touts its "blues-infused" sound, but those seeking it will be sorely disappointed. Such a label might bring to mind The Black Keys, but there's no such evocation.

Listeners get a tiny tease of it on "Enimia," but otherwise there's no real blues to be found. Instead, there are scattered guitar and synth sounds that are as confusing as they are boring.

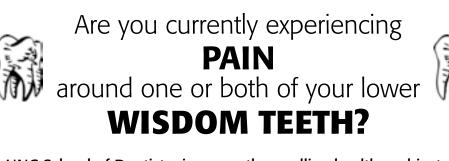
None of the album is terribly

impressive. The drums sound like they were cranked out of GarageBand, and the guitars are your standard cookie-cutter wannabe semi-punk.

'Waking Shadow" is the biggest offender, and though it gets close to being catchy, it ends up just plain annoying.

Sometimes you can find harmony in discord, but not here. The Curtain of Many Faces might simply be the result of two talented musicians unable to collaborate with each other effectively, and in the end, it's nothing more than mediocre.

-Allison Hussey



UNC School of Dentistry is presently enrolling healthy subjects who:

are non-smokers between the ages of 18 and 35 🗑 have pain and signs of inflammation (pericoronitis) around a lower wisdom tooth (3rd molar)

Participation requires three visits. Benefits for participating include:

- free initial treatment of painful problem
- **W** a free dental cleaning
- up to \$50.00 payment for your time
- **F** free consult regarding options for 3rd molar treatment

If interested, please contact: Tiffany V. Hambright, RDH

Clinical Research Coordinator • Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

919-966-8376 or Tiffany_Hambright@dentistry.unc.edu you will be contacted within 24 hours.

hate to be the bearer of bad news, but it's February, and that means one terrifying thing: It will be Valentine's Day soon. This isn't Dive's official Valentine's issue. That's coming next week, full of all the witty sarcasm you've come to expect. This week, I'm giving you some tips on making it through this holiday to end all holidays, armed with a menagerie of friends who can't break your heart, eat your candy or pick a bad romantic comedy namely, I'm going to discuss a few tips on the art of the mixed tape.



Let Your Freak Flag Fly

Ultimately, the best mixes are



PRIMAL STATIC THE CURTAIN OF MANY FACES ROCK

Get a Little Weird

Frank Sinatra, Marvin Gaye, The Beatles — yawn. You've heard it so often that putting it on a mixed tape is about as original as a box of Wittman's chocolates. If you're making a mix (for yourself or the object of your affection), you've got to shake things up -I'm talking noise, dubstep, whatever gets your heart rate up or your palms sweaty. The best mixes are the ones that come completely out of left field.

Go Old School

Chillwave, revivalist bluegrass and lo-fi pop can be charming, but often it's because they draw on some badass original sources. If you're trying to wallow alone in your room — and who is Dive to judge? – Echo and the Bunnymen or Joy Division can be as tear-jerking as a chopped onion. And if you're trying to feel

STARSYSTEM

POOR ★★ FAIR ★★★ GOOD ★★★★ EXCELLENT

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LINNIE GREENE LOVE WILL TEAR US APART (AGAIN)

the love, why not delve into some Velvet Underground or Yo La Tengo's cinematic sensibilities?

the ones that represent you in all your strangeness. If you're a closeted Liberace fan, it's time to say it loud and proud. Besides, if you're trying to woo a Valentine's sweetheart, there are few better ways than through a great piano solo.

Contact the Diversions Editor at diversions@dailytarheel.com.



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SUNDAY, MARCH 27 SEBADOH