

Afterschool, Triangle Girls Rock NC

BY JOSEPH CHAPMAN
ASSISTANT DIVERSIONS EDITOR

Chances are, if you're a Triangle musician, you've got an abundance of scraggly, untrimmed facial hair.

Just look at the gatefold to Gayngs' *Relayed*, an indie supergroup with a handful of N.C. musicians that recently performed on Late Night with Jimmy Fallon. From Megafaun's Joe Westerlund to Bon Iver's Justin Vernon, what big-name local rocker doesn't have some scruff?

Heather McEntire, vocalist and guitarist for Mount Moriah and Bellafea, holds strong feelings about the Triangle's male-dominated scene.

"There's definitely a feeling of — how do I put this — sort of like it's a boys' club," McEntire said.

"I have noticed in the last couple of years, particularly as I've gotten to be more visible and my personal projects have grown — I have noticed that it's mostly men."

When McEntire played a concert for young women attending Girls Rock NC, a summer camp where girls form their own bands and counselors promote self-image and feminist ideals, McEntire knew the program was part of the solution.

"I got so into it," McEntire said, "And so inspired that I immediately, after I performed, started volunteering — that day — for the

summer camp."

McEntire is part of a growing number of women across the country that are using rock 'n' roll as a means to empower young women.

In 2001, the first Girls Rock summer camp took place in Portland, Ore., and the idea took root in towns across the United States.

"Basically, it's like a secret feminist camp, but not so secret anymore," Abigail Pearce, director of operations for the local branch, said. "We're pretty out and proud about our feminist bent now."

The camp takes place during a week in the summer and girls who attend will form a band, write songs and make zines and fliers, learning everything they need to be self-sufficient musicians.

Pearce and Girls Rock NC started the after-school program as a consistent way to engage girls during the school year.

Organized by three instructors, including McEntire, the current program meets once a week at Infuzion in Durham and features two bands with girls aged 9 to 13.

"Each class, we split it up into two parts," McEntire said. "We'll brainstorm band names or talk about important female musicians in North Carolina. We'll do things like band T-shirts, show them how to screen print, show them how to make fliers."



COURTESY OF GIRLS ROCK NC

Girls Rock NC aims to help young women in the Triangle build their self-images by forming rock 'n' roll bands and writing their own songs.

"But our goal is to write as many songs as we can until the end of our (program)."

The after-school program concludes with a showcase concert March 9 at the Pinhook in downtown Durham.

Pearce says that offering girls a year-round experience is one of the organization's long-term goals, and the after-school program works toward it.

"It's really incredible for them to

form a band and write a song and do all that over a week," Pearce said, "but you lose a little momentum during the school year and it's a shame that we don't have a place right now where girls can continue to play with their friends and continue to practice."

"So this is just a baby step in that direction."

Contact the Diversions Editor at diversions@dailytarheel.com.

DIVERECOMMENDS.....

Album from the Vaults:

Curtis Mayfield, *Curtis*: If the yellow bell-bottoms he's donning on the album cover don't tip you off, you'll find that this 1970 gem is the epitome of groovy. "Move On Up" will get you strutting, while "Don't Worry If There's a Hell Below, We're All Going to Go" spouts a funky, soulful philosophy we can get behind 100 percent.

Movie from the Vaults:

"Run Lola Run": A word of warning — Dive doesn't advocate this film for the cardio-impaired. In Tom Tykwer's 1998 suspense film, a red-haired Franka Potente dashes like an antelope to find 100,000 Deutschmarks so she can prevent her boyfriend from robbing a bank.

Events:

THURSDAY

Air Waves

The Layabout | Austin, Texas, and Brooklyn, N.Y.'s Air Waves falls somewhere between surf pop and the sunny, dreamy lo-fi sound of a 70s FM radio. But there's plenty of substance below the surface, including some brooding-yet-still-catchy choruses. It's a hard balance to strike, but Air Waves makes it look easy. Durham's Luego will also play. 8 p.m., \$6 suggested donation

FRIDAY

Floating Action

Kings Barcade | There are few bands that can make history — Robespierre, for example — sound like a groovy rock ditty from the 70s. Floating Action is one such outfit, and you owe it to yourself to catch the Black Mountain, N.C.-based group along with the rest of the stacked bill. Locals Schooner and The Tomahawks open. 10 p.m., \$6

Spaghetti Western

Nightlight | Aside from having one of the best band names around, Spaghetti Western crafts slack, thrashing tunes that evoke garage jams in the heat of summer. And as the first signs of spring start sneaking into the weather, the band's timing is impeccable. Primal Static and Joe Norkus (of Embarrassing Fruits) open. 10 p.m., \$5

SATURDAY

Felix Obelix

Motorco | Felix Obelix's Wendy Spitzer honed her musical chops at UNC, and in the years since graduation, she's been crafting quirky, cinematic pop songs that fill a craving you didn't even know you had. The show is connected with the Strange Beauty Film Festival. Justin Robinson and Schooner also play. 10 p.m., \$5 with ticket stub/\$7 public admission

Rooney

Cat's Cradle | This pick might not get us much street cred, but sometimes you just want to dance. We're not saying it's brainless — far from it. But Rooney's saccharine hooks are guaranteed to get your head bopping and your arms waving like a teenage girl. Eisleys and Delta Rae open. 8 p.m., \$17

SUNDAY

Spider Bags & Wesley Wolfe

All Day Records | In Wesley Wolfe's "Storage," he sings, "Every day we choose coffee over suicide." It's not so uplifting, but it epitomizes what these two different acts both do well — combining profundity with gritty, well-crafted rock 'n' roll. Expect some boozy, bluesy rock from Spider Bags and singer-songwriter jams with an edge from Wolfe. 6 p.m., Free



February

- 18 Eddie Palmieri Latin Jazz
- 22-24 Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
- 26 Yasmin Levy
- 28 Nicola Benedetti, violin

March

- 1-2 ID - Cirque Éloize
- 3 Leon Fleisher, piano
- 17-18 The Andersen Project - Ex Machina
- 22 Phil Kline's John the Revelator - ETHEL and Lionheart
- 29-30 Nederlands Dans Theater

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FEBRUARY

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- 18 FR DS Presents: EMO PHILLIPS and The Beatbox** (\$14)
- 19 SA ROONEY w/ BBLEY and DELTA RAE** (\$15/\$17)
- 20 SU THE BUDOS BAND w/ D-Town Brass and DJ Ras J** (\$12/\$15)
- 21 MO SHINOBU NINJA, Free Sol, Click Clack, Wax Lips** (\$8/\$12)
- 24 TH THE PIETASTERS w/ Architects Of Sourd Street and Petrovic Blasting Company** (\$12/\$14)
- 25 FR LOS AMIGOS INVISIBLES w/ Rubberbucket** (\$15/\$17)
- 26 SA "IF NOT FOR YOU": A 40th Anniversary Tribute to George Harrison's ALL THINGS MUST PASS** (\$10/\$12)
- 27 SU THE GET UP KIDS w/ Miniature Tigers and Brian Bone* (\$18/\$22)

MARCH

- 4 FR SUPERCHUNK w/ Veeva** (\$14)
- 5 SA GREG BROWN w/ Bo Ramsey** (\$28/\$30)
- 6 SU YELLOWF w/ C/Hi Do Prince and King Met** (\$13/\$15)
- 11 FR JOHN MARK MCMILLAN** (\$10)
- 12 SA ROCKY VOTOLATOY/ MATT POND PA** (\$10/\$12)
- 15 TU Cole Park and Katherine Whalen and her Fascinators (7:30pm show)
- 18 FR CARBON LEAF w/ Kennebec** (\$15/\$17)
- 19 SA HOLY GHOST TENT REVIVAL** (\$8/\$10)
- 25 FR ABBEY ROAD LIVE!

MARCH (cont)

- 27 SU SEBADOH w/ Richard Buciner** (\$15)

APRIL

- 2 SA THE FRINGS OF BEING PURE AT HEART w/ Twin Shadow**
- 3 SU EASY STAR ALL-STAR w/ The Green and Cat Haley** (\$15/\$17)
- 6 WE BLACK LIPS w/ Vivian Girls and Gringo Star** (\$12/\$14)
- 7 TH DESTROYER w/ The War On Drugs** (\$13/\$15)
- 8 FR THE MOUNTAIN GOATS w/ Megalou** (\$18/\$20)
- 10 SU J MASCIS w/ Kut Vile And The Violators** (\$15/\$18)
- 13 WE THE OLD 97s w/ Teddy Thompson** (\$18/\$20)
- 14 TH An Intimate Solo/Acoustic Performance by CITIZEN COPE** (\$25/\$28)
- 15 FR MOUNT MORIAH Album Release Party w/ guests The Moonies and Filthybird. A Free Show!
- 16 SA RAVENNETTES w/ Tamara** (\$15/\$17)
- 18 MO BRITISH SEA POWER w/ A Classic Education** (\$12/\$14)
- 23 SA YACHT** (\$12/\$15)
- 26 TU YELLE w/ French Horn Rebellion** (\$18/\$20)
- 29 FR PETER, BJORN & JOHN w/ Bachelorette** (\$15/\$18; on sale 2/4)

MAY

- 2 MO PRINCE** (\$14/\$16)
- 7 SA THE TWILIGHT SINGERS** (\$15/\$18; on sale 2/18)

JUNE

- 4 SA PAUL THORNY** (\$15)
- 12 SU JOE PURDY** (\$15/\$17 on sale Feb. 12; seated show)

WE ARE ALSO PRESENTING...

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- March 7: TENNIS w/ La Seta and Holiday Shows** (\$10)
- March 18: The Mt. Funny Parls Tour with MICHAEL SHONALTER** (\$12/\$15)
- March 25: TIM BARRY w/ JENNY OWEN YOUNGSS** (\$10)
- April 5: CIVIL, TWILIGHT w/ Atomic Tom and Mother / Father (\$12)

SHOWS @ Lincoln Theatre (Raleigh)

- SHARON JONES & THE DAP-KINGS** (\$25/\$28)

SHOW @ Disco Bredos (Raleigh)

- May 4: INERPOL** (\$25/\$28)

SHOWS @ The ArtsCenter (Carrboro)

- March 17: TODD SNIDER, THE STORYTELLER** (\$20)
- April 22: KIVA GRANNIE** (\$13/\$15)

SHOWS @ Kings (Raleigh)

- March 9: ASTOR WALKER w/ Sims and Mt. Invisible (\$10)
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