

96 Hours

Bay Weekend Entertainment Guide :: 11.23.06-11.26.06

Nightlife



Kthail Robinson

The Whoreshoes have taken their act on the road, performing as far away as Belgium and Holland on a recent tour and playing a show with country star Wanda Jackson.

:: The Whoreshoes :: This fun-loving country bluegrass band traces its roots to a North Beach strip bar — and they're anything but contemporary

There's only one place in San Francisco where a band called the Whoreshoes could meet: a North Beach strip joint.

The scene was straight out of a Quentin Tarantino movie, with the five female band members randomly showing up in the same sexy place, all carrying various musical instruments.

"We were all so drunk, we don't remember exactly how we started talking," explains Lala Hulse, who thinks she was carrying a banjo at the time. "I had just broke up with my girlfriend; I don't know what those other girls were doing there. We all needed a drink and crowded around the bar."

That's pretty close to what you can expect when the Whoreshoes play their country bluegrass tunes at Cafe Du Nord on Friday night: five musicians crowded around the stage in need of a drink.

The country and bluegrass quintet will be among five groups playing Turkey Trot 2006 on the day after Thanksgiving. The meat and potatoes of the Whoreshoes' musical mission is first and foremost to have a good time. Second, it's to deal sternly with anyone who dares call them contemporary country.

"It sucks. It has no connection to what we love," pianist, washboard, spoons and ukulele player Camilla Lincoln says about the cursed tag. "What we do comes out of the folk tradition. Contemporary comes out of pop tradition and has no soul."

Since that fateful day in the North Beach strip bar, the ladies of the Whoreshoes have shared their musical soul with audiences as far off as Belgium and Holland where they recently toured, and played a show with country star Wanda Jackson.

"She gave us her blessing," remembers Diana Greenberg, who plays fiddle and bass. "She said, 'Good luck, girls, but I'm not so sure about the band name.'"

According to the band, there is no juicy gossip or promiscuous story behind the band's name.

"We just thought it was stupid and funny, and it was the first silly thing to come out our mouth," says Hulse, who is "a hardcore punner ... among other things."

Next year, the group plans to record a follow-up album to its debut. "Get Lucky." Their songs are a combination of originals and a few covers, and they're proud of both. They believe the secret to their success is "not being a precious band," because they say they're too busy fighting for a place at the bar to be prima donnas.

"For a bunch of girls who like to party and play music, we do have some ambition," Lincoln says. "Total world domination is not far from our minds. But, ultimately, we are a band for the people. We help people have a good time."

* — Delfin Vigil, dvigil@sfnchronicle.com

ESSEN

:: Christión ::

Today @ Kimball's Carnival: Once you get out with these cool hip-hop cats. Party with Chris Rachal, St. Louis Rappers, all-black-attire event. 8 p.m., \$15 Oakland. (510) 444-6979. www.kimballscarnival.com

:: The Whoreshoes ::

Friday @ Cafe Du Nord: Classic count drinking chicks. Part of "Turkey Trot Music Fest," with the Pine Box Boys, and the F— Buckaroos. 8 p.m., \$10 S.F. (415) 861-5016. www.cafedunord.com

:: Antioquia ::

Friday @ Hotel Utah: Indie Latin, Afro With the Flip Squad, Mike Saliani. 8: Fourth St., S.F. (415) 546-6300

:: The Prodigy ::

Friday @ the Fillmore: Smack yourselves silly with the big-beat industrial brothers from Britain. 9 p.m., \$40, all ages. 1805 Geary Blvd., S.F. (415) 346-6000. www.thefillmore.com

:: The Coma Lilies ::

Saturday @ the Phoenix Theater: Psychedelic and experimental rockers from Santa Rosa. With the Advantag Mute Vernacular, Master/Slave. 8 p. Washington St., Petaluma. (707) 762-7627. phoenixtheater.com

:: Les Georges Leningra

Saturday @ Bottom of the Hill: Cool! With Lemonade, Duchess Says. 10 p. 17th St., S.F. (415) 621-4455.

:: Daly City Records Pr

Sunday @ the Space Gallery: An ever-trophagus, the Bad Hand, Roman Ru 1141 Polk St., S.F. (415) 377-3777. sf.com



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