

YOUR WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Friday, February 15, 2008
courier-journal.com

extra

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**THE SISTERS
ARE BRINGING BAWDY
BURLESQUE BACK**

MUSIC:


Hey now! Hey now!
Tim Finn is at
St. Francis of Assisi

MOVIES: A world
of goblins, ogres
and trolls awaits
in 'Spiderwick'

ENGINEERING DAY



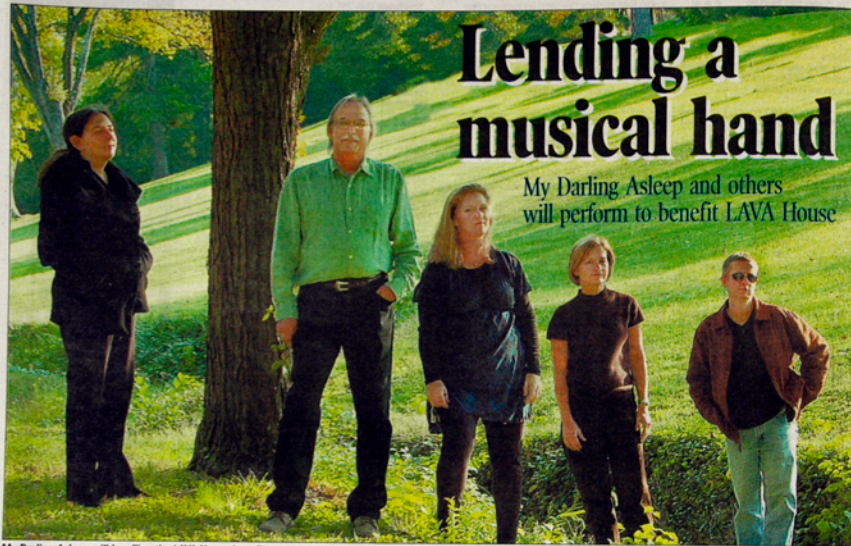
science
saturday

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Lending a musical hand

My Darling Asleep and others
will perform to benefit LAVA House



My Darling Asleep will headline the LAVA House benefit concert at 6 p.m. Thursday at Flanagan's Ale House.

Louisville's unflinching generous music and art community continues to rally around those devastated by the Jan. 26 fire that destroyed the Louisville Assembly of Vanguard Art building, better known as the LAVA House.

SOUND EFFECTS
Jeffrey Lee Puckett



Lives, homes and art were wiped out by the blaze, but founding artists such as Aron Conway and Hallie Jones have pledged to move forward. It'll take a lot of help.

Friends of those affected are doing their part with a series of benefits, one of which is Thursday at Flanagan's Ale House,

1934 Baxter Ave. (6 p.m., \$5). Henry Austin, a longtime friend of the Conway family, planned the benefit as an evening of Celtic music. Austin's band, My Darling Asleep, will headline with Guideroy-Byrne and special guests. All proceeds from the cover, food and drink sales and even band fees will go to LAVA House.

"The money raised will be for where the most need is at present," Austin said. "I think we would all like to see it used to re-equip the artists so that they can resume their work and living."

Austin called on his friendship with Flanagan's owner Tom O'Shea, who donated the use of his Mahogany Room along with food and drink proceeds.

"Aron's mother and I worked together as therapists for many years, so I have known him a

long while and seen him put so much energy into this collective," Austin said. "When we heard of the fire and the losses, we wanted to do something to support this group and aid them in resuming their ability to create. An artist typically lives and breathes what they do, and gain far more than monetarily from their work."

Church music

Tim Finn was a force in pop music throughout the 1980s and early '90s, leading Crowded House to major international success with songs such as "Don't Dream It's Over."

Even though the band's initial American buzz faded, Finn has maintained a loyal cult following with a series of solo albums and collaborations. A good hook and literate lyrics will still draw a crowd given half a chance.

He performs tomorrow at an unusual venue: the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in the Highlands, 1938 Al Fresco Place, as part of the church's expansive entertainment program (8 p.m., \$20).

JB's headown throwdown

Johnny Berry and The Outliers have put together another program for their annual head-down throwdown tomorrow at Headliners Music Hall, 1386 Lexington Road (10 p.m., \$8).

Berry will headline, of course, with authentic country music designed to get you drunk and stupid. The Outliers will do their part to charm the pants off of you, and DJ Woodrow on the Radio will open.

Friends in need

Kessler's Friends started 33 years ago in Louisville's South

End and still has roots there. The band honors those mortuary with a benefit show tomorrow at American Legion of Kentucky Post No. 229, 800 W. Woodlawn Ave. (8 p.m., \$5).

Part of the proceeds will help the post stay open. There's a cash bar and plenty of burgers, fries and rings.

Short takes

Slackshop performs songs from its upcoming album, "Folding Nothing Into Everything," tomorrow at ZaZoo's, 102 Bauer Ave. (10 p.m., \$5). Dying Indiana will open.

Jeffrey Lee Puckett's "Sound Effects" column runs Fridays in Extra. You can call him at (502) 582-4660, fax him at (502) 582-4665 or e-mail him at jpuckett@courier-journal.com. Online: Ask Jeffrey Lee a question at courier-journal.com/puckett

Oldham's 'Dirty' drives 'Louisville Is for Lovers'

By Jeffrey Lee Puckett
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The Courier-Journal

For eight years, the "Louisville Is for Lovers" compilation has documented the potentially devastating emotions that swirl around Valentine's Day, a day that has brought strong men to their knees and reduced fine ladies to hot, bitter tears.

Producer John King has usually steered the collection of songs in the direction of darkness, and the light in his life that is sweet Cora Lou hasn't changed that. "Louisville Is for Lovers Vol. 8" veers toward the ditch more often than not, but there's a sweetness here, too, if one that's tinged with reluctance and fragility.

King has persuaded many of Louisville's most famous musicians to contribute original, exclusive songs to the series, but some of the nicest surprises often come from new or unknown artists. For "Vol. 8," King has dug deeper than ever before and found some gems.

The album's most moving song, however, comes from its biggest name. Will Oldham, recording under his Bonnie "Prince" Billy guise, offers "Get Your Hands Dirty," which uses a simple metaphor to make a complicated request.

"Get your hands dirty for me and you will never see me turn away from what makes you unhappy! Get your hands dirty and you will never see me call you a coward," he sings to open the song, an offer only the most clueless could resist. He then follows with his demands: "I want someone who'll clear trees for me! I want someone who'll plant peas for me! I want that sily, I don't care! I don't like my shame in there."

It's powerful, realistic and a little strange. Kind of like love.



For a more playfully realistic spin, Joe Manning and Suki Anderson get together as Love Cartel for the charming "You Belong to Me," in which former lovers share a night with the knowledge that it won't go anywhere or mean anything (except maybe to the people they're cheating on).

Other highlights include the chilling "Here's to Young Lovers and Good People Who Die," which sounds like a Dominic Cipolla solo track under the Phantom Family Halo umbrella; The Mack, with Tencia Sanders, merging surf and garage rock on "A Lover for the Night"; Saredren Wells' desolate "Why Didn't Someone Tell Me?"; Axel's moody "Bulldozer"; One Small Step's mildly dark "Thanksgiving (No Ware)"; and Tamara Dearing's perky kiss-off, "Give It Away."

There really aren't any truly weak tracks, making this one of King's more consistent vol-

★★★
Louisville is for Lovers Vol. 8
Various (dbm)

umes. Then again, inspiration comes easy in Louisville, where your next ex-lover is probably e-mailing your last one about how badly you screwed up Valentine's Day.

A "Louisville Is for Lovers" showcase is tonight at The Pour Haus, 1481 S. Shelby St., with Phantom Family Halo, One Small Step, Chemic, The Mack, Axel, Big Time Band and Wells (9 p.m., \$5).

—Jeffrey Lee Puckett, Courier-Journal.Critic

Jeffrey Lee Puckett is The Courier-Journal pop music critic. Online: Find past album and concert reviews, or ask Jeffrey Lee a question, at courier-journal.com/music

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