



An **Original**
Music preview/ review section of
Wilmington



CD Pick of the Week

TODD THOMAS

STAFF WRITER

The Sea and Cake: *Oui*

Sometimes it pays to know what you are good at and stick to that. The Sea and Cake follow tradition with another set of light jazzy tunes that float along like wind-driven whispers in their new CD, *Oui*.

Formed in the independent music scene of Chicago, The Sea and Cake began as a 'project' and never expected to record more than one album. As part of the heralded indie/artsy Thrill Jockey records family, which is home to Tortoise, Isotope 217 and Oval, The Sea and Cake found themselves in perfect company for their brand of angular soft rock. After finding a delicate balance with their mix of post-rock fusion, they decided to continue recording. *Oui* marks the band's fifth full-length album and their first album since 1997's *The Fawn*.

A short and simple ten-track outing, *Oui* differs from the last record in that the electronic elements are much more subtle than those in *The Fawn*. The lead vocals of Sam Prekop are also higher in the mix, adding a wistful soundtrack of carefree rambling to the already silky smooth grooves of *Oui*. Best of all, like most records The Sea and Cake have put out, *Oui* is not in too much of a hurry to get anywhere, but is instead enjoying the ride.

The album's opener, "Afternoon Speaker", is *Oui*'s most upbeat and bouncy track, while re-

maining unconcerned about too much tempo or seriousness. "All the Photos" is an instrumental that is satisfied to slink along with the nonchalance of a lazy bass line and a few unhurried guitar riffs. The comforting Afro-Cuban rhythms and honey-like vocals of "The Colony Room" are enough to make most anyone stay in bed a little longer, making everyday seem like a weekend.

If you think The Sea and Cake sound eerily like Tortoise, there is good reason. Drummer John McEntire moonlights indie-style, playing for the brilliant ambient pioneers Tortoise and as well as The Sea and Cake. What McEntire brings from Tortoise is an organic element in the percussion, something that grounds the abstract arpeggios of guitarists Archer Prewitt and Sam Prekop. The slow and simple drums and pleasant bubbling of sounds on "The Leaf" are like an underwater paradise, making us glad that Sam Prekop recruited someone from such a talented group like Tortoise.

If songs like the buoyant charmer "Everyday" aren't enough to float your boat then you must be going too fast for this little ship. For everyone else, relax and enjoy your drinks, The Sea and Cake's *Oui* will do the rest.

The Sea and Cake will be performing at the Cat's Cradle in Chapel Hill Nov. 18.

THE NIGHT SCENE

All covers and starting times are subject to change at the door.
NOVEMBER 2-NOVEMBER 8

WHERE	WHO	TIME	COVER	
TH	Alleigh's	Roger Davis	6:30 p.m.	No cover
	Charley Brownz	Jet 22	10:30 p.m.	\$3
	Diamond's Grille	Stretch	9 p.m.	No cover
	Firebelly Lounge	TBA	10:30 p.m.	\$3-\$5
	The Raw Bar	Apartment 3	10:30 p.m.	\$3
F	Alleigh's	Grenaldo Frazier	7 p.m.	No cover
		Surreal McCoys	8 p.m.	No cover
	Captain Bill's	Kelly & Woody	7:30 p.m.	No cover
	Circa 1922	Andy Whittington	8 p.m.	No cover
	Firebelly Lounge	Feel Love Fury	10:30 p.m.	\$3-\$5
S	Kefi	Chris Bellamy & Bobby Russell	9 p.m.	varies
	The Raw Bar	Mountain Mama	10:30 p.m.	\$3
	Alleigh's	Grenaldo Frazier	7 p.m.	No cover
		It Doesn't Matter	8 p.m.	No cover
	Captain Bill's	Gary Allen	7:30 p.m.	No cover
SUN	Charley Brownz	Blue Shine	10:30 p.m.	\$5
	Circa 1922	Kevin Kolb Band	8 p.m.	No cover
	Diamond's Grille	3 Go T	9 p.m.	No cover
	Firebelly Lounge	Jumpstarts	10:30 p.m.	\$3-\$5
	Kefi	Sonja's Kitchen	9 p.m.	\$5
	The Raw Bar	Taller than You	10:30 p.m.	\$3
	Reggie's	Wooden Nickel	10 p.m.	No cover
	Alleigh's	Port City Trio	7 p.m.	No cover
M	Charley Brownz	Unchained Reggae	10:30 p.m.	\$5
	Alleigh's	Travis Dent	6 p.m.	No cover
T	Alleigh's	Bill Strickland	5:30 p.m.	No cover
	Diamond's Grille	Open Mic	9 p.m.	No cover
	Katy's Great Eats	Roadhouse Blues	9 p.m.	\$2-\$5
W	Alleigh's	Sean Higgins	6:30 p.m.	No cover
	Charley Brownz	Brenda Norris	10:30 p.m.	\$1
	Firebelly Lounge	Acoustic Syndicate	10:30 p.m.	\$3-\$5

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