

THE CURTAINS OF NIGHT: IT DRAWS YOU IN

For anyone familiar with *The Curtains of Night*, it might seem odd that the band got its name from a song performed by The Carter Family.

The duo of Lauren Fitzpatrick and Nora Rogers is easily the heaviest two-piece in Chapel Hill.

And Saturday, *The Curtains* will bring that heaviness to Local 506, opening for their '60s pop-oriented *Holidays for Quince Records* label-mates *Violet Vector* and the *Lovely Lovelies*.

Staff Writer Jordan Lawrence caught up with Rogers to discuss the attraction of loud music, staying up late and the loss of a Chapel Hill landmark.

Diversions: It seems like a pretty disparate lineup for Saturday night with you doing your heavier thing, Un Deux Trois doing its poppier thing, and Violet Vector playing their '60s acid pop.

How do you think it's going to work?

Nora Rogers: I'm looking forward to it. We've played with all kinds of different people.

And all the bands are with *Holidays for Quince* (Records).

They can see the commonalities between all different kinds of music.

There's something to all these bands. They all have that.

Dive: *Holidays for Quince* seems to be preparing for a lot of activity this year with *Violet Vector* releasing their EP and your record coming out later this year.

What's it like to be part of a label with such a lineup?

NR: I'm excited. I feel like there's kind of a new excitement in bands in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

I feel like *Holidays for Quince* is just picking up on that excitement and taking bands that they like.

I definitely feel like a lot of energy is emanating from the music of Chapel Hill. There's a

lot of bands that are planning on working with them.

The energy is kind of infectious.

Dive: The name *Curtains of Night* — where did that come from?

NR: It's actually a song that my mom sings. It's a traditional ballad.

The Carter Family used to sing it. I thought it'd be a great name for a metal band.

Dive: So, are you a fan of night over day, then?

NR: Yeah, I guess I'm a night owl.

Dive: Is it a "you prefer night over day" thing?

NR: No, I think it's more an "I can't get up" thing.

Dive: There's not a lot of info out there about *Curtains*.

How did you get together?

NR: We met through mutual friends.

We worked together at the N.C. Rock and Roll Camp for Girls. We started playing music after

that. We both were kind of set on doing the idea of doing a two-piece.

Dive: Did you guys hit it off from the start?

NR: Yeah, definitely.

It was really easy to play together. It came really naturally.

We didn't have to communicate very much. It just kind of came.

Dive: What attracts you to loud music?

NR: When you hear the amp, you see this big blank page that sounds intimidating.

I hear the hum and the drone of the amps, and it kind of makes everything level out, and it's a good starting point. (Laughs) I'm starting to sound like a hippie.

But I think it just resonates in your body and it draws you in, the drone and the bass.

Dive: The new album — when's it going to come out?

NR: It's going really well. We have recorded all the music tracks. We just have to go back and do all the vocal tracks.

It should be out definitely by the fall.

We actually got my parents to play. My dad's playing stand-up bass, and my mom's playing dulcimer.

Dive: Are you fleshing out your sound any, compared to your live set, or keeping it the same?

NR: I didn't want to fill it out too much and have people wonder what happened when they see us live. We're going for our live sound.

We're not adding too much.

Dive: What does being just a two-piece bring to a heavy band



COURTESY OF THE CURTAINS OF NIGHT

The Curtains of Night will neutralize the poppy sweetness of Un Deux Trois and Violet Vector and the Lovely Lovelies on Saturday at Local 506.

like you?

NR: It brings challenges that are to be overcome.

Lauren's a really loud drummer. I had to add a bunch of amps to be on par with her.

It's a good opportunity to explore the other ways of beefing up the sound besides other people.

I think because there's just two of us, there's more communication and less space for error.

Dive: I know I'm personally still mourning the loss, but as a member of the Chapel Hill music community, what did you think of Schoolkids closing?

NR: I grew up in Chapel Hill. That's where I used to get my records.

I kind of switched teams and started going to buy CDs at CD Alley more.

But it's definitely a loss for people with knowledge.

It kind of beefed out the WXYC exposure to different kinds of music, for kids on campus to listen to WXYC and have a place to go.

For Franklin Street, the loss of local businesses is kind of a bummer.

Contact the Diversions Editor at dive@unc.edu.

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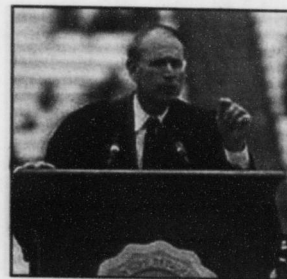
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