

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

**THE HEARTLESS BASTARDS,
CATFISH HAVEN, TIM FITE,
THE REAL ONES**

The Heartless Bastards bring its unique brand of blues-infused indie rock to the big city—that is, if the band isn't too busy kicking puppies and not helping old ladies cross the street.

Mercury Lounge, 217 E. Houston St. (at Ave. A), 212-260-4700; 7:30, \$12.

**BLING KONG, MITTENS,
I AM THE AVALANCHE,
LUNGS OF A GIANT**

Yeah, Bling Kong is all right, but come on, only three cheerleaders? Give me a call when you guys can make a real pyramid.

Northsix, 66 N. 6th St. (betw. Kent & Wythe Aves.), B'klyn, 718-599-5103; 8, \$10.

ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS

The group's hot-jazz/blues is fairly straightforward, at best for a bands with the word "Spankers" in its name.

Joe's Pub, 425 Lafayette St. (betw. Astor Pl. & E. 4th St.), 212-967-7555; 7, \$20.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**THE TWILIGHT SINGERS,
STARS OF TRACK & FIELD,
MIGHTY FINE**

Former Afghan Whigs' frontman, Greg Dulli's Twilight Singers put out a record in 2004 that featured covers of John Coltrane, Billie Holiday, Björk, Gershwin and Mary J. Blige songs.

Warsaw, 261 Driggs Ave. (at Eckford St.), B'klyn, 718-387-0505; 7:30, \$21.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

**ROBYN HITCHCOCK &
THE VENUS 3**

Former Soft Boys frontman, Robyn Hitchcock, played a double agent in Jonathan Demme's 2004 remake of *The Manchurian Candidate*. All I'm saying is watch your back.

Hiro Ballroom at the Maritime Hotel, 363 W. 16th St. (at 9th Ave.), 212-242-4300; 7, \$22.

**MUDHONEY, BIRDS OF
AVALON, HANK IV**

Mudhoney helped define the grunge path that Nirvana, Pearl Jam and a handful of others took to superstardom. The group was also featured in the 1996 *Tommy Boy* remake, *Black Sheep*. Which one is the bigger feat? You tell us.

Knitting Factory, 74 Leonard St. (betw. B'way & Church Sts.), 212-219-3132; 8, \$18/\$22.

**CENTRO-MATIC, BOBBY BARE
JR., CHARLES BISSELL
(OF THE WRENS),
DAVID VANDERVELDE**

We caught Bobby Bare Jr. last week at CMJ, albeit only about two songs, before the Tyde came on, but hell, he rocked our socks enough to score himself a few copies of the paper. Congrats, Bobby: You win five free copies of the *New York Press*, to be picked up at a green box on a NYC street corner near you.

Mercury Lounge, 217 E. Houston St. (at Ave. A), 212-260-4700; 8:30, \$12/\$14.

MIA RIDDLE

We couldn't have come up with a better preview than the one Ms. Riddle wrote us, so here goes: "5 girl-fronted bands. Free vodka from 8-9 p.m. Catfight? Guaranteed."

The Delancey, 168 Delancey St. (betw. Clinton & Attorney Sts.), 212-254-9920; 8, \$8.



Multitalented turntablist Kid Koala (aka Eric San) looks to his roots for *Your Mom's Favorite DJ*.

**NOT YOUR MOM'S
TURNTABLIST**

Kid Koala looks back to his *Scratchcratchratchatch* demo

by Dominic Umile

A PLENTITUDE OF stickers and curious notations mar the walls of the upstairs restrooms at Brooklyn's Northsix. One disaffected youth has even gone so far as to scribble, "I'd rather be home, reading" above a commode that was incidentally seatless as of a couple Saturdays ago. In regard to Kid Koala's forthcoming visit to Northsix, the sad (presumably bearded) soul who stays home and reads instead of coming out to the club will miss the opportunity to witness an exemplary musician who keeps company with those at the apex of the genre.

Canadian multimedia artist Eric San, who calls himself Kid Koala, has made his mark in turntablism; that is, by carefully bending and manipulating existing media via at least two turntables to suit his needs, so that he might make new, provocative works of art.

Kid Koala's "Basin Street Blues" is a magnificent interpretation of a cherished standard,

crowned by the DJ's manual slowing and lengthening of originally recorded brass parts into stoned, whining fog horns. By the time it landed on 2003's *Some of My Best Friends Are DJs*, Kid Koala had emerged as a marvel behind the decks. On his Ninja Tune full-length debut *Carpal Tunnel Syndrome*, his fusion of silly samples, choppy breaks and distinctive use of the turntable's stylus (dropping into varying grooves, finding new melodies) earned him a shimmering reputation, and a lot of people hadn't even heard his *Scratchcratchratchatch* demo. This year's *Your Mom's Favorite DJ* is an oddity in that it looks back to his pre-*Carpal* demo but does so in a fashion that's anything but casual or lazy.

Your Mom's Favorite DJ is another showcase of Kid Koala's mastery; a brief but generously high-fidelity array of cuts, sound reorganization and wacky samples. It seldom sounds like what he used to do to "Moon River" though—by meticulously emphasizing the piece's most subtle and gorgeous dips with gentle scratch work and redirection of the needle for a crisp, new bridge. And while your friends go to Northsix for this, you want to stay home and read? What a disappointment you turned out to be, man.

Nov. 17. Northsix, 66 N. 6th St. (betw. Kent & Wythe Aves.), B'klyn, 718-599-5103; 8, \$15.