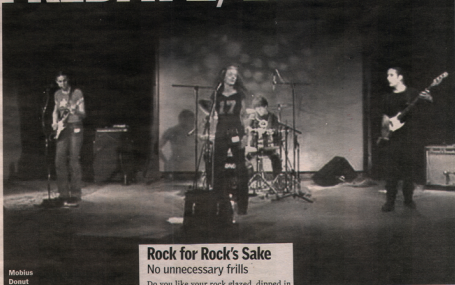


FRIDAY 2/17



Mobius
Donut

Rock for Rock's Sake No unnecessary frills

Do you like your rock glazed, dipped in maple syrup, with jelly, or plain? **Mobius Donut** plays "rock-oriented rock," a concept so simple it's brilliant. No artsy-fartsy pretentiousness, let's just get straight to the point, eh? Works for us. The Oakland-based outfit loves pimp-slap-funky basslines, melodic grooves, and tasteful solos — you won't find overblown odes to arpeggiation or criminal overuses of the distortion and phaser pedals in their music — just a direct approach that hangs its hat on Cindy Lou Manteufel's evocative, sometimes haunting vocals. Manteufel has an articulate, conversational style, which means that you can actually make out most

of what she's saying, a definite plus. Topping her off like chocolate sprinkles are the other Donuts: lead guitarist and backing vocalist Andrea Gonzalez (who counts "every song she's ever heard" among her influences), drummer Kerry Stamps (who admits to liking progressive rock), and bassist Kevin Stamps (who, along with his bro, used to

be in a prog-rock band called the Particles). Their new sound is less ponderous and Rushlike, and more Pearl Harbor meets Blondie meets the Cars. To sum it up: One female lead vocalist, one female lead guitarist, a rhythm section consisting of two male siblings, and a classic yet contemporary sound (listen to sound clips at MobiusDonut.com). Mobius Donut hosts a CD release party tonight at Blake's, along with the Hills, Groovy Judy, Two Sticks, and Delux. 9:30 p.m. \$10. Info: Blakeson@Telegraph.com

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