

## Sled's Slate

### A look at who's rockin' where at the Sled Island Music and Arts Festival

CALGARY HERALD JUNE 24, 2009

ANDREW W. K. - From: Michigan - Description: Party rocker with heavy metal overtones and a bloody nose; occasional motivational speaker. - Sounds like: Kid Rock, Tony Robbins - Where: Wednesday at the Marquee Room

HOLY F--- - From: Toronto - Description: An electronic rock act that improvises live, creating soundscapes of blips, bleeps and beats with an odd assortment of instruments, the act is considered one of the best live bands around. - Sounds like: Miles Davis with a Casio and a drum machine - Where: Friday at Olympic Plaza; Saturday at The Warehouse

GIFT OF GAB - From: Davis, Calif. - Description: One of the two founding members of trail-blazing hip-hop act Blackalicious, Gab is considered one of the finest, smoothest MCs dropping rhymes today. - Sounds like: The Roots - Where: Friday at The HiFi Club

BIZ MARKIE - From: New York - Description: The Clown Prince of Hip-hop is known for his fun and goofy rhymes as well as his collaborations with the Beastie Boys, most notably his cover of Elton John's Benny and the Jets. - Sounds like: If Grimace was a beat box - Where: Friday at Olympic Plaza

LIARS - From: New York - Description: Arty, post-punk with dance influences, the band follows in the footsteps of early like-minded acts such as Gang of Four and is part of the same scene that produced the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. - Sounds like: Radiohead, Interpol - Where: Friday at Olympic Plaza; Saturday at Dicken's Pub

JAPANTHER - From: New York - Description: Fuzzedout, feedback-drenched but utterly melodic, this duo was born in an art school and turned loose on the dirty, gritty streets of NYC. - Sounds like: Pre-Goo Sonic Youth, an AM radio dropped in a bathtub - Where: Wednesday at the Marquee Room; Thursday at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 1

THE BREEDERS - From: Boston, L. A. - Description: Fun, energetic indie rockers featuring the Deal sisters, Kelly and Kim, the latter of whom is a member of The Pixies. Had a minor hit with the song Cannonball back in the '90s. - Sounds like: Weezer - Where: Friday at Olympic Plaza

SNFU - From: Edmonton - Description: Influential indie-punk band from the '80s that mixes skate punk, hardcore, twisted lyrics and razor-sharp guitar. - Sounds like: Anti-Flag, Bad Religion - Where: Wednesday at the Ship & Anchor Pub

WOMEN - From: Calgary - Description: The quartet, which has spent the past year touring the world and spreading its local love, have a noisy, retro sounding pop rock sound, captured in all its lo-fi glory by friend and labelmate Chad Van Gaalen on their 2008 self-titled debut. - Sounds like: '60s era Guess Who - Where: Friday at Royal Canadian Legion No. 1; Saturday at The Warehouse

HEALTH - From: Los Angeles - Description: Loud, DIY noise rock from a hard, heavy four-piece. - Sounds like: Crystal Castles - Where: Friday at Broken City; Friday at the Marquee Room; and Saturday at The Warehouse

JON-RAE FLETCHER - From: Toronto - Description: Whether he's performing solo or with his rousing backup band The River, Jon-Rae Fletcher's folk-rooted songwriting, which frequently delves into rock, gospel and soul, is both rich and rewarding. - Sounds like: Ryan Adams, Lyle Lovett, Guy Clark, the rootsier side of Bruce Springsteen - Where: Friday at Verns

KING KHAN & BBQ SHOW - From: Germany by way of Montreal - Sounds like: Nuggets-era garage rock or some bizarre hybrid of The Stooges and Dion and the Belmonts - Description: King Khan is the acclaimed psychedelic soulman who fronts King Khan & The Shrines, and BBQ is the alias of Mark Sultan, Khan's former bandmate in Montreal garage rock group The Spacesh---. They describe their duo as doo-wop punk. - Where: Thursday at Royal Canadian Legion No. 1; Saturday at Dicken's Pub

MEATDRAW - From: Victoria - Description: This Victoria group is getting a lot of buzz with their second disc, Fin Du Monophone. They're named after raffles for huge quantities of meat, which apparently take place regularly at legion halls around the country. - Sounds like: An unplugged version of The Flaming Lips, The Violet Femmes as a gothic jug band, Tom Waits - Where: Thursday at the Marquee Room

THE PACK A. D. - From: Vancouver - Description: Imagine The Black Keys, but female, vocalist

Becky Black bringing to mind Alison Mosshart from The Kills with her back alley bohemian approach. A fine slice of garage blues. - Sounds like: The White Stripes, The Black Keys, The Kills - Where: Thursday at the Palomino Smokehouse

ANVIL - From: Toronto - Description: Formed in 1978, Anvil was an influential band on the burgeoning speed and thrash metal scenes of the early '80s before fading into obscurity --until the hit documentary Anvil! The Story of Anvil came out this year. - Sounds like: Kill 'Em Allera Metallica, Motorhead, Anthrax - Where: Friday at Olympic Plaza

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