

MUSIC PICKS

On Tap takes a look at some of the shows you should be attending this month in and around DC.

MARCH 2

The Coast at The Red & the Black

If there's such a thing as cheerful shoe gazing, this Canadian indie band plays it well. Catch them here before they head out to Austin's South by Southwest fest a week later. Their track "Take a Walk Outside" will get you instantly hooked. \$8. — Dana Steinberg

The Red & the Black: 1212 H Street, NE, Washington, DC 202-399-3201; www.redandblackbar.com

MARCH 3

Blind Melon at 9:30 Club.

Remember Blind Melon? Bee girl, "Rain" great first album. Then their lead singer and inspiration Shannon Swoon passed away. Now they're back with a new singer and a new album. Relive high school. \$15. — Robert Fulton

Nightclub 9:30: 815 V St. N.W. (intersection of 9th, V and Vermont streets.); www.930.com

MARCH 6

Steve Poltz at IOTA

Don't miss this talented singer/songwriter. One minute emotionally deep, the second hilarious. Formerly of the Rugburns, and co-wrote Jewel's "Your Were Meant For Me." Out of San Diego. 9p.m. \$12. — Robert Fulton

IOTA Club&Café: 2832 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA; 703-522-8340; www.iotaclubandcafe.com

Born Ruffians, Cadence Weapon and US Royalty at DC9

In the same glorious golden indie vein as Clap your Hands Say Yeah, Toronto's Born Ruffians are quite simply the bomb. This three-piece's set list comes complete with merry harmonious sing-alongs, plenty of hooting and hollering, and a good dose of fun. Crack open a cold Pabst at DC9 and also check out the openers--fellow Canadian indie hip hopster Cadence Weapon and DC local act US Royalty. Doors at 8:30 p.m. \$10 — Nick Hardt

DC9: 1940 9th St., NW, Washington; 202-483-5000; www.dcnine.com

MARCH 7

Longwave at the Rock and Roll Hotel

As anthemic as they are moving, indie-rockers Longwave have a damn solid track record with their albums and a deserved reputation for their live act. With The Modern Society, Cobra Collective and John Wayne Hero. Doors at 8.30 p.m. \$1.0 — Lars Garvey Laing-Peterson

The Rock And Roll Hotel: 1353 H Street, NE, DC; www.rockandrollhoteldc.com

MARCH 8

Jukebox the Ghost at the Rock and Roll Hotel

Gotta check out these up-and-coming locals. New disc out. Sounds a little like Ben Folds. See review in this issue. Doors at 8 p.m. \$10. — Robert Fulton

Rock And Roll Hotel: 1353 H Street, NE, Washington, DC; www.rockandrollhoteldc.com

MARCH 9

Working for a Nuclear Free City at DC9

Effortlessly fusing the techniques employed by the Stone Roses, the Happy Mondays, and Mogwai, WfaNFC are a multifaceted, eccentric, yet entirely cohesive and unique group stemming from the ever influential British city of Manchester. Doors at 8.30pm. \$10. — Lars Garvey Laing-Peterson

DC9: 1940 9th St., NW, Washington; 202-483-5000; www.dcnine.com

Akron/Family at Jammin' Java

Akron/Family is an experience in of itself. Eclectic, experimental, psychedelic. Different. Doors at 8p.m. \$12 — Robert Fulton

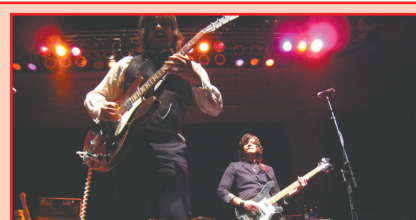
Jammin' Java: 227 Maple Ave E Vienna, VA; 703-255-1566; www.jamminjava.com

MARCH 10

School of Language at DC9

Featuring members of Field Music, Euphone and Tortoise, School of Language has a reputable, tested, and high caliber line up. As would be expected, the music is pretty accomplished itself. With Medications and Go Home Robot. Doors as 8:30. \$10 — Lars Garvey Laing-Peterson

DC9: 1940 9th St., NW, Washington; 202-483-5000; www.dcnine.com



MARCH 15

Louis XIV at Rock and Roll Hotel

You may have caught these San Diego rockers recently as an opener or at an indie festival. They're post-punk; they're bluesy; they just positively rock. The four lads are touring in support of their new album, Slick Dogs and Ponies. Doors at 8.30p.m. \$15. — Dana Steinberg

Rock And Roll Hotel: 1353 H Street, NE, Washington, DC; www.rockandrollhoteldc.com



23 Rainy Days at Velvet Lounge

Post-punk excellence from locals, who have a new disc and some local shows to boot. Think the Killers, the Smiths, AFI. Will get you moving. — Robert Fulton

Velvet Lounge: 915 U St NW Washington, DC; 202-462-3213 www.velvetlounge.com

RBD at the DC Armory

Not all too dissimilar a rise like those of the Monkees and Miley Cyrus, Mexican pop sensation RBD found music superstardom only after becoming a real band following their telenovela soap opera "Rebelde." But few could have predicted that the sextet would sell 10 million records in their brief three-year career, sell out U.S. venues like Madison Square Garden. — Alfredo Flores

DC Armory: 2001 E Capitol St., SE, DC; 202-547-9077; www.grupo-rbd.com

MARCH 19

The Cribs at the Black Cat

With all the swagger of the late 70s British punk acts and the sensibility of contemporary indie-rockers, The Cribs are by far one of the best exports from the British Isles in the past few years. With Ra Ra Riot and Jeffrey Lewis & The Jitters. Doors at 8 p.m. \$15 — Lars Garvey Laing-Peterson

Black Cat: 1811 14th St. NW; 202-667-7960; www.blackcatdc.com

The Most Serene Republic at DC9

If The Cribs don't seem up your alley, Toronto's TMSR are labelmates with Broken Social Scene, and one of the more progressive and eccentric bands in the scene today. Their live show is not to be missed. With Miracle Fortress and Liam Finn. Doors at 8:30 p.m. \$10 — Lars Garvey Laing-Peterson

DC9: 1940 9th St., NW, Washington; 202-483-5000; www.dcnine.com



MARCH 20

The Sketches at Dogfish Head Alehouse Falls Church

Riding the massive wave of publicity that was unleashed when these local pop-rockers were included on On Tap's 2007 "On the Verge" compilation CD (listen online at www.ontaponline.com/cd), The Sketches scored an opening gig for Blind Melon at the 9:30 Club this month. Or maybe it was just because they're that good. Either way, they won't likely be playing smaller venues like this for long so catch them in this smoke-free setting while enjoying some of the great Dogfish Head microbrews. Doors at 7:30 p.m. — James Currie

Dogfish Head Alehouse: Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA. 703-534-3342; www.dogfish.com



Gypsy Sons, Leaving, TX, Celeste Starchild, Wes Tucker and the Skilletts at Jammin' Java.

Talk about one heck of a local line up. Wes Tucker opens, Gypsy Sons close. A must see. 8p.m. \$10 — Robert Fulton

Jammin' Java: 227 Maple Ave E Vienna, VA; 703-255-1566; www.jamminjava.com

MARCH 21

Virginia Coalition at the Hard Rock Cafe

Don't miss local rockers VC at their CD release show. Also, nice to see some more live music at the Hard Rock. Doors at 9 p.m. \$25. — Robert Fulton

Hard Rock Café: 999 E St NW, DC; 202-737-7625; www.hardrock.com