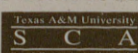


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MODEL CITIZEN



Lane Eubank has brought the sounds of Citizen Lane from the streets of Austin to headlining many... **Austin band brings jazz sounds to Bryan**

BY MICHELLE MCNEELY
The Battalion

If anyone had told Lane Eubank he would be the frontman in Texas' most well-known swing-funk experiments when he was a street musician in Austin, he probably would not have believed it.

Five years and two albums later, Citizen Lane is still blending the flavors of many genres together into a concoction guaranteed to move the feet (as well as various other body parts). The band is one-third rock, one-third funk and one-third ska with a splash of Latin jazz. Citizen Lane consists of trumpeter Jimmy Packard, saxophonist James Falcon, guitarist John Sample, bassist Jeff Plant, keyboardist Evan Jacobs and the ring-master singer/songwriter Lane Eubank. The band started out as an experiment in itself. In 1994, Eubank said he left the music program at the University of North Texas and moved to Austin. He spent most of his time on 6th Street singing and playing his djembe (a particular African drum) for the amusement of people walking by.

"I wrote a lot of tunes during that period," Eubank said. "I think the physical closeness of the sidewalk audience taught me a lot about getting involved." His solo outings turned into jam sessions as other musicians joined in on the streets. Eubank and fellow musicians soon found a home off the streets at Austin's Black Cat Lounge, thus beginning what is now known as Citizen Lane. The band began to draw audiences working on fraternity row and opening up for some of Austin's finest acts such as Sister 7, The Ugly Americans, Dah-veed Garza and 8 1/2 Souvenirs. Soon after, Citizen Lane released *Lion Mouth*, an album containing a brilliant mixture of funk vibrations and spunky attitude. The next step for Citizen Lane was hitting the tour circuit, where they spent a good amount of time across state lines. There is no mistaking Citizen Lane for a typical funk band. Their diversity, stemming from Eubank's love for the Beatles, Prince and Walt Disney soundtracks makes Citizen Lane a rare commodity. The band members' different backgrounds also contribute to Citizen Lane's mixed breed.

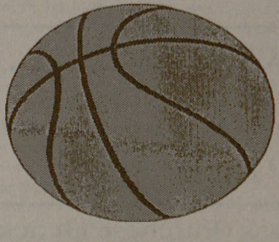
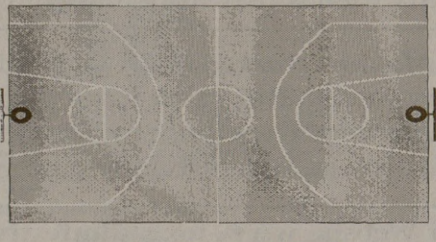
Eubank said Citizen Lane offers a smorgasbord of energy, "It's not one style or rock, but at times it's a mate." In 1997, Eubank left the University of North Texas school. While on break, he started playing jazz, wrote new songs and searching for new venues for Citizen Lane. Eubank and the rest of the band in Austin working on top-selling units sold. Eubank said he appreciates the beauty of playing for a "There's something predictive about playing your craft to a people and seeing how they warding just to have playing and singing along with thing I created and people had chances of... She lost... in the... non-class... the year w... who... Boo Goo... ette... Hill, 23... ing rap ar... political i... most Gran... night, Ca... Pestry, Hi... stant with... No hip... album of

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