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San Francisco's ZONK Brings a New Sound to L.A.

July 7, 2004 (SAN FRANCISCO, CA) In today's undeniably unstable yet ever competitive music industry, it's considered either bravely subversive or downright stupid to blatantly defy a marketable, easy-to-classify sound. Yet acts like San Francisco's ZONK are consciously combining electronic, rock and hip-hop, don't claim to be brave and yet don't seem stupid: Garageband.com reviewers say, "...unique as anything I've ever heard on here... great, original sounding... unique and fresh..." Maybe the musical wave of the future is diversity? Artists like Outkast and legendary producers such as Bill Laswell and The Neptunes have proven that fusion can be done and done well.

While still relatively unknown, ZONK has paid their dues through many California shows since 1999 and recently garnered fans worldwide when they won a national music download contest sponsored by Music For America (MfA), an organization devoted to getting young Americans interested in and involved with politics. Since winning, the band landed an east coast tour and opened for hip-hop pioneers De La Soul as part of MfA's Party and Politics concert series.



ZONK at Cell Space, San Francisco, June 2004
Photo by Bodacious Brenda of KUSF

The ZONK foursome includes producer/musician Dave L, female vocalist McFiendish, multi-instrumentalist Uncle Bergie, and turntablist DJRed5. Their combined diverse passions have created a lush contemporary style featured on a new EP entitled *Our Five Worst Songs*. CNET's music.download.com states, "After one listen of ZONK's sultry trip-hop, you may wonder why you haven't been Zonked before. ...it's hummable, danceable, and fun. And once it lodges itself in your brain, it's hard to get rid of? a sure sign of pop music greatness."

A representative for the group says one of their finest qualities? besides unique music? is their value of community, so when the opportunity came up to play with Los Angeles-based cohorts The Peak Show, ZONK began planning a tour. They'll start with a party with The Peak Show, continue on to Zen Sushi July 25th, and headline the Temple Bar July 26th.

To get a taste of ZONK, download free music at www.ZONKaholics.com, where the philosophy is: if you like it, you'll bring two friends to the show.

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