

Pulp

MOTORPSYCHOS CD RELEASE

GOOSHI'S

Friday, June 21

The three-woman/one-man band Motorpsychos likes to include leather in their onstage wardrobe; one wears makeup that seems to pay tribute to Alice Cooper. With token guy Dennis Brown in the background behind the drums, the three women stand front-and-central. Their look and a stack of Marshalls should offer an indication of the sound they create: something loud and forceful. Yet, some audiences are still surprised when the Pittsburgh band launches into the first chord. "I guess they expect us to stand there and strum and take forever between songs," says guitarist Pam Simmons, she of the Cooper-esque eye shadow. "But we go from one song to the next. We like to come out with a big bang, grab you by the face, shake the shit out of you and get offstage. I don't like to wait for people to clap — it takes too long." Simmons adds that she much prefers the immediacy of the stage to the controlled environment of the studio. Yet she and her comrades were able to recreate the brute force of their stage show on their self-titled debut. It takes punk rock tempos and harnesses them to a metallic attack that sounds heavy but not excessive. The influence of spiritual sisters L7 is obvious, but vocalist Rachel Cassidy sticks with raspy vocals rather than



Motorpsychos' (above) self-titled debut combines fast punk tempos and metallic riffs. Sascha Konietzko (right) brings KMFDM out of the shadows again.

devolving into rabid screams. When she or bassist Amy Bianco contribute harmony vocals to the punchy "40 Oz." or the jerky "Just Push," they emphasize their band's catchiness along with the visceral qualities. Performing together for less than two years, Motorpsychos have already traveled as far as New York City and Detroit, sharing bills with other female-centered bands such as Broadzilla and appearing on the appropriately named showcase *Chicks that Rock*.

— SHANLEY

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