

NPUC 2005

> the third Norwich Pop Underground Convention

> organised by Metal Queen Projects

> Thursday June 30 to Sunday July 3

NPUC: the Norwich Pop Underground Convention is back for its third year this summer - and once again it will be cramming as much of Norwich's original music talent as possible into seven gigs in just four days.

A huge variety of sounds are represented over the extended weekend (June 30 to July 3) – alternative Americana, breakcore, lo-fi, electro, guitar pop, medieval instrumentals, singer-songwriters and synth-rock.

There'll be familiar names from the area alongside bands with members that have strong connections with the county, including Magoo, Stuffy/The Fuses, Shitmat, Chris T-T, Kaito (tbc), PostaLowa, Synapse, Rory McVicar, Lark, Kid Atom and Hoofus.

From further afield there is The Broken Family Band, from Cambridge (alternative country-flavoured band who are favourites of the broadsheets), Fonda 500, from Hull (crazed nu-pop nonsense/genius), Los Planetos Del Agua, from Derby (post-rockers) and Mochikolinski (partly from the Far East... although not just for NPUC!).

The majority of NPUC gigs are being staged at **Norwich Arts Centre** with everything remaining after costs going towards its auditorium appeal. The auditorium appeal aims to raise £150,000, paying for a complete redecoration and improvements to sound, stage, lighting and seating facilities. It will also cover necessary improvements for safety and accessibility, and lead to the uncovering of the windows - enabling more daytime use for educational activities and arts workshops. (www.norwichartscentre.co.uk)

Other events include a night at Sonic nightclub on Prince of Wales Road; an electro-picnic at The Marquee in Cattle Market Street (bring food, picnic rugs; *buy all drinks at the bar*); and a week-long exhibition at the Norwich Playhouse Bar (June 27 to July 3).

This year it is possible to purchase a wristband ticket for £12 - giving entry to all evening shows at Norwich Arts Centre and discounts to events at Sonic and The Marquee - a possible saving of £9 if you visit everything (total ticket prices with wristband £18, without wristband £24 advance/£27 door).

Not all events cost money - the traditional acoustic afternoon (Saturday, Norwich Arts Centre) and electro-picnic are both totally free.

All gigs will feature a sales table with merchandise from bands and local labels, including NPUC organisers Metal Queen Projects - with copies of their limited-edition CD compilations and the 2004 NPUC DVD.

NPUC organiser James Butcher said: "We're excited to be doing it all again. A lot of hard work goes into getting things to this stage and then to the final day, but it's a lot of fun too.

"Hopefully NPUC is a small reflection of the amount of creative music that is coming out of Norwich, and goes some way to show that venues supportive of this live scene, such as Norwich Arts Centre and The Marquee, are absolutely vital for a lively community."

Check the NPUC website for the latest updates (<http://npuc.mqprojects.co.uk>) and to sign up to the mailing list or write on the message board. Tickets for Norwich Arts Centre events are available from their box office on 01603 660352.

Notes for editors:

For further information contact James Butcher on 07946 688562 or email npuc@mqprojects.co.uk

Information on all bands playing NPUC can be found at <http://npuc.mqprojects.co.uk>

Press pictures of some bands are available on the website - click the press link at the bottom of the left-hand column.

For further details on the NAC auditorium appeal see <http://www.norwichartscentre.co.uk/pages/appeal.htm> or contact centre manager Stuart Hobday on 01603 660387 or email stuarthobday@norwichartscentre.co.uk

listings information:

Norwich Pop Underground Convention presents...

THURSDAY JUNE 30

Norwich Arts Centre, St Benedict's Street

main hall: The Broken Family Band, Don's Mobile Barbers, Stuffy/The Fuses

bar: Happy J Fost DJs

8-11pm £6 advance, £7 door - or NPUC wristband ticket £12 (limited to 100)

box office 01603 660352

in association with the NAC Auditorium Appeal

Sonic, Prince of Wales Road

upstairs (electro): Shitmat, Synapse, Sukoshi

downstairs (alt rock): The Underground DJs

11pm-2am £4 door, or £3 with NPUC wristband

FRIDAY JULY 1

Norwich Arts Centre, St Benedict's Street

main hall: Fonda 500, Chris T-T, Cortez, Giant Robot and the City of Tokyo

bar: Cruiser Chimps, Horses Brawl, Grand Prix '86, Alto 33.3, Rory McVicar

8-11pm £5 advance, £6 door - or NPUC wristband ticket (see Thursday)

box office 01603 660352

in association with the NAC Auditorium Appeal

SATURDAY JULY 2

Norwich Arts Centre, St Benedict's Street

bar: Timothy Victor, Roberte, PostaLowa, The Rebeccas, Ashley Smith,

Mochikolinski

1.30-5pm FREE

Norwich Arts Centre, St Benedict's Street

main hall: Magoo, Lark, Los Planetos Del Agua, Le Tetsuo

bar: Kaito (tbc), Lalia, Chihiro, Depoprovera, Gerry! Taylor

7.45-11.30pm £5 advance, £6 door - or NPUC wristband ticket (see Thursday)

box office 01603 660352

in association with the NAC Auditorium Appeal

SUNDAY JULY 3

The Marquee, Cattle Market Street

(electro picnic) Hoofus, Kid Atom, Canadia, The Paperchip Trio, Dom

2.30-6pm FREE

The Marquee, Cattle Market Street

Fun! Yeah!, Teknikov (tbc), The Bells The Bells, Tiger MCs

7.30-10.30pm £4, or £3 with NPUC wristband

EXHIBITION:

Norwich Playhouse Bar, St George's Street

Monday June 27 – Sunday July 3

daily, during bar hours

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