

Everything does everything well

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staff writer

The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world usually do. The same holds true in the world of music. Artists like Chuck Berry, The Beatles, and Run D.M.C. extrapolated from the existing plane of music and tried something new; regardless of how many records they would sell, or people they would piss off. That's how things get changed.

Continuing in this spirit of evolution is the Virginia based band Everything, and their major label debut Super Natural (Blackbird). Everything combines modern electronic sounds with natural guitar rhythms, creating a panorama of

Everything released a full-length feature home video entitled Easy Living in 1996, and a CD-ROM promotion for their successful internet tour. Their website (<http://www.ecolon.com>) averages 40,000 hits per month.

The band signed with The Blackbird Recording Company in May '97 and spent the summer recording Super Natural in a converted pre-Civil War manorhouse in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Each room was used for its specific acoustics, and the tranquility itself was used to inspire a creativity that only the foothills of the majestic Blue Ridge mountains could. Recording in the house was simultaneously complex

"Hooch," a light-hearted cut tackling the pressing college issue of casual drinking to ease the pain. Using only a simple acoustic guitar and light snare beats, "Hooch" is destined to be shouted by inebriated voices across campuses everywhere.

"Spent" is probably the most

amazing song of the album. It's the first time on the album where Everything puts the horns down and flat-out jam. The chorus is extremely catchy, and virtually sold the song, as well as the album for me.

Super Natural as a whole is a very

unique combination of feelings and sounds, but should be listened to more than once to take in the skillful fusion. Therein lies the only problem with the album. There's so much going on, with saxophone solos, four voices in sweet harmonies, guitars, and so on, it's

easy for the listener to become overwhelmed.

On my classes-I'd-skip-to-go-see-them-scale, Everything receives a respectful four out of five, and I would recommend Super Natural for those true music lovers who thirst for something new.

Recording in the house was simultaneously complex and innovative, mirroring the band itself. Everything never stops searching for something that might add more texture to their music.

sound that is both cutting-edge and sweet as honey.

The band began playing at James Madison University, where they first met, and later on nearby campuses like UNC-Chapel Hill and Virginia Tech. At each show their fan base increased and the buzz grew stronger, with self-distributed albums Solid and Labrador topping 50,000. Many times these energy-filled performances include individually-tailored light shows, involving big screen visual projections which enhance various song lyrics and themes.

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Jim Ebert, whose credits include work with Madonna, Toni Braxton, Ice Cube, and Everclear, flew in from Los Angeles to produce the mainstream debut.

Super Natural starts off with the miasmic title track. The distorted guitars, coupled with beautiful horn sections and harmonized voices, overwhelms the senses and entices the listener to continue.

The album next moves to



The Virginia band Everything

Rosa Luxemburg reviewed

by Jon Stubbs
features editor

On Tuesday, Professor Ursula Davis hosted the first of three films in the Women's Films Studies program at Penn State - Behrend this month. The first feature was German director Margarethe von Trotta's film Rosa Luxemburg.

Rosa Luxemburg is the true story of the early 1900's German socialist leader and advocate of the same name. Von Trotta depicts Luxemburg as a headstrong, determined revolutionary as well as a lover and a caring mother.

Luxemburg was born in Poland on March 5, 1871. She later abandoned her homeland in 1889 to avoid imprisonment and fled to Switzerland, where she studied natural science and political economy at the University of Zurich. She later moved to Germany, where she began her crusade against the Russian regime.

Luxemburg became involved with the German Social Democratic Party in the early 1900's. There, she fell

in love with and had the child of Leo Tyzka, a fellow revolutionary. Director von Trotta emphasizes the stress of being a political activist as well as a mother: Tyzka expresses his concern for Rosa as well as their child when he says, "Rosa, do you want to be a revolutionary or a

It is a truly inspiring film that is equal in spirit to other political movement films such as Dr. Zhivago and The Last Emperor.

mother?" Luxemburg, of course wants to be both, demonstrating the feminist sentiment within the film.

Another scene that von Trotta employs to display Rosa's independence is a small segment of the film in which Rosa is angry at a friend for posting bail to keep her out of prison. "You know I never like to be in debt!" Rosa complains.

Luxemburg was imprisoned once

again in Warsaw during the Russian Revolution of 1905 for her participation in the event. After she was released, she taught in a socialist school in Berlin. There she wrote The Accumulation of Capital, one of her more famous papers.

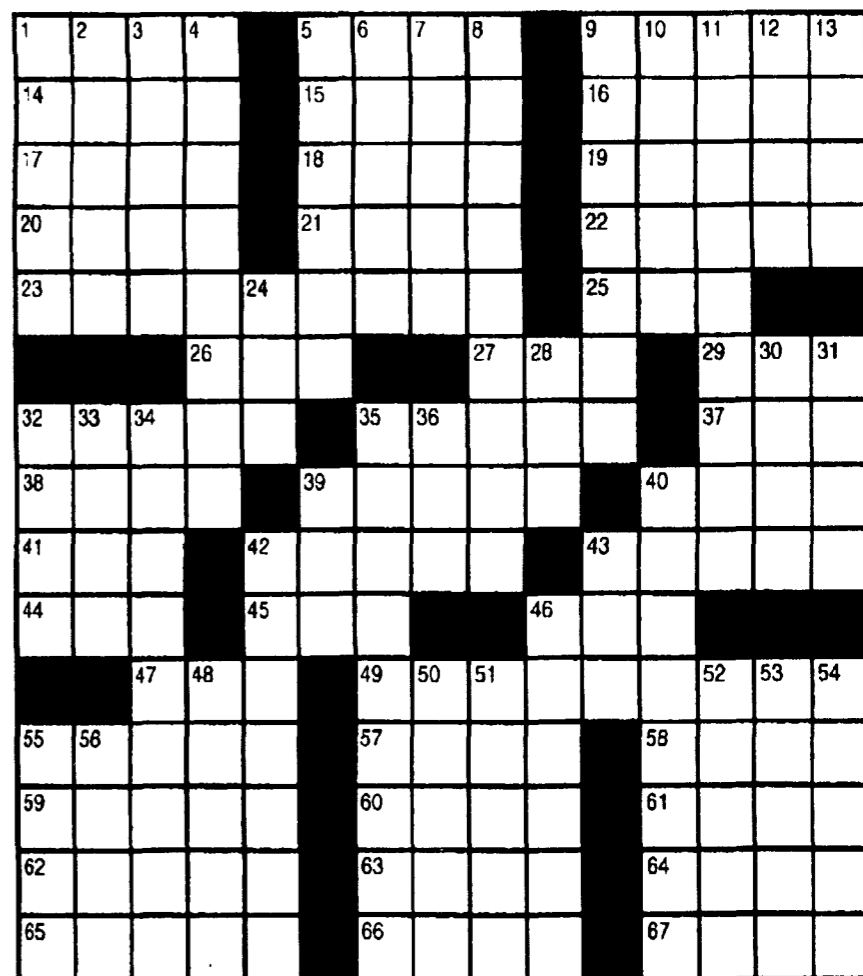
Luxemburg is imprisoned a third time during the outbreak of World War I for her opposition to the war. After her release in November 1918, she helped to form the Communist Party of Germany. A year later, however, she was arrested and murdered by German troops after the unsuccessful Communist uprising.

Rosa Luxemburg is a chronicle of a revolution, a story of an individual's strength, as well as a story of two lovers. It is a truly inspiring film that is equal in spirit to other political movement films such as Dr. Zhivago and The Last Emperor.

Professor Davis will also host the other two films in the series, Raise the Red Lantern on Tuesday, March 24 and Antonia's Lie on Tuesday, March 31.

ACROSS

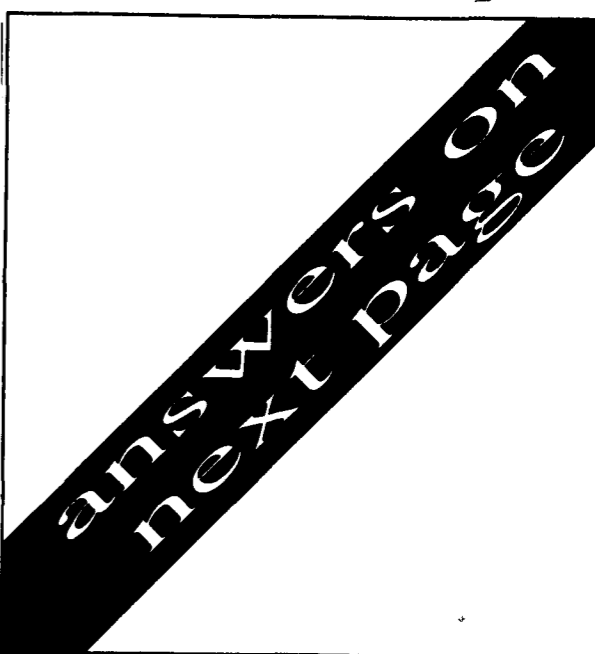
- 1 Mountain passes
- 5 Declare bluntly
- 9 Quart halves
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- 16 Honolulu farewell
- 17 Baloney manufacturer?
- 18 Family group
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- 62 Obvious pretense
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DOWN

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- 50 Take care of
- 51 Shrewd
- 52 Fabler of yore
- 53 Peachy
- 54 Reliance
- 55 Couch
- 56 Asian sea




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