

Seattle's Mommy Long Legs wants to be on your level

By Lauren Maslen

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With songs like “Assholes,” “Weird Girl,” and “Haunted House Wives,” members of Seattle’s Mommy Long Legs are the first to admit they don’t take themselves too seriously.

“We’re just brutally ourselves without any filters, and I think people think it’s really quirky and weird, but we’re trying to be anything,” the band’s drummer, Corey Budden, said. “We’re all pretty goofy. I’m happy that comes across, I guess. I don’t really care how people find the need to define it.”

After a Thursday night practice in guitarist/vocalist Lily Morlock’s U-District home (aka Werewolf Vacation), the punk rock foursome spoke about their new EP, how their “barf-core/fart-core” genre came to fruition, and why playing house shows trumps most venues.

Can you explain what the barf-core/fart-core/vomit-garage labels mean?

Well, vomit garage, we did not originally come up with, but fart-core and barf-core... we were just filling out our Facebook page, and it was like, “What genre are you?” We were just fucking around... We fart a lot. We fart and we talk about barf. That’s like an inside joke to us.

But the vomit garage thing... It was a blog out of Mexico. We translated it, and the article translated hilariously. It was just all out of skew, and part of it defined us as “vomit garage.” We were like, “That’s amazing.” We adopted that one.

I was reading a KEXP blog, and your sound was defined as “kooky.” Do you think that defines you, or is that a kind of label that was given to you but doesn’t really define you?

We’re all funny, and we don’t try to act cool because we’re in a band. We don’t take ourselves seriously at all. I mean, we do; we definitely think about what we want to sing about. It’s definitely not an aimless spew of words. It’s just who we are.

I think that’s what barf-core is. We don’t give a shit about labels at all.

We definitely want our songs to be funny. I mean, not all of them, but we’re trying to have a humorous twist on them for sure. It makes sense that they’d call us that. We’re pretty kooky.

What’s your most popular song and each of your favorites to play?

Probably Life Rips, Horoscope and Assholes.

Lately, Assholes has gotten a really good response, just from the KEXP video. We actually just got that tape [the “Assholes” EP] moments ago.

Why tapes?

They’re the most affordable. They have a little more lo-fi edge to them, which really compliments our sound. It may be cool to have vinyl someday, but we don’t have that kind of money.

Tapes are pretty popular with our music community, and just because they are a lot more affordable. They just feel a little more special than a CD. There’s something more to hang onto there. They’re more novel.

What’s your favorite venue to play?

House shows are really fun. Werewolf vacation! That’s where we practice and where Lily lives. It’s a house in the U-District.

House shows are just more fun because there’s always way more energy, and you don’t have to be 21 to go. And you’re not standing above a crowd. You’re all on a level together.

We did really enjoy playing Chop Suey recently. That was the best sound ever. The sound guy, Julien, was amazing. We do like being way more integrated with the crowd, and not above people, but we did enjoy playing that venue a lot.

Do you ever get any reaction about being female and playing punk music? Either positive or negative?

In our community, it’s been really positive overall. Positive as in it’s not even a thing that we’re women. I think we’ve only really had one show where it’s like, “Oh all girls. Wow. cool.”

There was one in Santa Barbara that was really “dude-y.”

You know, subtle things have definitely happened. But overall, we’re really just treated as musicians, and we make them sorry immediately if we aren’t.

You dedicate the song “Assholes” to them?

We dedicate that to a lot of people.