



Nick Meza (left), Watson Meyer and Brigdon Markward formed Bug Bath in July 2018.
PHOTO/OLIVER GUINAN

No frills

Bug Bath

Formed in July 2018, Bug Bath is

comprised of long-time friends Brigdon Markward, Nick Meza and Watson Meyer. Markward and Meyer moved to Reno from Nevada City after graduating from high school in 2013 and have led many creative endeavors around town since. Similarly, drummer Meza moved from South Lake Tahoe in 2012 and admired Reno's underground hardcore scene.

"It was awesome, and I fucking loved it," Meza recalled. "I instantly fell in love with the vibe. I had never been in a basement to go see a band, you know, and I'd never seen anyone get kicked out of a concert for saying homophobic slurs, and I'd never seen anyone get called out for being a dick. I thought that was awesome."

Markward is Bug Bath's primary lyricist and guitarist. Bassist Meyer has played in quite a few local projects, including Blackstallion, Surly, City Wolves and Gemini Cusp—as well as his signature group, Pry. Devoted members of Reno's DIY scene, Meza and Meyer have booked concerts at Fort Ryland, Clark Lane Maul, Park Place Penthouse and The HOL since 2012.

Earlier this year Bug Bath released its second EP, *I Know It's Not Your Fault*, on the bandmates' newly founded record label, Egg Wash. They believe that being taken seriously is vital to success as musicians. They understand printing merchandise, professionally recording music and booking tours are arduous and costly tasks, and they want to help emerging bands in Reno navigate the industry.

"For too long we've been seeing really, really good bands not know how to put themselves out there and wanted to share our resources to help," Markward said. "We want to help Reno folks get themselves out

there and have a foundation to build their projects up."

The latest EP reflects the trio's growing pains through the years. *I Know It's Not Your Fault* is anchored and raw, stripped of extraneous instruments that have made appearances in earlier projects.

"Between Pry, City Wolves and Skinwalkers, we've all put so much work into nuanced, serious and emotionally challenging projects and wanted to do the opposite and stretch our legs," explained Markward.

The band found conceptual inspiration in early 2000s Nu Metal and visually abrasive groups like Limp Bizkit, The Prodigy and Mudvayne. Even though Bug Bath doesn't sound like these bands, the themes behind their music resonate.

"It's fun going back to the roots and initial concepts behind those projects," Markward said. "Essentially, Nu Metal was created as this kind of working class rebellious version of metal and was supposed to be more down to Earth. Stylistically I think that still came through a bunch, even as it diverted into this hyper-masculine, mainstream thing. I think we drew from that, or at least looked at it and thought about it and tried reconceptualizing it."

Listening to Bug Bath's songs, much like reflecting on the early 2000s themselves, invites critical introspection. Straight eight-note, Iceage-esque riffs are upholstered with scooping lows and driven forward by accents of Nu Metal from Meza. Markward's lyricism often faces inward, observing the world through a droning, occasionally caustic lens. "Unique Experience" is the newest track on the EP. It's simple and thrashing, and as Markward frequently describes Bug Bath, "It gets the wiggles out." □

Listen to Bug Bath's music here: bugbath.bandcamp.com. The band will play at the Holland Project, 140 Vesta St., on March 16.

J. ESPINOSA

MARCH 16



RED BULL MUSIC 3STYLE

World Champion 1K

EDGE
NIGHTCLUB

PeppermillNightlife

FREE CONCERT SERIES AT TERRACE LOUNGE



FUNK REVIVAL ORCHESTRA

Oakland's Funk Revival Orchestra brings a high-energy, heavy sound to audiences with a style that blends Latin, breakbeat, hip-hop and rare groove feels into one package.

FUNK REVIVAL ORCHESTRA

March 14 • 7pm-11pm

March 15-16 • 8pm-Midnight

Purveyors of rare groove, funk and soul

TRISTAN SELZLER

March 17-20 • 6pm-10pm

Reno Jazz Syndicate pianist presents a solo set

CALIFORNIA FEETWARMERS

March 21 • 7pm-11pm

March 22-23 • 8pm-Midnight

Grammy-nominated band plays vintage jazz, ragtime and Dixieland blues

MILTON MERLOS

March 24-27 • 6pm-10pm

Spanish guitar with modern elements

PEPPERMILL
RENO

PeppermillReno.com
2707 S. Virginia Street

FACEBOOK.COM/PEPPERMILLRENO
TWITTER.COM/RENOPEPPERMILL
INSTAGRAM @PEPPERMILLRENO

Peppermill Reno • 2707 S. Virginia Street • \$20 • Doors 10pm Thurs-Sat • 21+ • Stylish Nightclub Attire
with Resident DJs Mark Twyman and Enfo • VIP Reservations: Alex Kenwetz 775.870.3000
Complimentary cover in green • \$7 Jameson and \$25 Lucky Punch Bowls Drink Specials
EDGENIGHTCLUBRENO.COM • FACEBOOK.COM/EDGEORENO • TWITTER.COM/EDGEORENO • INSTAGRAM @EDGENIGHTCLUB2.0