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September 23, 2012

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# Rochester Fringe Festival, Day 4: My Plastic Sun, Moho Collective reviews

by Frank DeBlase

It was an historic epiphany for Roy Stein as he stood in Bernunzio's Uptown Music Saturday night and openly renounced technology. You see, Stein, in virtually all his musical endeavors --- New Math, Raw Magillys, Atomic Swindlers, Jet Black Berries, and now My Plastic Sun --- has been a ghost in the machine, incorporating drum loops, synthetic rhythms, and click tracks. But in order to play Bernunzio's as part of the Rochester Fringe Festival, **My Plastic Sun** was going to have to dial it back a bit, back to analog territory. This worked brilliantly, as the band had an added flesh-and-blood ferocity that had been squashed previously by its precision. It was a magnificent, epic, and beautiful set of music that spanned from powerful rock to one of the prettiest love songs I've ever heard.

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In keeping with the night's overall sense of organic brilliance, **Moho Collective** served up its freeform freak-out underneath swollen clouds while playing on the Fringe Fest's Gibbs Street Stage. The band's tension/release dynamic and chordal structures (some I believe they invented) are rooted somewhere no other band I know has gone. It's a band with its own rudiments; you've got sharp, you've got flat, and now you've got Moho. The band's music is cinematically picturesque with the aggressively angular compositions serving as a vague template. The listener brings the rest. Just straight-up awesome music.

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