

AFTER THE GOLD RUSH

SAN FRANCISCO'S
NEW MUSICAL GENERATION



Rupa & The April Fishes

The Globetrotters

Say what you will about globalization—in Rupa & The April Fishes it's got a killer soundtrack. The primarily acoustic sextet whips together what bandleader Rupa Marya calls “Mestizo music,” performing songs—all written by Marya, who spends half her time with the band and the other half as a physician—in several languages, soaking in influences from every corner of the globe. Several tunes on *eXtraOrdinary rendition*, their debut album, are pure Parisian café music—if that café were beamed down into the middle of San Francisco's neo-trendy Mission District, where Rupa & The April Fishes are based. Other border-busting songs are in English, and there are Latin, Asian, Euro and other international elements as well. It's music that is at once ancient yet undeniably of its time. “What's exciting about the San Francisco music scene is the diversity,” says Marya. “Most of the other bands in our scene are doing something very traditional. What's different about us is that we're very intentionally creating a mixture of what is in our immediate surroundings.” ★ *Jeff Tamarkin*

LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Iron & The Albatross, Fish Tank Ensemble, Brass Menažeri