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OCTOBER 01, 2006

## The May Fire



MySpace (listen to "Red Eye," "Right and Wrong")

Official site

**Hometown:** San Francisco

**Next local show:** None planned

**Recent release:** *Right and Wrong*, 2006

Is that a cowbell we hear? The leadoff track on **the May Fire's** debut disc is loaded with it -- bangin' out the quarter notes a la "Don't Fear the Reaper" through every verse. Many purport to love the cowbell, but few have the guts to feature it in their official "Hello" to the world.

Fans of **Elastica** may appreciate the verse bassline and rhythm in the next track, "Nothing Today." The song wraps up with a guitar solo that screams **White Stripes**. This is good, mind you -- as they say, sometimes innovation is overrated. And if you're looking for something unique, try their

### ABOUT



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BAY AREA

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### BANDS

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**Totimoshi**

backstory. Singer/guitarist **Catty Tasso** hails from Chile, while drummer **El Pipe** is from Colombia. The two met in Los Angeles in 2004, then moved to San Francisco. Needless to say, they have a strong Latino following.

Cat's lead guitar work throughout the record is stellar -- front and center, technically sharp and on the mark, and always bathed in some degree of distortion. Very immediate and raw; definitely got a fire under its ass. And her vocals follow suit. The comparison to Elastica holds true, as her voice carries a similarly punk timbre.

The May Fire's heady mix of blues, garage rock, and punk is held together by El Pipe's drumming. He sounds like he was trained in a bar band with a great repertoire, jamming for hours on everything from **Hendrix** to **Skynyrd**. His strength is not in complexity, but suitability; expert drumming is about more than fills and solos. Pipe and his partner Cat know how to make rock that sounds good and feels nice.

**FIRESTARTERS:**

-The May Fire recently played the Folsom Street Fair in San Francisco, either wearing leather chaps or simply rocking them off audience members. We've received conflicting reports....

-*Right and Wrong* was recorded primarily in Alhambra (Pipe's garage, aka **Rock Whores Studios**), plus a little more in Los Angeles (**Le Boot**), and -- following the move up north -- our very own Berkeley (**Chabola Studios**). Mixing and mastering remained a Bay Area affair.

Labels: indie rock, san francisco

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