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Bob Mould's new friends

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Circle of Friends is such a touchy-feely title for a Bob Mould release, don't you think? Well, mean, this is the guy whose flying-V, high-velocity guitar work powered '90s hard champs Husker Du and whose solo career has ran the gamut from angry, distorted vitriol to soul-baring, tender, acoustic confessionals to chill electronica.

Channeling '60s psychedelia into loud, fast punk, Husker Du, along with the Replacements and Soul Asylum, put Minneapolis on the map as an alternative-rock mecca. Theirs was a "loud fast rules" aesthetic that put an emphasis on speed and that were incredibly personal and emotional. Gradually, over time, Husker Du's air wall of sound than a platform for Mould and drummer Grant Hart to exchange mel explosive rock.

At a time when hardcore was more about buzz cuts, aiming for the lowest musical and meat-headed moshing, Husker Du expanded the basic template of the genre : sonic playground than it had ever been before.

And now comes *Circle of Friends*, a new live DVD Mould is putting out that runs th career, taking songs from Husker Du, Sugar and his solo stuff. He is backed by a t drummer Brendan Canty, Morel's Richard Morel and Rockers Over Sweden's Jason includes a Mould performance from Oct. 7, 2005, at Washington D.C.'s infamous 9 be released by MVD Visual on Oct. 9.

Here's what's more interesting: Mould is going to be attending a series of special e conjunction with the DVD release. At each show, Mould will play a 30-minute acou participate in a 30-minute Q&A with the crowd before hosting a screening of *Circle* stick around and sell and sign DVDs for fans.

Dates include:

10/9 - Chicago @ Schuba's - 3159 N. Southport - Chicago, IL
 10/10 - Minneapolis @ Bryant Lake Bowl - 810 W. Lake St. - Minneapolis, MN 5541
 10/12 - Seattle @ Chop Suey - 1325 E. Madison St. - Seattle, WA
 10/14 - Portland @ Doug Fir Lounge - 830 E. Burnside - Portland, OR
 10/16 - San Francisco @ Herbst Theater (part of City Arts & Lectures series) - 401 Francisco, CA 94102
 10/17 - Los Angeles @ The Roxy (presented by Filter Magazine) - 9009 W. Sunset CA
 11/2 - New York @ Highline Ballroom - 431 W. 16th St., New York, NY
 11/5 - Boston @ Paradise Lounge - 969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA
 11/8 - Charlottesville @ Gravity Lounge - 103 South First St., Charlottesville, VA

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11/10 - New Hope @ John & Peter's - 96 S. Main St., New Hope, PA
11/11 - Philadelphia @ World Cafe Live - 3025 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA

The San Francisco date will be held in conjunction with the City Arts & Lectures se presented by the Noise Pop Festival. Mould will be interviewed by author Michael / Be Your Life"). For more on the festival, visit www.cityarts.net

Mould is scheduled to release a new studio album on Anti- Records in late January 2005's *Body of Song*.

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