

## frontlines



Rock 'n' Roll

### Gotta Be Good

*After years of bar gigs in Chicago, Linda Good hits the road with the bad boys who gave us Lollapalooza (and she then finds time for another bar gig in Chicago)*

**LINDA GOOD HAS BEEN LIVING THE ROCK-'N'-ROLL LIFE** for more than a decade—which is to say, she has spent a lot of years carrying very heavy objects. Leading the Twigs, the band she created with her twin sister, Laura, Good has lugged amps and keyboards to local stages at Schubas, Gunther Murphy's, and Uncommon Ground. She has also lugged them into studios, releasing two CDs, the latest of which was dubbed "pure pop ecstasy" by *Rolling Stone*. And her labors have landed her some good session work—when they weren't just getting her tantalizingly close. "Last year they called me to audition for Semisonic," Good recalls, "and it got down to me and the guy who played with Sheryl Crow."

But last year, Good landed a sweet gig that saw her playing Madison Square Garden and the Hollywood Bowl. She stayed in plush hotels. Somebody else carried her

equipment for her, setting it up, tuning it, and tearing it down. She was hired by Lollapalooza's founder, Perry Farrell, to play keyboards for the first tour in four years by Farrell's band Jane's Addiction.

The smallest venue on the tour seated 12,000 people. "Even though I've worked my ass off all my life for this," said Good, speaking by phone from her Toronto hotel room, "I still feel really lucky."

She's not kidding about all her life. Good began teaching herself to play guitar and piano when she was only five years old. She grew up in Deerfield and attended Lake Forest High School before spending her senior year at the Chicago Academy of the Arts. She and Laura lived in Lake View,

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Logan Square, and Printers' Row, building an audience for their melodic, smartly lyrical "alterna-pop."

About two years ago, Linda moved to Los Angeles to take advantage of the larger music marketplace there.

Friends introduced her to Jane's Addiction, perhaps most famous for the 1990 hit "Been Caught Stealin'." On tour, Jane's traveled in four luxurious buses, which they utterly failed to trash. "It's like a big slumber party," Good says. "I wish I could tell you tales of debauchery and sex and drugs and all that stuff, but all the guys are in healthy relationships. And Perry does a lot of yoga."

And there's this, just in case you weren't sure rock hedonism was dead: "There's a juicier backstage at every show."

Good and her sister remain connected to Chicago; they've recorded both of their albums here (the newest is *The Universe Tonight*) in Johnny K's studio at Elston and Webster Avenues. And despite her forays into studios and onto the road with well-known acts, Linda has hardly forgotten where she came from; she plays Schubas again on July 14th. —TED ALLEN