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YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S BEST ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

[8 days a week]

And if you were confused by MENSK, you're definitely going to be thrown for a loop by **words and voices**. That's the similar to USM's *Words + Images*-sounding name of the new CD being released tonight by **aesthetic evidence**, the musical brainchild of former Portlander **Halsey Burgund**, who "builds his music around words that are spoken and recorded in completely non-musical context." Turns out, he was wandering around the Boston galleries, spotted the photos of newly ensconced Auburn resident **Tanja Alexia Hollander** hanging on the walls, and thought they'd make for pretty damn good album art. Thus, the artwork for the

new CD features three Hollander photos (parts of her horizon-focusing series). Coolio. Want to be part of the next CD? Then come to the release party and dip into the "Bring Your Own Voice" booth, a portable recording booth where you can lay down your own voice for the record. It all happens at Casco Bay Books, 151 Middle Street, in Portland. Call (207) 774-3339 for the free 8 p.m. event.

MY NEW FAVORITE SONG #4

BY GALEN RICHMOND

"predictable?"
by aesthetic evidence,
off Words and Voices

It's not too often that you come across a song that doesn't suggest something that you've heard before, and it's always a nice surprise when you do. This absolutely unique track starts with a sort of dopey electronic groove that you could probably generate on a Casio, and after eight measures a xylophone is introduced. Aesthetic evidence is more or less one guy, Halsey Burgund, and what follows for the next five minutes is a sonic collage of his coworkers reading excerpts from his job performance review. All the different voices reading the vapid office-speak meld perfectly with the keyboards and melodic percussion to create an overall effect that, while slightly tongue-in-cheek, is a serious musical accomplishment. Hear for yourself at Casco Bay. Books on April 22 and at www.aestheticevidence.com.

