

### LOCAL CDS

The Artist: **Bossa Nova Beatniks**

The Disc: **"The Moon Unit"**

Performance: **A**

Songwriting: **A**

Sound Quality: **A-**

Hometown: Huntington and Oyster Bay  
Buying It: Sound Tracks, Huntington; and try [www.bnbeatniks.com](http://www.bnbeatniks.com) on the Web.

"The Moon Unit" blasts off with congas so cool and precise from Tim Stapleton, you won't believe this seven-song disc, the Bossa Nova Beatniks' fifth, was recorded live in one take at a radio station—outside Scranton, Pa., of all places. The congas pave the way for "Swamp Thing," singer-songwriter Tom Gould's ode to Wes Craven's love-in-the-bog '80s film, and you can bet your morass this weird one is a good one. (Speaking of movie-related tracks, "Ack Ack," the band's great interpretation of "Mars Attacks!," closes things here.) Between those otherworldly tales, singer Tori Mierlak keeps things temporal with her teasing vocals on "I Stole Your Heart" and the Caribbean-seasoned "Fingers in the Cake." Pounding things into place, most noticeably on "Heart to Beat," is drummer George Vahamonde. It's no wonder he pulls double duty in the BNBs and Folk Fiction.

For a live document, Gould and his unit should be proud—there are some bands out there that would love to sound like this after spending three weeks in a studio. —Kevin Amorim  
The Bossa Nova Beatniks start around 6 p.m. tomorrow at Alive After Five!, a street festival on Main Street from Route 112 to Waverly Avenue in Patchogue.

The band will play three 45-minute sets.

