

Lioness on the prowl

If all goes as planned, the stage at Wrongbar Friday will be marked by a giant lion's head — of the P.E.T.A.-friendly, paper mache type — thanks to crafty Lioness singer Vanessa Fischer.

A local costume designer by day and formerly the frontwoman of punk outfit No Dynamics by night, Fischer can infuse even a glitzy dance club with a D.I.Y. punk aesthetic.

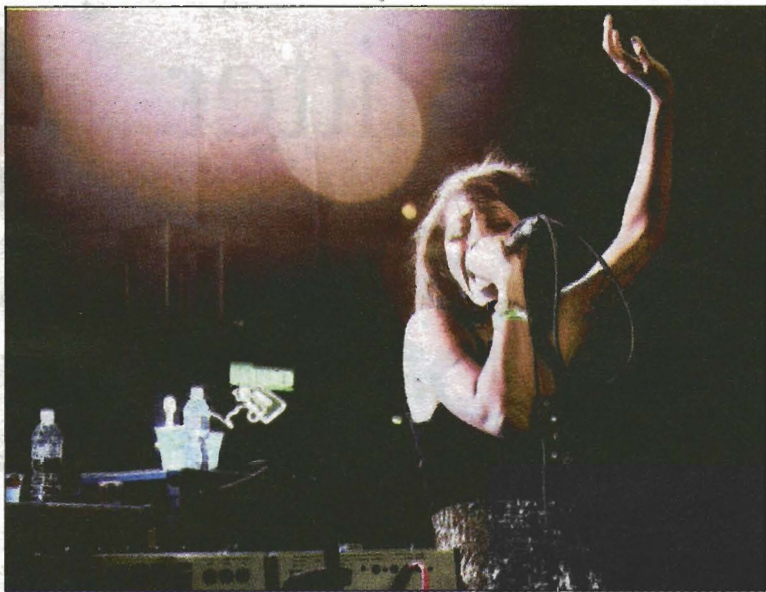
Lioness are “a bit soul, a bit disco ... but still a little bit punk rock,” explains the songstress, whose roar rivals her big hair.

Hype has surrounded the three-piece since Fischer paired with former drummer Jeff Scheven and bassist Ronnie Morris of local indie act controller.controller a year ago.

Using dark beats and bass lines (aptly coined “death disco”) and a Moog Taurus synthesizer to create what Fischer calls “science fiction noises,” the band is swinging for something unique amongst a slew of hip dance rock outfits like the Gossip and New Young Pony Club.

“We don’t want to be trendy,” she says. “The sound we’re trying to make isn’t necessarily lumped into a certain time frame.”

Besides Fischer’s deep vocals, what sets Lioness apart are their magical, idealistic lyrical themes, her current obsession being famous children’s book *The Little*



David Waldman, kidwithcamera.com

DEATH DISCO: Lioness will hold their debut EP release party Friday night at Wrongbar, 1279 Queen St. W.

Prince.

“What is essential to the heart is invisible to the eye,” is what she took from the book, and she now brings that motto to her performance.

“I sing with my heart and soul, and I think that isn’t done so much these days ... I’ve noticed a whole see-and-copy thing going on.”

With the release of their debut EP Fischer hopes Lioness can survive the current hype by marking their territory as an honest and authentic act.

“The things I sing about are very powerful for me, and I think in order for people to believe in you, you need to believe in it yourself.”

— Marsha Casselman, 24 HOURS