

## **Deerhoof's Milk Man Ballet, and The Toughcats**

On October 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup>, something special took place on the Island of North Haven. The North Haven Community School, the smallest public K-12 school in Maine, along with members of the 350 people community took part in the world premiere, *Milk Man Ballet*, directed by Courtney Nailbof, the NHCS music teacher, and choreographed by Ken Jones NHCS's PE teacher. Members of the community including Jake Greenlaw and Colin Gulley of The Toughcats performed the music. The instrumentation involved saxophone, trumpet, clarinet, flute, keyboard, recorder, guitar, drum machine, banjo, glockenspiel, and drums. 8 students ranging from 6-10 years old performed the Ballet.

Deerhoof's Satomi, Greg, and John came to the island for 4 days to help with the production, and watch the performance which they found to be "one of the most amazing experiences in there life." Deerhoof also spent a large part of one day working with students at the school and performing some of their music. The show attracted international press ranging from Pitchfork, Billboard, and beyond.

The Toughcats were honored to be involved in such an amazing production. Jake Greenlaw played drums, Colin Gulley played Banjo and Glockenspiel, and Joe Nelson did all the live sound setup and recording along with our friend Jason Mann. John Dieterich did the live sound mix. Joe and Colin designed and built the entire set, and Jake assisted with the set construction. It was challenging and a great learning experience to get so involved in Deerhoof's music, and we all look forward to putting on the performance again in the summer of '07. Keep a look out for a DVD, and a CD of the show @ [www.toughcats.com](http://www.toughcats.com). To see photos visit:

[http://pitchforkmedia.com/article/news/39399/Photos\\_School\\_Deerhoof\\_Ballet](http://pitchforkmedia.com/article/news/39399/Photos_School_Deerhoof_Ballet)