

# LOS ANGELES TIMES

## BUZZ BANDS

### Music is math

**Datarock** teaches the indie kids to dance, again, **All Smiles'** charming pop may elicit just that, and **White Rabbits** becomes eclectic.

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[Datarock](#)  
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#### Just forget about the category

Call it what you want — new rave or nu-rave — but Norwegian electro-rocker **Datarock** is happy to be playing it, even if the tag, which originated with the English band **the Klaxons**, is cause for a bit of eye-rolling among those who remember the trance-heavy real raves.

"The term doesn't make sense," says singer-guitarist **Fredrik Saroea**, who with bassist-keyboardist **Ketil Mosnes** is the driving force behind Datarock. "But the youth culture needs something new now and then — or about every six weeks."

The current explosion in the indie dance movement — populated by the likes of **Hot Chip**, **Cansei de Ser Sexy (CSS)**, **Low-Fi-Fnk** and **Justice** — "is really kind of an international trend, and it's a fun thing to be part of because the audience is so engaged," Saroea says. "Our shows *are* a bit ravey, but the funny thing is the term totally re-energized Datarock without us having to change anything."

True, the red-tracksuit-wearing band, whose debut, "Datarock Datarock," comes out Tuesday on Nettwerk, is still the same outfit that rolls Devo, the Talking Heads and the Happy Mondays into one big disco ball. Don't look for the pointed lyrics of an LCD Soundsystem here; Datarock keeps things campy and playful.

And if anybody brings glowsticks to Datarock's show Wednesday at the Troubadour, they'll be more fashion statements than anything. Says Saroea: "We're just trying to re-create the dance floor."

Download Datarock's "Fa-Fa-Fa": [media.nettwerk.com/DatRo/DatRo\\_FaFaFa.mp3](http://media.nettwerk.com/DatRo/DatRo_FaFaFa.mp3).  
Stream the album at [www.virb.com/datarock](http://www.virb.com/datarock).