

## **City Stages review: Soto Voce**

**by Michael Huebner -- The Birmingham News**

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**Soto Voce  
(Sunday at 6:45 p.m., Stephens Center Oasis)**

Touting itself as "high art for low brass," Sotto Voce excels in a genre populated by tubas, euphoniums and a few of their close kin. As adept at Brazilian syncopations as arrangements of Frank Zappa's music, the quartet gets around as nimbly in their repertoire as their oversized instruments. All graduates of the University of Wisconsin, they're spread around the nation now -- euphonium player Demondrae Thurman teaching at UA Tuscaloosa.

From their frequent tours, they have amassed a sizeable and entertaining repertoire, much of it original music. Among the highlights at the Music Oasis were a lovely arrangement of "Loch Lomond" in which the quartet sings a verse, and a frenetic Zappa guitar solo played -- astoundingly -- by a sousaphone.