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TOTIMOSHI

HQ: Oakland, CA
CHECK OUT: *Ladrón* (VOLCOM; volcoment.com)
ROCKS LIKE: Melvins, Nirvana, Helmet

While you can't even figure out where to eat with your significant other, Totimoshi guitarist/vocalist Antonio Aguilar and bass player Meg Castellanos are bringing the world their heavy blues. "The band is nine years old. We've been married for 10," says Castellanos. Over the course of those nine years, Totimoshi have released four albums, been through more drummers than tour vans (six, if you're counting), and toured with the likes of Melvins, Mastodon, Helmet and High On Fire. Aguilar has a take on what's kept both band and couple together. "They say there are two kinds of couples: Couples that are opposites and couples that are a lot alike. We're a lot alike. We have a lot of the same artistic ideas. It makes it a lot easier to tour because you're not leaving your life behind." Totimoshi's combination of melody, heaviness and nod-inducing grooves has kept them from being safely tucked into any of metal or punk's subgenres. When pressed, Aguilar has a joking response. "I tell people we're the heavy-metal Cure." [RR]