

Eljuri

October 12

Lebanese-Ecuadorian guitar slinger Eljuri launches her third album, *Lucha* (*Struggle*), with a show highlighting her mature take on *rock en español*. Born Cecilia Villar Eljuri in Guayaquil, Ecuador, Eljuri passed through New York's indie-rock scene with the Trouble Dolls before opening herself up to her Latin and Middle Eastern roots. With Eljuri singing in both English and Spanish, *Lucha* bounces confidently between fiery Santana-esque rock, reggae, Motown pop, and vintage Cuban dance rhythms. She has a distinctly different style or guitar sound for every occasion, too, including the delicious electric *tres* solo she delivers in "El Viento." While I wish she stretched out more, others will undoubtedly admire the Bonnie Raitt-like restraint she brings to a record that argues persuasively against indifference, indignity, and injustice. RICHARD GELHR

