



Feature: Prince - More Flesh than Music?

October 18th, The Spectrum, Phila., PA. Prince, 1988 Lovesexy World Tour. More flesh than music? From what I'd heard about Prince, I'd expected an erotic stage show with little musical presence, but to my delight, my expectations were not met. Prince's stage show was amazing. His sexually inclined choreography was spectacular and not overplayed (as I'd expected). Such props as a queen-size bed, a basketball court and a Prince-driven Chevrolet also enhanced the already street-like set. The light show blew me away: Prince flooded every shadow of the Spectrum with purple's yellow's blue's and red's with plenty of strobe lights and "disco-ball" effects. Prince summed up his career in a three-hour medley of practically his entire repertoire. To accomplish this, he shortened each song to the first verse and the final chorus, which was frustrating: just as I realized what song he was playing, he was into another one. Despite this disappointment, Prince devastated me with his live sound. His all-star band included Sheila E. on drums, Patii LaBelle on back-up vocals and Ashford and Simpson holding up the string section. Prince's unknown horn section played with loving soul as well, and the entire band matched that classic Motown sound. This was definitely music to my ears, and the band compensated for any other disappointment. If you want to hear Prince's older songs played in full, you may have to wait for his next tour, but if you want to see a highly energetic, elaborate production with a solid band and a wild front-man, you'll want to catch Prince's Lovesexy tour. This concert was certainly worth the \$22.50 I paid for my ticket.

H o t W a x

Political Activism

In their new album "Rattle and Hum", U2 has continued the trend started with "The Joshua Tree". In this mixture of live recordings and new material, the group builds a theme that sympathizes with victims of oppression and empathizes with the worldwide struggle for human rights. This theme of sympathy is represented in songs like "Van Dieman's Land".

This is a sad tale about the deportation of John Boyle O'Reilly. O'Reilly is a poet who wrote in support of the Fenians, a secret group dedicated to overthrowing British rule in Ireland. Other examples are "Freedom For My People", and a song protesting South Africa "Silver and Gold". Of course, there are other kinds of songs here as well. "Desire" is a harder song in the same spirit as "Pride". A live version of "Pride" is also here. Two tribute songs come with this album. "Angel of Harlem" was written for Billie Holiday, and "God Part II" is in memory of John Lennon. Two special points of interest are included here as well. In between "Van Dieman's Land" and "Desire" is a recording of an interview. In it, the interviewer asks "What has happened between the writing of the Joshua Tree and the recording of the album and the tour and now the new songs?" The answer? "I don't know." There is rumor going around that "Rattle and Hum" may be U2's last album. If so, this album would certainly be a fine farewell.

Dance For Cancer

On Wednesday, October 12, from approximately 8:30 to 11:30 there was a dance held in the dining hall. This dance was not just another social activity, though. The dance was a fund raiser to help send children who are suffering from cancer to summer camp. Todd Gibson volunteered his time this past summer to be counselor at Camp Dost. He saw the happiness that a camping experience brought to many children who did not have much laughter in their lives. The camp is located in Sullivan County, at a place called Maple Lake. Camp Dost was started in honor of Dr. Shaw (of Geisinger). The name Dost is from the Indian word meaning friend. The camp is specially designed to care for children suffering from many different cancer-related disabilities. Because of high medical expenses and other financial factors, though, many families are unable to send their children to such a "specially designed and equipped" camp. Thanks to the people who attended the Camp Dost Dance, and other contributors, approximately \$360 were raised. Todd felt this would be enough to send at least three children to camp this summer. Also, a special thanks to Woody Wolf for providing the music for the dance.

Heavy Metal

Metallica's hard-edged rhythms and hauling themes are the trademarks which have skyrocketed them out of their "cult-band" image into mega-stardom. Their secondary spot on the Monsters of Rock Tour certainly increased their exposure to the media and helped them achieve the level of success in which they are now basking. Their music is revolutionary in the Metal regime, based mainly on fast rhythms and involved beats which push their sound just one step further than average rock bands on the scene today. Metallica's fourth and newest album, "...And Justice for All", is no exception. From the opening song, "Blackened", to the closing, "Dyers Eve", these guys (including James Hetfield on vocals and rhythm guitar, Kirk Hammet on lead guitar, Jason Newsted on Bass and Lars Ulrich on Drums) only prove that they can rock harder than any of the rest. The central theme on the new L.P. is the concept of injustice and the ability (or inability) to speak out for what is right. Highlights include "Eye of the Beholder", "The Shortest Straw" and the acoustic-based "One".

Entrancing Us All - Steven King's Night Shift

Feelings, emotions, and actions are part of our daily lives. We are constantly playing upon the "field" of the unknown. The people we meet, the situations we encounter, and the places we travel through are all raveled into life's games. Each day we stumble into new and exciting dimensions -- we become trapped in another dwelling of space and time. Along the sidelines of the fields on which we play lurk our fears. They wait in anticipation of that fateful fumble so that they can take us down and tackle us when we are most vulnerable. Hovering above this macabre playing field is one man -- the master creator of our nightmares -- one man who brings into everyday life our most inhibited fears. Who is this diabolical monster of madness? He is the legendary Stephen King. Steven King toys with us like he would with his bizarre collection of voodoo dolls. Through his novels and short stories he relates the realities of daily living and turns them into our most hideous apprehensions. But how does he do it? Simply, is the answer. King takes situations faces, and places each of his fans can relate to. A home, or a family, or a car, stranded in the middle of a desolate mountain road, are things we can identify with. It is through these normalities of life -- it's little "goings on" -- that King attracts reader after reader to his deranged world. In one of his anthologies, Night Shift, there are two such examples of life's most natural events turning into nightmares right in the palms of King's sweaty

Classic Rock

Outrider - Jimmy Page
(1988 Geffen Records)

Look around/ Tell me what you see/
Have you found/ What you wanna be?"
The opening vocal from "Wasting My Time," the first song on guitarist Jimmy Page's first solo album, seems to ask a pertinent question with regard to Page's career. Since the demise of Led Zeppelin, Jimmy Page has drifted from one project to another. He composed and performed the eerie soundtrack to Death Wish II, cut two albums of uneven quality with The Firm, and guested on numerous projects such as Paul McCartney's "Give My Regards to Broad Street," Robert Plant's "Honeydrippers" Album, and the ARMS Benefit for Multiple Sclerosis, where he appeared on stage with the other two members of the British Guitar God Trinity, Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck. However, what is most eagerly anticipated by Page's fans is a reunion between him and former Zep bandmate, Robert Plant. The wishes of those fans is fulfilled on the track "The Only One," where Plant sings vocals. The song itself sounds like later-era Led Zeppelin, and may be an indication of the musical course the band would have pursued had they continued to exist into the 80's. The opening song and first video, "Wasting My Time," is a crunching stomp reminiscent of the Zeppelin of old. Most of the album however, bears little resemblance to
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hands. The first story, "I Know What You Need" is a basic 'boy meets girl of his dreams; boy can't have girl, continues the pursuit anyway.' The bit of voodoo magic in the boy's sinister mind is heavily evident: He knows what she needs... A second story and one which would be appealing to the on-campus crowd is "Strawberry Spring." The action takes place on the average college campus (a common place one may cross in his lifetime) where a series of gruesome murders occur during a season of the year known as the "Strawberry Spring" (much like an Indian Summer, it is more-or-less a fake season.) In the story, King uses fog images repetitively, because fog seems to appeal to most everyone's apprehensions about being caught alone in it. The remainder of the short stories in this particular collection continue to demonstrate most vividly how Stephen King has lured people into his evil world -- it is through their own world. The collection in Night Shift is highly recommended for those seeking a simple, yet deranged mode of life. Keep in mind though, that King is playing on the same field as everyone else. He just plays on the darker side -- ripping at our fears.