

ARENICK AND JESSICA GOING TO BE OKAY?
ENTERTAINMENT

NEIL YOUNG PRAIRIE WIND



Photo courtesy of Amazon.com

**Zach
tunes in**

By Zach Bailey
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Artist: Neil Young
 Album: Prairie Wind
 Label: Reprise/Wea



In a recent interview with NPR, Neil Young claims, "the art of singing is making a sound that comes from your heart." After listening to his latest studio album, *Prairie Wind*, I couldn't agree with him more. Neil Young has recorded many different types of music throughout the years. This latest addition to his catalogue is an album that is heartfelt and genuine. This feeling was apparent from the very first listen.

Prairie Wind is dedicated to Neil Young's father who had been dealing with ongoing health issues and passed away near the completion of the album. Several of the songs on this album, including the title track and *Far From Home*, lend a nostalgic nod to Young's past. Neil Young also had some health problems of his own during the recording of this album which resulted in major surgery. In his NPR interview, Young states that eight of the songs on the album were recorded before the surgery and the other two were recorded afterwards. The resulting album has a very intimate feel.

The majority of the songs on the album are based around acoustic guitar but contain other various instrumentation including drums, bass, and a pedal steel guitar. There are a lot of backing vocals on this album. Emmylou Harris also makes a guest appearance on two of the tracks. Several of the tracks on this album also contain string and horn arrangements. The horn arrangements are a fun addition to the album, while the string arrangements are often more serious and act as a suitable backing for Young's unique vocal style.

The Painter is the opening track on the album. This song is one of the best on the album. The track contains a very present acoustic guitar track and some fine backing vocals.

It's a Dream is a beautiful melody which contains a slow and dreamy string arrangement which is offset by a pedal steel guitar.

He Was the King is a tribute to Elvis. This track contains some humorous lyrics as well as a nice horn arrangement and slide guitar track. This Old Guitar is one of the two songs featuring Emmylou Harris. This is another outstanding track on the album about how an old guitar can seem to take on a life of its own.

See REVIEW on 10

All hail the Iron Chef

By Elizabeth Wingate
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All hail the *Iron Chef*. Behind a spare white facade on Chestnut Street in Center City Philadelphia lies a temple of culinary bliss where the chic, powerful, and faithful come to pay homage to the one and only Chef Masaharu Morimoto. From his birthplace in Hiroshima, Japan, to cultivating his brilliant palate under some of Japan's most prolific chefs, not to mention serving as Executive Chef at Manhattan's famed Nobu, Morimoto's Midas touch transforms the exquisite into the ethereal, a truly fantastic journey that begins with a single step.

Cuisine this divine demands a worthy stage, and Morimoto's restaurant is like his food- a perfectly simple exterior encasing intricately fantastic stuff. The main dining room is a lofty, beautiful space with helix-like swoops snaking along the white walls. Lucite booths dominate the middle of the room, glowing pink, then blue, then green, an ethereal canvas created by industrial designer Karim Rashid in conjunction with restaurateur

Stephen Chan. I always stand for a moment and drink in the dining room, drawn in by the flow of Morimoto's incredible energy. And then, I eat.

I'm not going to lie to you. There are some otherworldly dishes at Morimoto, and there are some that are decidedly underwhelming. Your mom always tried to instill that sharing is important, and to really taste Morimoto, it's essential. Order several appetizers, they'll arrive in stages, and you and your dining companions will bask in

the bounty of flavors presented and expertly described to you by an efficient, if somewhat reserved staff. The seared Kobe beef tartare rocks. A tender mound of pure flavor enhanced by Tokyo turnip and drizzled with a sudachi vinaigrette may leave you begging for more.

sea-kissed butter in the mouth, while oysters topped with *uni*, or sea urchin (hint: only eat *uni* at a great sushi place- otherwise, it's beyond terrible), will prove beyond any doubt that Morimoto is indeed, the *Iron Chef*.

The warm mushroom salad, served with scoops of Belgian

stone bowl is the best of the sea, as is the Arctic char with *Maitake* mushrooms in a delicious lobster broth. The Chilean sea bass is so five minutes ago, and anyway, it's dull, but the Kobe short ribs and *yuzu*-poached lobster in a red *miso* jus will knock your socks off.

Dining at Morimoto is not cheap. For the average pauper-esque college student, it's downright daunting, not unlike a class with Peter Kareithi. However, like his teaching, you're better for it, and should try it once in your life. Food is more than sustenance. It's bringing people together, nourishing bodies and souls, allowing a dynamic re-connection that the world often strips us of. Morimoto's clean, elegant Japanese aesthetic married with laid-back American cool is nirvana defined.

Morimoto
 723 Chestnut Street
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 19106
 Phone: 215-413-9070
 Reservations: Strongly recommended, 2-3 weeks in advance for weekend dining
 Full bar, smoking allowed
 Raw Bar & Sushi Bar
 Valet Parking
 CC: Visa Mastercard, Amex, Diner's Club
 Avg. dinner for two, with drinks, \$150 and up
 Dress code: Upscale casual
 morimotorestaurant.com
 Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11:30-2
 Dinner: Mon.-Thurs. 5-11
 Fri.-Sat. 5-12
 Sunday: 4-10

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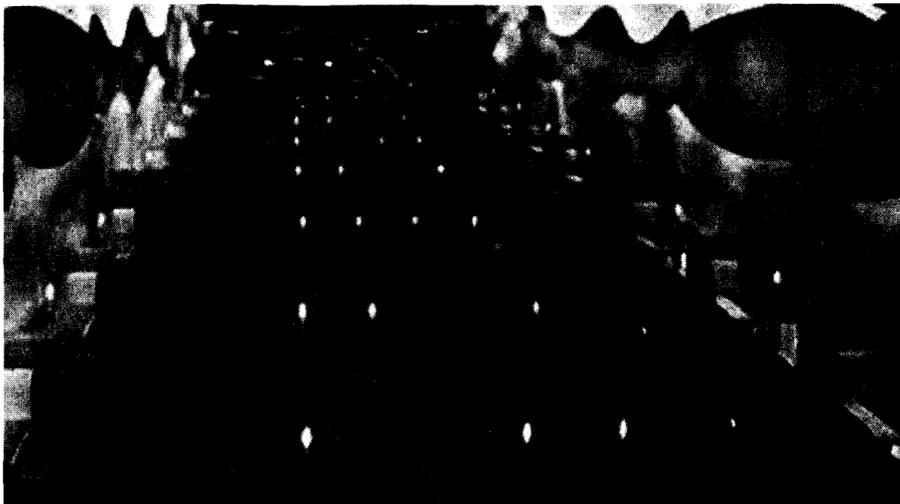


Photo Courtesy of morimotorestaurant.com

Morimoto restaurant in Philadelphia is a great place to enjoy superb Japanese cuisine and sushi prepared by the famous Chef Masaharu Morimoto from the TV show *Iron Chef*.

The *sukhu dofu* is possibly the best thing I've ever eaten, and will forever change your mind about tofu. Forget a sticky blob of tasteless whatever. Topped with Osetra caviar, fresh wasabi, and drizzled with dashi syrup, the house-made tofu is so light, almost sweet, with unexpected bites of toasted pine nuts. Between mouthfuls of tofu (I guess licking the bowl would have been very un-Zen), and sips of organic sake, I was speechless, and that says it all. Two-ounce gems of fatty oh-toro melt like

endive, with overtones of curry is not good. The lobster salad in a sun choke broth was better, but surprisingly, not as interesting as the basic house salad of perfect greens under shavings of fresh *bonito*. The soups, too, do not stand out, but the steaming porcini mushroom broth (an accompaniment to the night's special, file fish sashimi), which we sipped from the bowl, was clean and rich.

Entrees such as *Ishi yaki "Buri Bop,"* or King Yellowtail prepared tableside and served in a hot river

Again, ordering several apps and entrees, and then sharing, affords the greatest range, and the servers will describe each dish in detail upon delivery. Ask questions- sometimes the service is stuck-up, but who cares? If you're really adventurous, and really obsessed, sit at the sushi bar in the back of the main dining room and chat with the great man himself. He's very focused, the consummate professional, and after conversing with him on several occasions, he gave me a tour of the kitchen. I'll die happy.

Pieces of East visits PSH

By Kathryn Herr
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The Gallery Lounge wafted sounds of beating drums and soft vocals with a twist of acoustic guitar on Wed, Oct. 19. Pieces of East played a noontime concert at Penn State Harrisburg for students, staff, faculty, and community members.

Pieces of East is a band bringing parts of Indian drums and modern lyrics together to make a totally unique sound. They are the winners of the 2003 and 2004 Austin Music Award for "Best World Band".

They began with a few original songs before introducing the band members. Then continued playing together, laughing to each other and smiling as they played their instruments.

Perched atop a blanketed bench, bare feet poking out from behind the tabla drums, fingers flying, one member of the band gave the audience a lesson on the history of the tabla drums and the sounds they are capable of making. He illustrated how each sound made by the tabla drums can be mimicked with spoken syllables. He played the notes on the drums as he spoke the syllables in unison. The band then continued to play

a full set of songs from their new album to be released in a few weeks.

They are also the 2004 nominees in 12 categories including Best Rock, Best Pop, Best None-of-the-Above, Best Record Producer (Mark Hallman), Best Cover Art (Paula Beard), Best Female Vocals, Best Male Vocals, Best Bassist, Best Keyboards, Best Acoustic Guitar and Best Misc. Instrument.

CDs and other merchandise native to their culture of music were available for purchase at the event.

After the band serenaded the crowd the band members set up a henna tattoo stand and offered the popular henna tattoos for free to PSH.



The lead vocalist was nominated for an award in 2004.



Photos by Kathryn Herr/The Capital Times

Pieces of East rocks out on tabla drums in the Gallery Lounge Wednesday afternoon. A demonstration on how the tabla drums are played was given.