

Lion's Eye On Music

Steve Forbert — *Alive on Arrival*

By the time you've read this review, singer - songwriter Steve Forbert should be receiving heavy airplay, all over F.M. dials in Philadelphia, and for that matter, the rest of the east coast.

Yes, Steve is definitely "Alive on Arrival" with his debut L.P. on Nemperor Records. Steve hails from New Orleans; and during the past year, he's been pleasing audiences, across the states with his unique brand of music.

For instance, side one opens with an exciting tale "Goin' Down to Laurel". When he played this song at "STARS" last month, the audience went banana's. One can only see why after hearing this tune. It tells his listeners about how he digs life and the freedom he enjoys, being a performer on the road.

Throughout the whole L.P., Forbert conveys bright verbal messages to his audience. He tells us of pain and pleasure, two elements in life that are constantly with us. For example in "Steve Forbert's Midsummers Night Toast":

"Here's to all the shitty jobs that I despise.

Here's to two-bit guarantees and other lies.

Here's to roads of burning tar and hot cement.

Boo-It's Halloween

by George Hamaty

If the motion picture "Halloween" was to be nominated for having one of the best plots of all time, it probably wouldn't win. According to Webster's new Collegiate dictionary, a plot is defined as something that maps, plans, or contrives secretly. The plot in "Halloween" is simple to figure out, it's nothing to boggle the senses. You won't be captivated or awed by mystery in this movie, for you will be scared out of your undergarments. There are alot of tense and eerie scenes in "Halloween" that will have you holding onto the nearest thing in the theatre. There is alot of blood and violence in this movie. the problems with "Halloween" start with the script in general. Richard Carpenter (the film's author and director) leaves enough gaping holes in the story to put the potholes of Delaware County to total shame. The only mystery in this movie was in figuring out how, after fifteenth years in an insane asylum, a young man who was committed when he was six is able to steal a car when he hasn't spoken a word since the time that he was put in there. The psychopath, who the movie is based on, knifed his older sister to death when he was six years old. He was sent to an insane asylum in 1963. On the eve of that same

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Here's to money in my hand and where it went."

Most of us can relate to this song about life. Whether his songs are crude, violent or even pleasureable, Steve Forbert sings to us, in his effective voice, songs of strategies and truth.

Not looking any older than 20 years old, Steve resembles a marionette on stage. Constantly shuffling across the stage, Forbert really gets into his performance. One must see Steve in concert to appreciate this new artist.

"You Cannot Win, If You Donot Play" is another song with a personal message to all of us. On this gem, Forbert effectively uses Robbie Rondor on piano, and while being an accomplished songwriter, Forbert plays a mean harmonica riff throughout this whole tune.

Another song that personally intrigued me was "Thinkin". His guitar playing, using skiffle-type progressions, give the song a happy and enjoyable beat. After seeing him perform this song last year, at the Harris Point, I knew that I was seeing a future leader in contemporary music.

But of course, with every new artist that enters innocently into the record industry, there's always some strap Critics who must compare them/ to some established artist. I'm quite sure the same morons will compare Steve to somebody else. This is not only bias but it's not an effective way to appreciate a new talent, as bright and entertaing as Steve Forbert.

So the purpose of this review was not to inform you, the record-buying public, on who Steve sounds like but what he's all about. Steve Forbert is Alive on Arrival and hopefully you'll soon find out why.

Joe Reagoso

Justus — Proving They Are Something Special

I hope you listened to what I said in the last edition of the Lion's Eye, and that you took my advise. On Jan. 24 at the Main Point in Bryn Mawr, Justus, an inovative rock band, played to a packed crowd.

The show opened up with a Fleetwood Mac tune, "Over My Head", and led into "Tin Man" by America. Original tunes included: "Blue and Gold", an untempoed ballad, "In the Shadow", a flute dominated Renaissance sounding song, "Love Me Like a Man", a blues-rock tune, and "Live and Learn", a funky blue-grassy, jazzy rocker. Imagine a band with such diverse talents as this!

Also performed during the set were "Two of Us" by the Beatles, and "I've Just Seen a Face" by Wings. The 'Fab' Four would be quite pleased at the reditions of these songs. If your eyes were closed during "Second Hand News", "Over My Head", and "Landslide", you could swear that Fleetwood Mac were performing. If Stevie Nicks and Christine McVie were in the audience, their smiles would be overwhelming.

Justus' originality and musical know-how is tremendously impressive. Three-, and sometimes four part harmonies are done with expertise. If you are thinking about going to witness these fine musicians perform, keep April 14 open on your

calender for the first concert ever at the Brookline theatre. (show is at 3:00 P.M.). For ticket info. contact Hal London-the drummer of the band and a student here at Delco, or the Lion's Eye.

Good luck, to Justus-they've got the staffs best wishes!

Special thanks to Hal and Rich London who helped me in every way to get this story.

Steffi Stern

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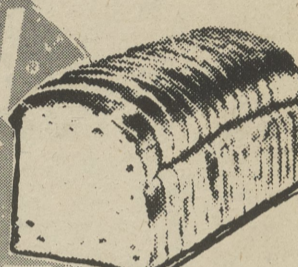
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