

# Eye on Entertainment

## SPRINGSTEEN AT THE SPECTRUM

By Caitlin Olszewski - Lion's Eye Generation Editor - coo5024@psu.edu

Some things just go together: grilled cheese and tomato soup, Aquaman and Aqualad, Bruce Springsteen and myself. Just kidding, but seriously Bruce Springsteen and The Spectrum are the best marriage since Mr. Fantastic and The Invisible Woman. Being the first venue (and biggest) of his first headlining tours, Springsteen has played at the Philadelphia Spectrum over 30 times throughout his career. Seeing that The Spectrum is to be demolished later in the year to build a better venue, The Boss felt like he owed it to his roots to play a last set of shows at his well-known concert-home.

On Tuesday, October 13th at approximately 8:00p.m., a sixty year old Bruce Springsteen, along with The E Street Band, took to the stage to make history once again. I guess Bruce was feeling a bit nostalgic for his final nights rocking The Spectrum. Along with The E Street Band he decided to take some of his popular albums including *Darkness on the Edge of Town* and *Thunder Road* and perform one full album each night track by track. On Tuesday, most of the set list was a complete album performance of his 1975 hit *Born to Run*. The overall ambience was incredible. Springsteen took

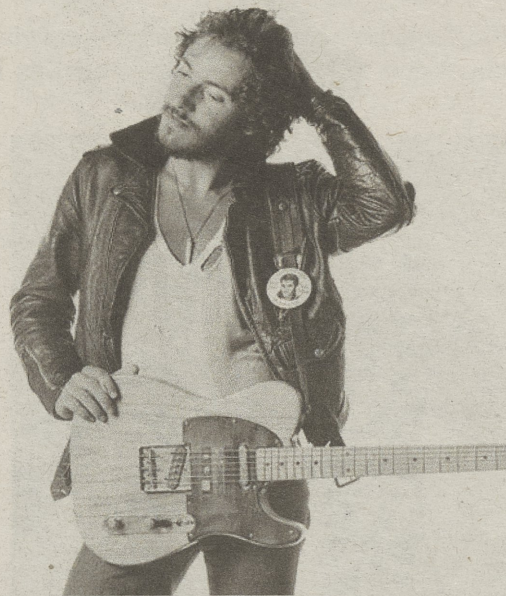


photo courtesy of 2fm.com

sign requests, worked the entire stage, and even brought a young fan up to sing (who is now an internet sensation). The E Street Band flawlessly backed The Boss up for several crowd-pleasers including: "Badlands," "Fire," and "You Can't Sit Down." Being in Philadelphia, The Band also played all of those intimate songs dealing with Bruce's personal history to the city. For "Streets of Philadelphia," nearly everyone in the packed arena was singing and dancing along to create one of the best public crowds I have ever been in.

It truly is an experience to see Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band perform live. Firstly, I could not believe that someone of his age had so much endurance and was sliding around the stage like a 20-something rock star. Secondly, I could not believe how focused and amazing the entire show was after hearing about earlier sloppy sets near Ashbury Park. It's true what people say: seeing The Boss is truly an experience. To be honest, I was completely blown away by his energy and the overall feel-good vibes of The E Street Band. I feel as though Bruce could not have given a better "big final good luck and good bye to his all time top-five and just move on down the road."

## From the Vintage Bin

### Simon & Garfunkel - Bookends

By Caitlin Olszewski - Lion's Eye Generation Editor - coo5024@psu.edu



photo courtesy of mynetimages.com

Ah, November! The only way I can express my love for your crispy smells and beautiful autumnal colors is through listening to this timeless masterpiece. In 1968 *Bookends* was released through Columbia records. Considered the first "concept album" by legendary poetic duo Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, the album was a mixture of songs dealing with age and scraps from *The Graduate* soundtrack.

This album is claimed by critics to be Simon and Garfunkel's most groundbreaking work, and many fans agree. Four of the

singles off the album peaked on Billboard's Top 100. Through the use of distorted synthesizers and heavier sound overall, Simon and Garfunkel departed from their usual soft acoustic work and broadened their audience.

There's no debate that the most popular and most overplayed song on the album is "Mrs. Robinson." Gaining popularity through Mike Nichols' *The Graduate*, "Mrs. Robinson" is a complementary song to the controversial character in the movie. Another top song on the album, "America," is a poetic ode to America and the process of discovery. Simon attacks a hypocritical government system through "Save the Life of My Child." "Voices of Old People" is pretty self-explanatory—it includes old people talking to each other. It partially embodies the whole drug culture aspect of the sixties in itself. A lot of their songs, including "Old Friends" and "Bookends," deal with rekindling old relationships and building new ones. All together, Simon delivers excellent mystic lyrics accompanied by Garfunkel's complementary guitar.

The album as a whole is a brilliant piece of musical genius. Paul Simon is a lyrical God paired with Art Garfunkel's masterly producing skills. The album has an essence of improvisation and innovation, while simultaneously being under processed without sounding raw or harsh. *Bookends* is a showcase of some of their best work, showing exactly how versatile and experimental the pair was with their musical styling.

## Can You Kill A Goat Just By Staring At It?

By Adrienne Showalter - Lion's Eye Entertainment Editor  
aus206@psu.edu

The *Men Who Stare at Goats* stars George Clooney, Kevin Spacey, and Ewan McGregor in a story based partially on true events. The military did experiment with remote viewing, but most likely did not follow the path set out by the New Earth Army in this movie. Through a mixture of alcohol, LSD, yoga, and hippie philosophy, this group of men is groomed to fight war without actually having to fight.

The story starts with Bob Wilton (Ewan McGregor) meeting Lyn Cassady (George Clooney) in a café in Iraq. Bob Wilton's wife had left him and he feels the need to prove to her that leaving him was a bad idea. Lyn Cassady's hopes in the military were dashed when the New Earth Army was dismantled and he was forced to kill a goat with his mind. He believes this was his entry into the "dark side" and caused the destruction of the group.

Although the trailers and teaser do not make it clear, the story is really about redemption. Each character is lacking some form of fulfillment. To judge the success of the movie, you must then decide whether each character did achieve success in this area. Personally, I feel that the ending fit perfectly.

The cast is comprised of great actors who do not disappoint. The humor never falls flat, but more importantly, the dramatic moments feel genuine despite the overall levity of the piece. You may leave the theater in a better mood and perhaps with an open mind. See it soon because

while it may be a great movie, it is by no means mainstream. Against the typical romantic comedies and action movies this may be forgotten, and that would be tragic.

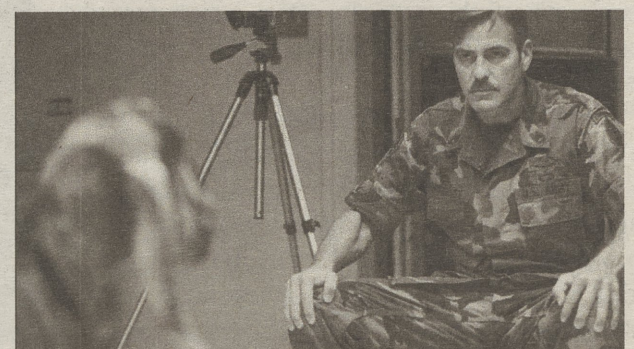


photo courtesy of /img.thesun.co.uk