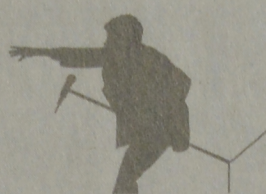


THE BRUNS



Entertainment

music books concerts theatre movies interviews exhibits television videogames

Kingpins skank it up, dress nicely

by Ben Conoley

Montreal ska outfit The Kingpins made an exciting appearance at the Chestnut last Saturday, much to the delight of those ska lovers wanting to get their groove on.

Touring in support of their latest release, *Plan of Action*, the fivesome played two fun, danceable, energetic sets covering all five of their Stomp Record releases.

Taking the stage beforehand was local ska band El Diablo. Armed with a trumpet and a few clever covers (including 'Walkin' on Sunshine'), El Diablo warmed the crowd up, and were receiving shouts for an encore at the end of the set.

"That's all the songs we know," shouted their lead singer in response. El Diablo opened for the Kingpins last year as well, and many in the crowd were pleased to see them return.

Kingpins' lead singer Lorraine Muller donned not one, but two, latex dresses while the rest of the band, Eric Boulanger, Josh Fuhrman, and Jordan Swift, wore suits - nice ones at that.

On the dance floor, the crowd sang along to songs such as, 'The Ten Commandments of Ska,' 'Consequences,' 'Jack Ruby,' and 'Watch Your Back,' all which kept the feet moving of even those sitting down. Never resting for a moment, the band danced around and kept everyone in attendance entertained.

During the last song of their second set, the fire alarms started going off inside the club and everyone was forced to wait outside before collecting any belongings left in the club. Not to let the fans down, Josh Fuhrman took his sax outside and treated those in the cold to an improvised 80's jazz set.

At the end of the night, when the shivering stopped, everyone walked away with smiles on their faces and an interesting story to share.



Ben Conoley / The Brunswickan

The Kingpins' Lorraine Muller gets involved with the crowd, while Josh Fuhrman swings his sax.

Auditions for Vagina Monologues

Women of ages 18 and up from diverse cultural backgrounds required - no experience necessary!

by Bruns Staff

The Students Unions of UNB and STU will be holding auditions for The Vagina Monologues October 29th and 30th, and all those interested in performing in the play are encouraged to attend.

Women of ages 18 and up from diverse cultural backgrounds are required. You do not need to be a student and there

is no need to prepare anything. Please come along prepared to play some simple theatre games, to chat with other women, and perhaps read.

No acting experience is required.

Auditions will be held at 6:00 pm on both days. On October 29 they will take place at McLaggan Hall, UNB, and will continue October 30 in the Ted Daigle Auditorium at STU.

The show contains mature subject matter, and the auditions will reflect that.

For information on the auditions call Alison Mesheau at 454-0697 or email aviva@stthomasu.ca. For information of the Vagina Monologues contact organizer Kate Whitfield at 453-4955 or email h15jy@unb.ca

Medicinal grooves

Music that soothes the soul is actually good for you

by Geoff Dennis
The Ryersonian

It could be late at night, with candles glowing. It could be while you're at work, or driving in the car. It could even be coming through your headphones. Everyone knows that sensation. When your favourite song plays from the speakers - everything becomes secondary - you are lost in it. You close your eyes, you hum the melody or sing along at top of your lungs; then comes that wonderful feeling.

"The chills," it's called.

It creeps down your spine like an electric shiver that ignites every nerve ending, sending shock waves all the way down to your toes. No matter your mood - happy, sad, lonely, complacent - you always feel better. Rejuvenated. All that from a piece of music.

Science is trying to measure that feeling, and now researchers in Montreal and Massachusetts are reporting that they can prove music is clinically good for you. They say that music (or at least your favourite tunes - the ones that give you those spine-tingling "chills") taps the same reward and emotion centres in the brain that are stimulated by sex, drugs and food.

Although most music lovers probably already knew that music indeed has some inherent effect on them, this is a significant breakthrough. For many others, though, it is a vindication.

"Music makes sense to people in a world of confusion," says music therapist, Laura McNeil. Through her experiences with geriatric patients at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, she uses music to attain therapeutic goals.

If, for example, McNeil wanted to increase her patient's social interactions, she masks the therapy through getting them to sing, dance or listen to music. Other times, creating music is best. Usually with percussion instruments, McNeil's patients are asked to improvise: they create music that reflects how they are feeling while she accompanies the tune with either guitar or piano. The result isn't always a breakthrough, however, the expression of feelings is what is important.

"For me, music is an invaluable tool. It's very powerful, you can really touch people with it," she adds. "It expresses the intangibles, it's like filling up an empty soul."

However, others are not convinced.

While music can make you feel better, they argue, they don't believe that music is essential to well being. First of all, humans can live without it—unlike water and food. So, if music is not essential to survival, then is it really crucial to existence?

Keith Hampson, a sociology professor at Ryerson who teaches pop culture isn't convinced that music has the same effect as sex or food on the human brain. In fact, he thinks the study is nonsense.

"It's crap, it's not legitimate research," he says after reading a brief description of the tests. "Music operates on a different level than sex or food or drugs. To slop it all together is of no great significance. The study is cheesy, superficial."

Hampson says that scientists are just beginning to understand what makes us tick as they unravel the mysteries of DNA.

He says that pitting science against intimate human reactions to songs is similar to the reaction versus religion debate: scientific truth is gained at the expense of spirituality.

"When you add logic to that shiver feeling, you lose the mystery," he adds. "A + B = shiver! That's kind of dreary isn't it?"

Electrobash blows away crowd

First live electronica event well received

by Jeremy Elder

The first ever Electrobash was held this past Saturday, showcasing Maritime electronic music talent. The event, a first time experiment in live, electronic music, was well attended.

Those lucky enough to be in the gallery were thrilled by most, if not all, of the acts. The smaller space of Gallery Connexion made for a much more personal show, and the acoustics were well balanced for the space, creating great sound quality. DJ Jenn started the evening off with a bang with nearly a full hour of jungle music, spinning for the first time in a few years.

Spoof le Grand, a very talented young man from backwoods Nova Scotia, composing live on his computer, produced a long yet beautiful track of upbeat music, creating a strange contradiction between the visual and auditory.

JeTprojecTlabs, the night's next act, had extraordinary stage presence. With a sound that can safely be described as "techno-punk," and sounding slightly similar to Rage Against The Machine, jeT created a complete multi sensory, multimedia experience. A large amount of the presentation was contained on a video created by some of his associates and projected onto a screen, with two actors on jeT's opposite side performing silently while jeT added vocals to the music. The crowd was riveted by this performance, with nearly everyone standing or sitting, watching the video and taking it all in.

Gary Flanagan performed next, bringing his quirky 80's-style music to bear. Dressed in a suit and authentic vintage thin leather tie, he performed a series of songs that seemed to come straight out of the era,



Jeremy Elder / The Brunswickan

Electrobash gets swinging - Dance! Drum! Dance! Drum!

leading to many jokes being made of "flashbacks to those years."

Much of the crowd spent the entire set smiling, Gary's music being a complete counterpoint to jeTprojecTlabs' darker performance. His attempts at dancing most often led to rolling laughter among the audience members, yet fit completely with his odd style.

The night closed with Drums and Machines, who pumped out pulse-pounding rhythms of live drums to the sound of prerecorded musical samples. CHSR's own Shanmonster performed with Drums and

Machines, her fluid dancing providing an interesting match for the staccato of drum beats.

Electrobash #1 blew away any preconceived notions of what any event with electronic music in Fredericton should be, and I, personally, look forward to the next. There are very few genres that could have had that amount of variety in one event, and fewer still that could have made it work the way that Electrobash did. For those of you that missed it, there are rumors of a compilation cd, so keep an eye - and an ear - peeled for that.

Das Radio and Greg Harrison Experiment to play Alden Nowlan Literary Festival

by Bruns Staff

Among the many readings, workshops, and book launches of the Alden Nowlan Literary Festival this weekend, two Fredericton bands will make a slightly unconventional contribution.

Das Radio and The Greg Harrison Experiment will be performing a free afternoon show at Gallery Connexion on Saturday, October 27.

A trio of UNB students making alternative music in a decidedly unique way, Das Radio is becoming increasingly well-known in Fredericton. The group combines textural eighties electronics with modern guitar-based rock, creating a sound that defies classification. Das Radio made its debut early this year at

the CHSR Battle of the Bands, where they placed second among 18 performers, and most recently opened two dates for indie rock legends, Eric's Trip.

The Greg Harrison Experience is a young, Fredericton quintet - all members are graduating Fredericton High School this year. The musicians incorporate diverse influences into their jazzy funk music, creating a wonderfully individual sound. The band most recently performed to a packed house during the Harvest Jazz & Blues

Festival. More information can be found at <http://dasradio.methop.com>.

For complete details on the festival, which runs from Friday through Sunday, visit <http://www.sjfu.nb.ca/~wmb>.

