

"Just hum along..." Valdy at the Playhouse

By KATHRYN WAKELING

"If you recognize the tune feel free to sing along, or if you are the shy type, just hum along....."

After walking nonchalantly onto the stage with his guitar in hand, the audience suddenly became aware that the man on stage was Valdy himself. Then suddenly the lights began to dim and the music of Valdy began - beginning first by the man himself and quickly growing in accompaniment throughout the first number by a five piece band.

The first few song selections were quite startling to a large majority of the audience because they just were not indicative of the man known to many as being a quiet folksinger come balladeer. These first few tunes were of a rock to blues and jazz nature - an image he is apparently trying to promote through his newest release entitled "Hot Rocks", of which we heard not only the title

tune but also a majority of the album's cuts. After a few songs had been sung as an introduction to the evenings performance the concert took on a different twist when B Valdy was left on the stage alone with only his guitar and the audience. Here we were treated to old favorites plus personal selections. It was here that the audience participation was at its greatest - for here everyone began to openly sing along and laugh with Valdy as he led the audience along with personal glimpses into his life as a family man.

The whole concert was a reflection of a group of very polished musicians - the whole performance was a smooth effort flowing through the hands of professional musicians. The bank itself was a fantastic combination of keyboard (piano and electric piano), woodwinds and flute, plus acoustic and electric guitar, bass, and drums. Valdy's selections were all well orchestrated, using a

wide range of musical sound effects for almost every song. Vldy himself adds to the whole arrangement with his most extraordinary guitar playing.

Songs sung last night were all of personal nature, in which reflected the various changes and emotions that make up the personality we know as Valdy. Speaking of which, he seemed to be enjoying himself as much as the audience reflected in his very easy going manner and repoire with the audience.

Unfortunately the two hours passed by too quickly and due to his commitment of a following performance due to his father's death and Monday night's cancellatinn an encore call was only answered by a quick ditty. It was however a seemingly satisfied group of people who left the Playhouse though with the only complaint being heard was that not all the old favorites were heard during the evening. Maybe next time.



B.F.'s MUSIC!

YEAR END MUSIC POLL

This year-end poll yielded some surprises, a few close races, and lots of interesting submissions. (Which I'll talk about later) Anyhow, without further ado, results '78.

TOP ALBUMS

1. Some Girls — Rolling Stones
2. Pieces of Eight — Styx
3. The Stranger — Billy Joel
4. Thick as Thieves — Trooper
5. You're Gonna Get It — Tom Petty & Heartbreakers
6. The Cars — The Cars
7. Eddie Money — Eddie Money
8. Grease — Soundtrack
9. Double Vision — Foreigner
10. Rocky Horror — Soundtrack

TOP SONGS

1. Miss You — Rolling Stones
2. Who Are You — The Who
3. Double Vision — Foreigner
4. Satisfaction — Devo
5. Baker Street — Gerry Rafferty
6. I Will Still Love You — Stonebolt
7. Hot Child — Nick Gilder
8. Grease — Franki Valli
9. Hand Jive — Sha-na-na
10. Time Warp — Rocky Horror Soundtrack

GROUPS

1. Rolling Stones
2. Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers
3. Atlanta Rhythm Section
4. Styx
5. Trooper

Debut Group
Male Vocalist
Female Vocalist
Worst Group
Worst Album
Best Group in Concert
Comeback Artist
Drug of the Year
Laugh of the Year
Favorite Complaint
Favorite Pastime
Ripoff of the Year
Most missed person
Sex Symbol
Comedian

The Cars
Billy Joel
Linda Ronstadt
Village People, Kiss (tie)
Macho Man
Rolling Stones
Bruce Springsteen
Mushrooms
Keith Richards' Sentence
Lack of Money
Partying
UNB
Girl/boy friend
Cheryl Tiegs
Steve Martin

Comments: The Rolling Stones capped many of the awards, mostly due to the great success of Some Girls.

Changes this year include marijuana dropping to number two behind mushrooms; Ms. Tiegs taking over from Ms. Ladd in a close race; and all sorts of interesting submissions like Richard Hatfield for comeback artist (terrible connotations!); another was cabbage as drug of the year; another was the lack of sex, money, booze, drugs or any combination thereof as favorite complaint; and last, but not least, for favorite pastime-toad-sexing. Now I've heard everything

Now for my favorite complaint: I was disappointed in the very low return for my poll. Only about 40 people answered out of a possible 6000, that's only about 1.5 percent. What's wrong with you people??????

ALBUMS OF THE WEEK

Unfortunately, due to a bit of a problem with my writing arm, I didn't get a chance to properly listen to the two live albums I had intended to review. However, I have listened to them enough to give you an opinion on them.

The Kansas live album, Two For The Show, is one of the better live albums I've heard in the last few years. Included are versions of some of their latest hits, like "Dust in the Wind", "Point of Know Return", and "Carry on Wayward Son". If you're a Kansas fan, it's a worthwhile addition to your collection.

Aerosmith's Live Bootleg is a different sort of live album in that the sound quality is about the same as a bootleg, if you've ever heard one. All of their big songs are there, from Dream On to Come Together, and this makes it a very complete set as Come Together is just barely slipping off the charts.

Both albums were recorded at various locations during recent tours.

The Aerosmith album specifies where each cut was recorded (mostly in the eastern US) but the Kansas album doesn't. There are some interesting concert shots in both, and, unless I'm mistaken, the Aerosmith album contains a poster. If you're into live albums, better get these two. I'll get back to these after Xmas.

IN CLOSING

The column this week is a little shorter than I planned on due to the aforementioned problem. But as we say back home "c'est la vie".

Study hard for your exams and have a good holiday. To those of you who are graduating at Xmas - Good Luck! As for the rest of you see you in January.

Special thanx: this week to all the people who submitted their opinions for the music poll. Also thanx to Sheenagh for accepting this at some ridiculously late hour on Wednesday night. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!

Whittaker at AUC



Well known singer and songwriter Roger Whitake made a star appearance at the Aitken Centre Wednesday night. Over 4000 turned up to hear this internationally renowned artist. The Audience's reaction was vocal and appreciative.

