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Live  
concert  
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Tuesday, Nov. 30

a & e

## Garnet at the Grawood

by Ryan Brothers and Tristan Walker

The night started off with a few beer, as do most Friday nights. As we stumbled towards the Grawood it occurred to us that we weren't in Kansas anymore, Toto. We were drawn to the Grawood upon hearing that we would have a chance to see a folk icon. Worshipping no false gods, we were not to be disappointed with the ensuing concert Garnet Rogers was to play.

The Oakfield times opened the night, performing a variety of Maritime folk music with a Celtic twist. Pulling off a commendable performance in front of a somewhat unruly crowd, they set the mood for who everyone had come to see. They were generally thought to be a decent act to those who appreciate traditional music.

After a brief intermission and some more beer, we were eagerly anticipating the concert we had paid seven dollars to see. It started with Garnet and his guitar standing before the mob that the previous band had failed to tame. He played two powerful sets and by the end the crowd had been humbled. It seemed as though everyone had quieted down by the final songs, and then joined in singing of the encore ("Northwest Passage" and "The Idiot").

After the concert there came the opportunity to interview Mr. Rogers... uh, I mean Garnet Rogers. The first question we asked was, how did you get your start in music? He answered somewhat sarcastically, saying that since he had no sex life as a teenager, and self-abuse was frowned upon, he was forced to take up the fiddle. If his dating days had gone better perhaps the audience

would have seen a different kind of show. This set the tone for the rest of the interview, which ended up being quite fun to do.

For each question Garnet seemed to answer half-joking, sort of surprising coming from this person who had just given such a powerful performance. I guess we were expecting either for him to be quite tired, as he had to drive to Ontario after we were done, or perhaps

### The crowd had been humbled

to be a bit more sombre. Standing over six feet tall, with a ponytail and a beard, the outward appearance tended to hide his rather good nature.

When asked about his influences he immediately answers that lyrically his greatest influences come from his brother Stan, and also his friend Archie

Fisher. When it comes to guitar style he lists guitarists as Pete Townsend from The Who and Jimi Hendrix.

One of his most moving songs was "Frank and Jonny", a song about two brothers in which one dies. Sorry for the quick summary of the song which we haven't done justice. According to Garnet, this song has very little of himself in it. He pointed out that the character Jonny, the one who dies, had very little in common with his own deceased brother, Stan. Yet the performance of this song along with the others that night, seemed to carry a lot more weight than he would admit to a couple of amateur interviewers.

So to you fans, we can expect a new album with a year (this is straight from the horse's mouth). Overall it was a most enjoyable concert. Although some may complain about the crowd, we know a good time was had by all, listening to a great performance by Garnet Rogers.

## Slipped Disks

by Richard Lim

Colin James  
Colin James and the Little Big Band  
Virgin

Colin James is easily one of the most talented and committed blues musicians of our time. I'm probably obligated to qualify that statement, but doubters would be better served if they were to give his new album a listen.

Colin James and the Little Big Band ignores the music industry's latest trend of adding of clever modern twists to retro styles and calling it original. Instead, Colin James has immersed himself in music which he has always demonstrated a genuine love for (recall "Why'd You Lie?" and "Sudden Stop"). His commitment to blues has taken him beyond the cynical retro-'70s marketing ploys (witness the mind-numbing procession of Zeppelin and Hendrix clones such as Lenny Kravitz) to an album which harkens back to the big bands and jump blues of the '40s and '50s.

Put simply, Colin James is a dexterous and passionate guitarist, his vocals are clean and sharp - no Jeff Healey whining from this guy's chops - and every song on this album is equal parts entertainment and nostalgia.

In particular, "That's What You Do to Me", "Breakin' Up the House", "Cha Shooky Doo" and "Satellite" show an unabashed enjoyment of and a natural knack for the blues. Maybe he'll lose the fans who just want another "Voodoo Thing", but that's fine. Colin James is having a great time, and so am I, and so is the classmate of mine who heard the album once, then went out and bought it. Is that peer pressure enough for you, or what?

# Karas

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Employee of the month: LOIS

## News of Our Demise Is Greatly Exaggerated

Yes, we have received our lay-off notices, to take effect on 1 April 1994 when the Art Gallery is scheduled for closure. However, *we are still open*, and we have organized an exceptional program of exhibitions, presentations and films to celebrate our 40th Anniversary year. In fact, we have already received major funding from the Canada Council for three of our Spring term exhibitions. Watch for the Calendar!

Ever since President Clark announced our possible closure, Gallery staff have refused to "lie down and die". We have now developed a 4-year financial strategic plan, involving operational restructuring and fund-raising from both private and public sources, which will enable us to remain open as an active exhibition and research centre, and to continue our role as an academic support unit. We have received a promise of significant funds from a Dalhousie Alumnus, which, pending approval from the President's office, will make our plan feasible. We will be presenting these proposals to the Administration next week, so watch this space for further news.

Meanwhile, the show goes on! We thank you all for your support, and invite all members of the Dalhousie community to join us *Thursday, 25 November, from 8:00 p.m. onwards*, for the opening of the *40th Annual Dalhousie Student, Staff, Faculty and Alumni Exhibition*, and for a celebratory evening of art, drama, and music.

## The Dalhousie Art Gallery