

ARTS

Wrathful wit and wisdom

BY PN

THE GRAPES OF WRATH are currently on a North American tour. On Saturday night they played a sold out McInnes Room, and earlier that afternoon I was able to sit down with Chris Hooper, the drummer of the band and ask him a couple of questions.

MUSIC
The Grapes of Wrath
McInnes Room

P.N.: *Your sound is quite melodic, what influences have given you this sound?*

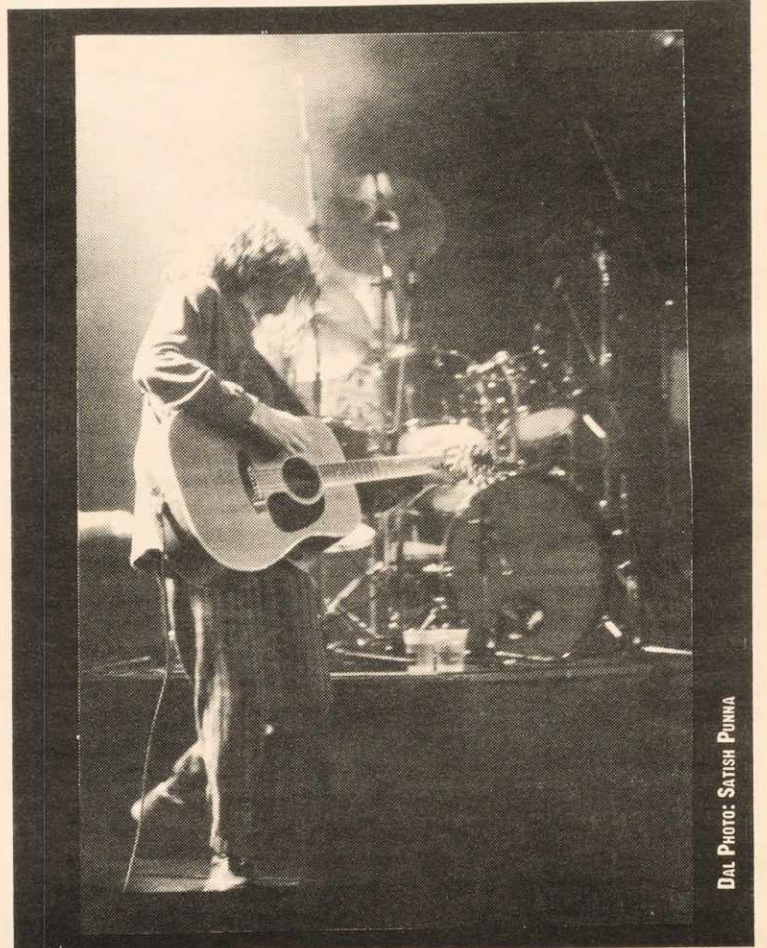
C.H.: It would definitely be melody based groups, you know groups that tend to write songs out of melody, like old sixties stuff. That inspired us when we first started to play when we were twelve years old.

You and your brother Tom (Bass and Vocals)?

Yeah, me, Tom, and Kevin [Kevin Kane, guitar and vocals]. We all met in grade 8, and we'd have big Saturday night jams in our basement. You know we would play the whole Live at Leeds album [The Who]. So that's when we started writing songs together, so that is what influenced us.

Do you continuously write music as you tour, or do you take a break to compose?

No we don't, that's the thing, when we tour we don't have the time, so what we do is we'll get back from touring a whole record, say we tour for a year altogether, and then we will come back and take a month off. Then we get back together, and we go in to our little space we record in, and we all just start playing our ideas. Then we just gather them up and bash



DAL PHOTO: SATISH PUNNA

One man band: plays guitar with hands, drums with head.

through them, throwing ideas at each other, and generally we have a bunch of recordings within a month. We've done that with the last two records, and it seems to have worked pretty good. So we never do songs live, we write them when we finish touring and then we record them.

When and why did you decide to add keyboardist, Vince Jones?

That was right after Treehouse [The Grapes of Wrath's second album, released November 1987] ...we put Treehouse out, and there was some keyboard on it, not a lot, but a bit and we thought it would

be kind of cool. And we were thinking of adding another person at that time anyway. We tried a guitar player and it didn't work. So we thought, well let's have piano and organ. So we just put an ad in the paper and he came down. He'd heard the name [The Grapes of Wrath] but he hadn't heard any of our stuff. Well he liked the music so we asked him if he'd like to tour the States with us. So he quit his job, and he started touring, until the recording of Now and Again [The Grapes of Wrath third album

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Date: **November 5th**

Time: **12:00 Noon**

Location: **Room 224 & 226**

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Presented By:



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