

THE WATCHMEN



The Watchmen:
Fresh and Vibrant
a review
by: Mark I. Minor

From amidst the crowd of skeletons, derelicts, and even cat triplets (and a giant humble-bee), four inconspicuous young men rose on to the "stage" (?) at the CHSC at about 11:15 on All Hallow's Eve:

As soon as frontman Danny Greaves picked up his tambourine, all hell broke loose and I knew I was in for a treat. This guy was amazing. From the time he hit the stage until the end of the set, he never let up.

The Watchmen's sound was young, pure and unpretentious: simply guitar, bass, drums and vocal. There were no preprogrammed effects or technical bullshit - just progressive, straight ahead rock n' roll. They worked very hard to create a whirlwind of insanity on the stage resulting in a

performance which was found to be extremely pleasing to the eye as well as the ear. In the not-so-distant past, we've seen some bands who, having enjoyed moderate success, have relaxed on stage and delivered more or less boring performances. *Blue Rodeo* and *'54 '40* come quickly to mind. Not so in the case of *The Watchmen*. The type of energy seen last Thursday night was highly effervescent and unparalleled by any other band performing in the SUB since the last *Tragically Hip* concert. Look out Gord Downey!

Danny's vocals were very clear and because the sound wasn't mixed too loud for the club, I could actually understand the lyrics. This man's voice excels in range as well as clarity and his short adventures on the harmonica were really quite impressive.

Drummer Sam Kohn was fast and innovative. His technique involved the incorporation of some complex rolls into very basic rock and roll. Another effective talent that he displayed was the use of his high hat. This precise skill, which is now rarely seen among drummers on the college circuit surely enhances the art of rock drumming. It was great to watch and listen to this guy who actually takes his music seriously and isn't just maintaining a steady beat.

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