



Bagpiping novelty for the ruling class

Jazz at the Bermuda Onion

by Garth Hagey

Rufus Harley Bermuda Onion

In traditional dress (sorry, kilt) of the MacPherson clan, Rufus Marley, the world's only jazz/piper, played his bagpipes for an audience of the posh set at the Bermuda Onion.

Having Scottish blood running through my viens and a love for jazz, I had to see this strange combination.

Disillusioned can only begin to describe my feeling at the end of the

Rufus' mediocre quartet, and they were bland too (like white Wonder Bread), slugged through traditional jazz tunes. Rufus himself played a soprano sax and occasionally brought out his bagpipes.

When he did bring out the mighty Scottish screamers he would play an interesting riff and then sit down in the audience for a few minutes

before getting up to play the same riff again.

After a half hour of this it made me wonder what Rufus really knew. But what made me wonder even more, was the audience applause after every performance regardless of how he did, for the same minute and a half too.

The questions and answers were even worse because he outrightly claimed ignorance of the instrument and Scottish traditions.

Having only visited Edinburgh last year (he's been playing for twenty), and when asked where he was on Robbie Burns day he dumbly replied "Who's Robbie Burns?"

This might have been excusable if he had dazzled us with his fusion of jazz and the bagpipes, but as it was Rufus kept on mentioning how we "Might wanna see me back in my office, if you wanna buy my records. You know I wouldn't wanna miss out on picking up a few dollars."



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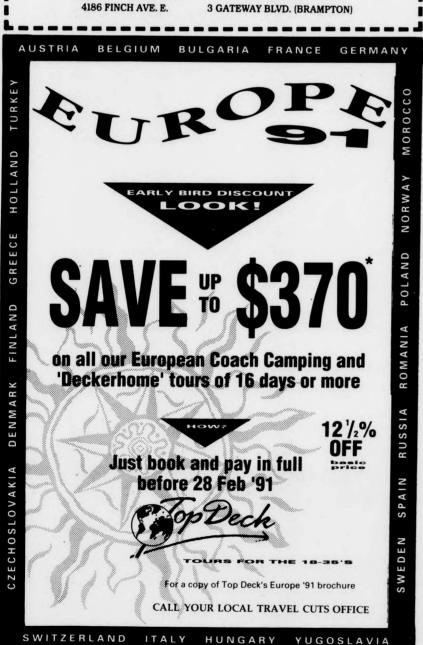
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compiled by Trevor Campbell

GALLERIES

From Jan.16-Feb.17, the I.D.A. Gallery, in the Fine Arts Building, Phase 2, presents Get Real, an exhibition of photographs by Philip-Lorea di Corcia, Nan Goldin and Jack Pierson.

The Art Gallery of York University (N145 Ross) presents a Matrix Area Show, from Jan.21-25. For gallery hours call 736-5169.

The Glendon Gallery presents Zones, an exhibition of works by Shirley Yanover, Sylvie Belanger, and Ginette Legare. The show runs from Jan.16-Feb.15.

Glendon College's Maison de la Culture, located at 2275 Bayview Ave. (at Lawrence), features photo montages by Pierre Guimond on Jan.17-Feb.14. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 12pm-4pm, and Thurs. 6pm-8:30pm.

THEATRE

The Theatre Department presents The Farm Show by Theatre Passe Muraille and Paul Thompson from Jan.21-25.

On Jan. 21-26, the Samuel Becket Theatre at 110 Stong College presents Sexual Perversity in Chicago. A play by David Mamet, directed by Tom Carson. Admission is \$3 and the show starts at 7 pm. Some scenes may offend.

The Fine Arts Department is preparing for its annual New York Trip on Feb.20-25. Call Dawn Abercrombie at extension 55135 for details.