

# entertainment

## Three claps for Clapton

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When one thinks about it, there are actually very few musicians who had a profound effect on music back in the 1960's and remain as potent forces in the music scene today. One of these is certainly Eric Clapton.

When rock fans consider Eric Clapton, a picture of musical excellence comes to mind. The nimbly-executed, crystal-clear, technically-perfect guitar work coupled with a pensive, emotion-filled voice have created some memorable albums which are, as a rule, technically and artistically beyond repute. These include *Slowhand*, *No Reason to Cry*, *Backless* and a delightful live album *Just One Night*.

Fans of Clapton will also recall that he was an integral part of the superb 60's band Cream. In fact, his career reads like a history book of rock music.

The most pleasing aspect, however, is that Clapton continues to add chapters to that book. One of these is his latest album *Another Ticket*.

The album not only features Clapton's expertise, but also an outstanding back-up band,

which undoubtedly is an inspiration to the 36-year old Clapton, whose career has already had many highlights.

This new band includes Albert Lee, himself, a fine guitarist, whose style superbly complements Clapton's keyboardists Gary Brooker and Chris Stainton, bass guitarist Dave Markee, and drummer Henry Spinetti.

The first love of Eric Clapton is undoubtedly blues, and this certainly comes out in his latest album. The first three songs are side one - *Something Special*, *Black Rose* and *Blow Wind Blow* - all feature blues-covered vocals, guitar, and keyboards.

These are followed by what is quite possibly the album's finest cut, the title cut *Another Ticket*. It is a slow, beautiful, soul-searching ballad which features Clapton's guitar and vocals at their best, and is very reminiscent of his earlier hit *Wonderful Tonight*. It is followed by the successful single *I Can't Stand It*, which shows how intricately the album is produced and how well the band works together with its tightly-coordinated sound.

Side two opens with *Hold Me Lord*, which shows an energetic Clapton and is a

song so similar in style to the 70's hit *Promises* that they would go together perfectly in a medley. The next song is *Floating Bridge*; it was written in 1940 by Sleepy John Estes and is the heaviest blues number on the album, providing Clapton with almost seven minutes of pure blues delight.

After immersion in blues, Clapton finishes his album with *Catch Me If You Can* and *Rita Mae*, two songs which afford him the opportunity to 'go nuts' on the guitar. These show why many have dubbed him the world's greatest rock guitarist.

This album is highly encouraging for Clapton fans. After the great success of *Promises* in 1978, his live album *Just One Night* was very enjoyable, but showed little or no progression. *Another Ticket* shows us a Clapton revitalized; this is shown by the fact that this album has more Clapton-written material than any of its predecessors.

Despite a setback due to a perforated ulcer earlier this year, Clapton's career is still on the upswing. His latest album serves as witness to that.



### Art bank display at Ex.

The "Explorations Gallery" at Fredericton's National Exhibition Centre is currently displaying an exhibit of recent acquisitions from the New Brunswick provincial art bank.

The selection consists of eleven works acquired in 1981 and includes prints, drawings, photographs and paintings. Featured are Fredericton artists Tom Smith, Brigid Toole-Grant, and Stephen Homer; from other parts of the province are Cathy Ross, David Silverberg and Julie Duschenes. The exhibit can be seen from October 23 until November 8. Admission is free.

## Drama Festival events

Students, teachers and members of the public are invited to participate in the N.B.D.L. Drama Festival which is to take place in Fredericton, November 17-21, at the Centre Communautaire Sainte Anne, Priestman Street, and the Edmund Casey Hall at Saint Thomas University.

This year's festival promises to be an exciting event featuring full-length and one-act plays, and a workshop programme. Both the adjudicator, David Renton of Halifax, and the animateur, Paul Hanna of Ottawa, are highly experienced theatre professionals whose work is well known to New Brunswick audiences. Their comments on plays and performances will provide a stimulating learning experience for anyone interested in what makes good theatre.

In addition, Professor Fernando Poyatos, a leading expert in non-verbal communication, will give a lecture-demonstration entitled "Non-

Verbal Communication in the Theatre: From Playwright to Performance". The programme for the week's events is as follows:

Tuesday, November 17.

At 8 p.m., Centre Communautaire. Theatre Saint Thomas will open the festival with Brendan Behan's "The Hostage". This play, variously described as tragic-comedy, music hall, and theatre of the absurd, deals with the Irish question.

Public adjudication by David Renton follows.

Wednesday, November 18.

8 p.m., Centre Communautaire. Music, Art and Drama Club of Saint Andrews will perform "Ring Around the Moon" by Jean Anouilh. The bitter contrast between romantic dreams and harsh reality is the theme of Anouilh's famous comic dilemma.

Public adjudication by David Renton.

Thursday, November 19.

2:30 p.m. Salle Bon Temps, Centre Communautaire. Lecture-demonstration by Prof. Poyatos: "Non-Verbal Communication in the Theatre: From Playwright to Performance".

8 p.m. Centre Communautaire. Small Town Players of Rexton will present Agatha Christie's long running detective mystery, "The Mousetrap".

Public adjudication by David Renton.

Friday, November 20.

10:00 a.m. Edmund Casey Hall. One act play to be announced.

2 p.m. Edmund Casey Hall. Tusk Theatre presents "An Interior Person" by Rick Burns. Workshop by Paul Hanna will follow.

8 p.m. Centre Communautaire. Curtain Call Theatre of Moncton presents "Veronica's Room" by Ira

Levin. "Veronica's Room" is a tightly paced thriller in the vein of Levin's earlier successes - "Rosemary's Baby" and "Boys from Brazil".

Public adjudication by David Renton.

Saturday, November 21

10 a.m. Edmund Casey Hall. Curtain Call Theatre of Moncton presents "Waiting Room B" by Peter de Niverville. Animation by Paul Hanna.

2 p.m. Edmund Casey Hall. Members Company of Saint John presents "The Investigation" by Peter Weiss. Workshop by Paul Hanna will follow.

8 p.m. Centre Communautaire. Theatre Fredericton will conclude the festival performances with Norman Foster's comedy "Friends and Family".

Public adjudication by David Renton.

Approximately 11 p.m. Final Ceremony Awards will be made by Adjudicator, David Renton.

