

SHADOWY MEN SHADOWY PLANET



often play the college circuit, which is just as good because every one had a good time despite the fact that the rugby team wasn't there to call everyone fags. Although the stage was at times cramped, these guys turned a restaurant in a

mall into something else-something almost urban. prolific songwriters (over 200 pieces a year) and a great live band, Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet are more than welcome to play in Fredericton again and again and again.

Known for their snappy

drums, Reid on bass and guitarist Brian Connelly. Together for seven years, the band plays as a cohesive ensemble, complementing each others remarkable musical ability.

With perhaps less experience than anyone else when it comes to malls (although they did play in Whistler, which according to Brian is the biggest mall of them all), the irony wasn't lost on the band that maybe they were breaking new ground here. Or at least contributing to the cracks in the foundation of King's Place (you didn't know about the cracks?). Victims of the 70's these guys aren't. They have managed to make sense out of a decade of bad pants and even worse collars (I didn't forget about the hair) and have brought to their music an understanding of current issues and events. These guys have had better luck getting people together than the latest

indicatizon, maybe Muldoon should hire these guys instead of the bloated bureaucrats. Although the songs don't get anymore political in title than Alouette, I'd rather my tax dollars go to fostering real talent than subsidizing pedophilia and misogyny. As for one on their more memorable shows, Reid reminisces of a gig in Milwaukee, "we played in front of two people that night. We tried to sneak out -with our equipment- during the break, anyway these two guys get in a fight and the bouncer breaks it up, I say I guess you made your money tonight, so he beats me up and says he's making double now."

Forever being faced with the surf band label, Shadowy Men simply let their instruments do the talking. If categorizing is important to you then let it be rock instrumental instead. Despite

Don's visit with Jack Lord, Shadowy Men insist the Ventures were not a major influence. As for their work on Kids in the Hall, the band is happy with the exposure they've gotten from the show and are pleased with the arrange-

Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet played to a packed house at Trina's November 7th and for those in attendance in was a sight (and sound) unseen here in recent memory. The band ripped through two sets and over 40 songs as the dance floor became increasingly full. Highlights are too many to list and the show ran smoothly despite the so-so sound system (rented from a local charity) and the distance between the bar and the band. Some of the usual whine, but it has to be said: It's

about time that someone other than the University booked some bands in this town, and I don't mean a church basement either. More whine: Maybe this show will prove to the prudes in town that it is worthwhile bringing in little



known, quality acts (even if those booking them have never even heard of them). However, This snivelling debates shouldn't overshadow the outstanding performance by this three piece band. And it certainly shouldn't overshadow the fact that Trina's is a pretty decent place to see a band of this stature. These guys don't



song titles, Shadowy Men are Don Pyle on unity panel; and if their show at Trina's is any

ment. They are constantly writing for the show and shrewdly they have retained all rights to their songs. Brian says, "At least there won't be a Kids in the Hall pinball machine going bing, bing, bing (to the tune of Having an Average Weekend)." If Kids in the Hall has helped win over new fans for the Men, that's great according to the band. Their recent performance here has proved that they are not a one song band.

