



Paloma

Spanish & Italian
Cafe & Bar

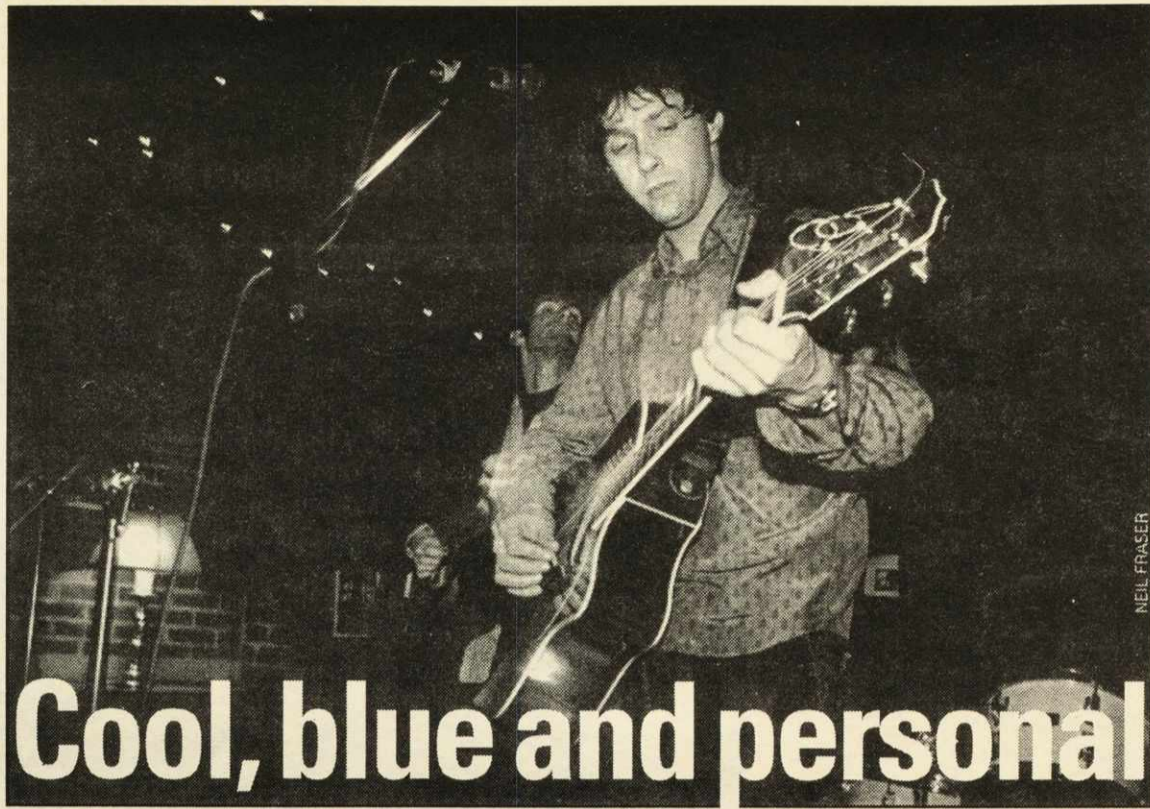
Live Flamenco
Guitar

Thurs, Fri, Sat Evenings

Hot & Cold Spanish Tapas
Great Pasta Dishes
Moderately Priced

Open Nightly
5:30 till Late

1463 Brenton St.,
off Spring Garden Rd.
492-2425



Cool, blue and personal

BY STUART MCMILLAN

There was a small crowd of around thirty people sitting upstairs in Cafe Mokka's Ultrabar. Some of them were regular patrons, some were just passing by, and some of them were waiting to see Cool Blue Halo. This was not the first time that a band has performed in the Cafe Mokka, but it was the first occasion that they stood on a

shiny, polished, brand new stage set up especially for the local talent in our fair city. "To the maiden voyage of the oval stage," toasted a member of the band before the quartet began a lengthy, two-set show.

Consisting of Paul Boudreau and Barry Walsh on guitars and vocals, drummer Glenn MacCulloch and bass player Jason Ives, Cool Blue Halo played the most relaxed set I had ever seen.

However, the size of the stage limited the band's movement. They began at half past ten and continued until a little after midnight, playing an enjoyable unplugged show. Sometimes unplugged gigs put me to sleep, but Cool Blue Halo managed to hold my attention for the entire performance.

Only a foot off the ground the band stood tall on the stage, but if it was any higher, they would have been banging their heads on the ceiling. Mokka offers a nice mellow atmosphere where people can sit back and enjoy live music without having to shout in your companion's ear. The music gears toward the personal, not a bunch of rowdy drunks.

Rachel, the manager of the Ultrabar, said the idea behind the new stage was to showcase independent local bands and some three-piece jazz combos. Once a month there is the possibility of booking a larger band for a more intimate show. People will also be able to see some non-musical performances. Monday's open-mic night is intended to feature some poetry, plays and readings by local artists.

Halifax has but few places where you can see bands and the Cafe Mokka now offers an interesting new venue.

Help the Gazette celebrate Pink Triangle Day

— Friday, February 14th.

The Gazette is looking for the voices of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community through commentary, poetry, articles, photos and graphics.

All submissions are for the February 13th issue of the Gazette, which will contain a special supplement recognizing LGBTQ issues.

Call 494-2507 to get involved or drop by the Gazette offices in Room 312 of the Dalhousie Student Union Building.

The deadline for submissions for the supplement is Monday, February 10th.

RETRO

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J.J. Rossy's PRESENTS

RETRO Night

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5¢

CHICKEN WINGS

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ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILLI NACHOS

WHIP IT GOOD TO HOUSE DJ

Wall of Sound & GUEST DJs

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9:00 PM TO MIDNIGHT

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