

LMIA BAND LIVE SHOW REVIEWS

Girls Jam Night at Uncle Pleasant's

On Jan. 24th, it was pretty cold and the big ice storm cometh. That might have scared a few people home on a cold Saturday night, but I wanted to hear some of my sisters of LMIA and see what was in store. The evening exploded with **Marion Dries and the Dissidents**. This foursome is Marion Dries on guitar on vocals, husband John Dries on bass, Randy Tate on guitar and nice harmonies, and Tim Curry on drums. This band was renamed in 2003; originally called The Marion Dries Band. Marion told me she has been really high energy since she was about 18 and when she puts on a show- she ROCKS! This band puts on a great show. Her originals include "Cherokee Hill", "Take Me Now", "Kiss Off and Die", "What It Is", "Since You Lost Interest", and "I'm Confused". I see Chrissie Hines and the Pretenders in her performance, but Marion states her influences include the Beatles, the Velvet Underground and early Brian Enos.

The band will have a new CD out in about two months or so titled *Change The View*. Miss High Energy Marion did the artwork on the cover about two years ago, that is life-size I believe, or a bit larger than life, and will not fit on the CD cover itself. So, when the release party happens, take my word check her out. Marion Dries and the Dissidents are in the top 10 of my favorite local bands to see! Her web site is <http://www.mariondries.com>. Her pants may say "Bad Girl", but when she's bad, she's very, very good!

The rest of the evening was true to the word "girl jam", as some of the male members were missing and made the bands seem like they were missing a limb. That makes it harder for me to say anything about the true music of the band. You get used to a certain sound and used to hearing a bass player or a drummer. But we're musicians, we play no matter what: Powerpuff girls go on!

Next in the line-up was **Irrational Fear**. This foursome forced on fearlessly, even without a bass player. Lynn Elliott is the singer-songwriter volcano in this band with guitar work, harmonies and harmonica by Rebecca Reed. Rebecca and Lynn started playing as a

duo about six years ago and have been playing with a full band for about four years now. The drummer is Steve Schmitt and his rhythmic expertise and taste creates a very expressive foundation. Of course, I felt some nerves at the beginning of the set, but they were relaxed, smiling and plain old jamming by the end of the night. I saw glimpses of their energy. Their originals include "Fall Back", "Benefit of the Doubt" and "Earthbound" – "I didn't come drifting down slow through the clouds. I've never been 2000 feet floating above the ground." Their influences include Garbage, U2, Live, The Pretenders and REM. Give them a bit to regroup, and they will be out of bounds. Their web site is <http://www/irrationalfear.biz>. They will be releasing a new CD with 12 songs called *Closer to Daylight*. Joe Funderberk, who has worked with the Judds, and Emmy Lou Harris, is doing the final mastering of the CD.

The trio, **Sol 17**, minus a drummer, was the last to perform for the night. That means singer, Melissa Gaddie, on a beautiful Rickenbacker bass was there with loyal Ray Wegimont, at her side on guitar. Sol, the Spanish word for sunshine, means intense energy that they have. Friday they got up early and appeared on Fox in the Morning. She played her emotions at this show and her lyrics are deep and philosophical. I dug a little bit deeper into her musical heart during her show. I need to know the complete lyrics to "3/4 in C" and another song I don't know the name of, which got me in the gut. Her musical influences include Ani DiFranco, Led Zeppelin, David Bowie, but Sol 17 has been compared to Bob Dylan, Throwing Muses and the Cowboy Junkies. Ray is an awesome guitarist and they know each other's every thought. She did a really hot cover of "Jane Says" which really could have used some drumming to take it over the edge. Sol 17 is currently recording a 5 song EP in John and Marion Dries studio, Edgewood Studio, which they're planning to release this spring. For more info, e-mail: sol17@earthlink.net. Their web site is <http://www.sol17.net>.

Uncle Pleasant's is a great place to be. If you haven't been there for LMIA showcases or around since they have reopened, go now. The sound system is one of the best in town, if you didn't know. I liked the Girls Jam Night concept. Let's keep showcasing the females on occasion, but with more public notice. It was a good night. Sure, there

were some monkey wrenches thrown in the works, but that's just the way it is...

Janet Wolfe

LMIA ARTIST CD/DEMO REVIEWS

Pilot Fish

The band Pilot Fish is currently in the studio recording, but Troy Ford gave me a copy of their demo at a recent LMIA meeting. There is no sharpie on this demo, not even a label. This is a real CD imprint with song titles. Inside the cover is the band resume with contact information and band mission statement. Troy even handed me two business cards. That's a good thing, as I am prone to losing stuff all of the time. This is one of the better-looking demos I've seen, with all the information anyone would need.

Now on to the band: Pilot Fish is composed of Steve Lynch on vocals and guitar, B.J. Brown on bass and vocals, Rick Humphrey vocals and guitar and Troy Ford on drums and managerial duties. They have been together for 6 years now. I remember my old band was playing at Willow Lake about the same time they were for awhile. They have definitely grown and evolved since then. They now have a harder edge. Great vocals, good energy, and their songs hit me - particularly "Flight of the Crow".

I heard that Troy just got one of the Acoustic Woods drum sets made locally by John Hayes. He is already an accomplished drummer, but this new set will make him sound even better. Troy happened to get John's purple kit with the accentuator bass. To check it out, hop on line to www.acousticwoods.com. He proudly endorses our local drum maker master and I heartily agree. I won one of John's snares at the MERF benefit and have been in his workshop a couple of times. This guy knows what makes drums sound good and have soul and he makes it happen. He's a Louisville native too. Troy told me he is in love with his new kit. I know what he means.

These guys are really into the business aspect of Pilot Fish as well. They have a Pilot Fish stock car. So they will be at the Carl Casper Auto Show at the Fairgrounds February 20-22. The band is sponsored by the Foxy Lady Gentleman's Club, so there will be babes, "Guppies", as they are aptly named, scantily clad and passing out band stuff. Besides hooking us with the sex factor, they do recording, screen-printing and digital custom embroidery. If you are interested in any of these services, feel free to call Troy Ford at 777-2531. Their web site is www.pfishhook.com. The band is currently working on a 15 song CD to be released this spring or this summer.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

REHEARSAL SPACE

We want to thank Dead City Rejects for bringing this information to our attention...

For any musicians still searching for a rehearsal space, the Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center is currently under development in the Clifton Neighborhood, located in the old Fischer Packing plant on Mellwood Ave. They are currently leasing out 77 square-foot studios to artists for \$100 a month. At the moment, they are only leasing the space to visual artists because of noise concerns. However, they do have plenty of available space throughout the complex that could be converted into designated musician rehearsal space if enough interest is shown throughout the community.

So, if you are in a band (or just need a place to make noise) and would be seriously interested in such a space, then send an email to Kelli Torpey at kelli@mellwoodartcenter.com. All units would be for individual monthly lease, would be available 24 hours a day, and will feature a per-unit security system so that no one could get in and run off with your gear.

SOUNDMAN WANTED

LMIA is in need of a person(s) with PA to run sound every Thursday night for our LMIA shows at Wick's, O'Shea's, and Flanagan's Ale House on Baxter Ave.

This is a paying gig, with the Wick's shows paying \$100 per night and the other two paying around the same. This starts Feb. 1.

MOLD YOUNG MINDS

The new LMIA education series "All About the Biz" strikes again! Beginning in January 2004, the Louisville Music Industry Alliance began a yearlong commitment to bring the music business to Kentuckiana public schools. Each month, several LMIA members will conduct a panel discussion with students. They will begin by talking about their ambition that fuels their profession, their current music career and their future goals and aspirations. They will share on misconceptions about the music business and on the realities of maintaining a music career. The LMIA members will then open the dialogue to the children for questions. Each panel discussion will last approximately 35- 45 minutes. The panel relates to curriculum under "practical living, career education".

Upcoming panels are as listed. More to come!

Tuesday Feb. 17 at Newburg Middle School at 12:45 PM

Tuesday April 13 at Highland Middle School at 11:15 AM

Please email Heidi Howe at heidi@heidihowe.com or call her at 939 2371 if you are willing to participate.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

CRIMSON DUST RELEASES CD

Crimson Dust just released their first album *No Further To Fall*. The album was made at Canyon Studios with Chris Casseta and Ivan Arnold. Look for a review of their CD in an upcoming newsletter.

DIGBY AND LABEL X "KICK IT UP A NOTCH"

In the midst of ongoing success with their debut release *Go Digby*, Label X and their flagship artist Digby have signed on to partner with Madacy Label Group's Toucan Cove to push Digby to even greater heights. While in the process of finalizing the deal, Digby and producer Todd Smith, have been working diligently on five new songs for the upcoming album *One/Zero*, which will be reinforced with songs from the regionally successful *Go Digby*. No release date has been set for *One/Zero*, but all indications point to a national spring release for the new album.

Mick Stevanovich, Sr. VP of Sales and Marketing at Madacy Label Group stated that, "Digby has the right sound for where music is going. This is a band with strong songwriting skills and vocals... they have all the ingredients of an artist that could be around for a long time."

In September 1999, the Madacy Label Group was launched to fulfill two distinct purposes: the distribution of albums for other labels, and the production of music for its own labels, including Relentless Records (contemporary rock and pop) and Relentless Nashville (country), its three-tiered mandate is to acquire existing talent and to serve as a distribution alternative for established recording artists and labels.

Todd Smith, President of Label X, had great things to say regarding their partnership with Madacy Label Group, "This is the perfect deal for us right now. It is a joint venture between the two labels, which allows us to stay involved in the band's career rather than just sending them off and wishing them luck. We will try to build this into a long-term success for all parties."

Label X established itself in 2002 with a unique strategy of discovering and developing musical artists that have mass-market appeal, and producing original content for distribution in the national marketplace. It is Label X's goal to establish itself as a major brand of arts and entertainment.

ECLECTIC EARNS SPOT ON A&R COMPILATION

ECLECTIC's first single, "Breathe," from the album *Tables Turned* has been selected for a compilation CD by A&R Worldwide, a talent discovery and development group in Beverly Hills, California. The compilation, titled *Unearthed, Vol. 1*, is a sampler of independent musical talent from around the world. It is distributed to radio stations and music industry executives worldwide.

"The A&R Worldwide compilation CD is an exciting step in *ECLECTIC*'s career," said Manager/Producer Doc Smith. "This compilation is going worldwide to major radio programmers, promotions companies, tour managers, film producers, rock

media outlets, and record labels. It gives us an opportunity to spread this incredible project; *Tables Turned* to the masses. Not just anyone is asked to be on such a major project and we are honored that A&R and Mike Savage asked us to contribute."

PROMOTE YOURSELF AND LMIA

We are also now listing the top 5 played LMIA member songs on the home page. This will be updated weekly. The placement is based on the number of times a member's song has been played that week. We are also listing member's CD release information on the home page. If you or your group are releasing a CD in the next 3 months and you are not listed, send Lesa an e-mail with the details and we will list it for you.

ALL ACCESS WORKING ON A NEW EP, AVAILABLE VALENTINES DAY

All Access entered the studio once again in January-2004... recording their newest release titled "Secrets". This album is a step forward for the band, and will be available on February-14.

Songs- Baby, Brian Wilson, The Bastard Sons Of Nixon, Sarah Jean, and Frying Tonight.

Secrets... The new EP from All Access offers 5 brand new songs from the band. The album opens with a dreamy instrumental track, then abruptly kicks in with the first song "Baby", with melodies and guitar parts that bring to mind bands like Coldplay and Radiohead. The second song, and first single, "Brian Wilson", salutes the legendary Beach Boy with Weezer type pop and a course that will not leave your head. The third song, "The Bastard Sons Of Nixon" is a pure rock and roll tune. The fourth song, "Sarah Jean" is a piano driven ballad. The last song "Frying Tonight" is a hard-hitting rock reminiscent of the 70's/Rolling Stones era.

MASTER YOUR SOUND/TOMDALE PRODUCTIONS ROCK SHOWCASE (SPONSORED BY LMIA) ANNOUNCES FINALISTS

MYS interviewed the 12 semifinalists for the showcase this past Thurs., Fri., and Saturday.

The bands that will be playing at Phoenix Hill, in the Roof Garden, on February 27th are:

Farewell To Kings

Dead City Rejects

9 Volt Revolt

Pilot Fish

All of these artists and Master Your Sound are LMIA members. Come out and support these artists.

LMIA SHOWS LISTING

As many of you know, we have added quite a few venues to our LMIA Live roster, and all of these will begun hosting shows in February. Since this was just finalized, most of the February shows are TBA at this point. Check the web site and check it often to see who will be playing this month.

NEW Venues

Coyote's every Wednesday

O'Shea's first Thursday

Jazz Open Mic with Ray Rizzo Sundays at O'Shea's

Flanagan's Ale House third Thursday

OLD Venues, most with NEW nights

Phoenix Hill Tavern FRIDAY 2/20: Indecisive and Voodoo Machine

Wick's 2nd and 4th THURSDAYS TBA

Uncle Pleasant's (this month only 1st Friday) 2/6: DJA, 9 Volt Revolt, Scaramongo, TBA

Special Events...

Margarette Evans Show Dates for February

Third Ave Café February 7th 7:30-10:00

Third Ave Café February 13th Anti Valentine's Day Show 7:30-10:00,
with CD giveaways!

Third Ave Cafe February 21st 7:30-10:00

Clifton's Pizza February 28th 8:00-11:30

Visit her web site at <http://megevens.square-network.com/> for more
information.

Lewis Lowrey is playing an early set (7:00) set at The Rudyard
Kipling Wednesday February 11th with Jim McGee. They'll be
featuring new songs from both artists and some traditional country
blues. Sensitive songwriter types they are not, so go check them out.

LMIA FEBRUARY ARTIST OF THE MONTH: Screaming Through
December

STD will have their CD release party February 13th at Phoenix Hill
Tavern. They've got new CDs, new t-shirts, what more could you ask
for? Opening up the show will be The Herbie Hinkle Ensemble,
Sunday 6, and Superface.

February 17th - Six Feet Under, Reflux, Full Blown Chaos,
Cosmonaut, and Ghost rider Black at Headliner's 8 PM.

The Ray Wegimont/Ray Rizzo Birthday Celebration is February 20th
@ Dutch's Tavern (10 PM)- These boys share more than just a name
and a birthday! Come out to Dutch's to see just how similar these two
really are. Evil twins? Or alternate realities combined...?

BIRTHDAYS

JK McKnight (The Vixen Red) February 17th

Ray Rizzo (AM Sunday, Janitors of the Apocalypse, who does he
NOT play with?) February 19th

Ray Wegimont (Sol 17) February 19th

Lisa Rush (Stella Regrets) February 21st