

2A Thursday, March 6, 1997



Treasures of Our Culture 4th Annual Dance Performance

ultura

Date: March 8, 1997 Time: 6:00 - 8:30 pm Place: Campbell Hall Doors Open: 5:15

> General Admission \$10.00 Students and Children \$8.00 For Tickets call: 968-4425





Gets Straight Dope From Five Jedi Junkies

o you've marveled at the bold, the beautiful, the shamelessly self-congratulatory and opportunis-tic Star Wars and The Empire Strikes Back Special Editions. You've ooohhed and ahhhhed with the teeming masses at the strangely familiar scenes depicting the virtual canon of the comic book set, and felt a sense of inner peace for finally having seen the Sand People on the big screen.

So why not gorge yourself at the ultimate trough of grandiose self-importance and off-center philosophizing? Let Nexus editors Marc Valles, Chris Koch, Nicole Milne, Davia Gray, Ryan Altoon and your host, Arts-week, pontificate upon and expound their pet theories about the soon-to-be-released Return of the Jedi Special Edition.

Artsweek: OK. Let's talk Jedi. Marc: In the beginning, I think Jedi was a successful movie — it had all the Jabba scenes with dialogue tying into the other two films

Nicole: Princess Leia's hair all down

Marc: ... Luke returning to the land of his birth. Basi-cally, the movie succeeded in any scene that didn't have an Ewok in it. Some of the Ewok scenes were good, but as an ironclad rule, any scene in Jedi without an Ewok was good.

Ryan: But they were catering to a different audience. Chris: Rumor has it in the prequels ... Lucas wanted to have more Ewoks.

Rvan: More freakin' Ewoks!?

Davia: Ewoks are great because they gave little kids something they could be excited about.

Marc: Awwwwh! That's the problem.

Davia: Why should it be something just for grown-ups Why can't there be something kids can enjoy too? Marc: Eaaaah. They had the little droids and ...





and son I've ever seen. Nicole: Oh my.

Luke comes up to battle Darth in the carbonite chamber and pops open his saber. Darth is standing there, looking all menacing atop the stairs, holding his weapon at the hip, and it slowly extends at Luke's ap-

proach. (Makes sound) Zrromph! Marc: Darth's lightsaber is bigger than Luke's. Chris: ... Well, I just think the lightsabers are cool. I'd buy one if they sold 'em.

Hogwash! I used to run around with a yellow wiffle bat going, zzrommimph zzrooomifpha, kazzakkak.

Davia: Ewoks are the best part. Wookies are furry, but don't speak English. Ewoks give the movie balance. They make the movie well-rounded ... Some Ewoks give their lives, they were murdered. Marc: Ahhhhh! Spare me. Thousands of stormtroop-

ers die ...

Chris: And they dwell on the death of an Ewok longer than the explosion of the Death Star.

Marc: What about Alderaan, what about the Death



Daily Nexus

Daily Nexus



What would you do if you had an allaccess pass to the Grammys? With whom would you schmooze? What post-show bash would you attend?

Well, by the grace of power, ego and a while, by the grace of power, ego and a whole lot of Monopoly money, I got my-self a pass to the underground, backstage and soft white underbelly of "Music's Big-gest Night." Yep, good ol' rock 'n' roll me, thrown into Madison Square Garden with thousands of stars and superstars, all because I conned some poor Geffen lackey out of his tickets, but that's another story, and so is the terrifying Ramada I stayed at in Queens, as well as the scary little man that drove my taxi to the show, and the ...

Anyway, when I got there and stepped out of the taxi, dressed in my grubby black beatnik turtleneck (no, I don't know what I was thinking when I put that on, either), there erupted from the waiting



Gwen: With flubber star-hungry crowd a roar of appreciation so loud that I thought it must be for me and me alone.

I was let down when several screeching "bohemianettes" ran toward me with eye liner dripping from their brows like molasses. "Billy!" they screamed. "Billy! Billy Corgan!!!" Oh no, not this again, I thought. "Help!" Being mistaken for a rock star is one thing, but I didn't know I

looked as bald as Billy. I took another look at the oncoming throng and it startled me into action. I ran toward the last vestige of daylight that I saw, tearing across the red carpet faster

than an incontinent toward the can. I ran, and ran blindly, my eyesight now totally destroyed by the piercing haze in front of me. The next thing I remember is crashing into what seemed like a brick wall and falling to the ground without making a dent in whatever it was I hit.

I came to a few seconds later, and as I looked up I saw the face of the real Corgan, as tall as Lurch and just as good-looking. It was then I realized the lights I saw were the flashes of the surrounding horde of cameras, reflecting off the shaved pate of the Pumpkins' frontman. Reminded of the onslaught of girlies behind me, I got up quickly without warn-ing Corgan of his imminent inundation and took off toward the entrance.

Trying desperately not to bring atten-tion to myself in such a hilariously uncool way again, I promptly plunged into the crowd of luminaries headed backstage. As it turned out, my pass was unne ck by th sary; no one noticed me, as I was inadverthrough the room a garbled "Msadcb&\$f#\$sF\$%dvmmn\$#!%***." tently squashed between Aretha Franklin and Luciano Pavarotti. Suffering in that "Damn," I thought, "there goes my caposition for even a few minutes was enough to make every one of my organs explode, so I slouched aside and bumped reer in rock journalism." Besides all of those unfortunate incidents, my little trek to the Grammys into Sting. Irked at only so recently undergoing wasn't a total washout. Later that night I such physical trauma, I became very found out in turn that Tracy Chapman wears hair extensions, two of the Fugees have fake green cards, Dwight Yoakam cheeky and asked Mr. Sumner the way to the loo. He was not amused, and kicked my ass in the direction of the polka band will beat the shit out of anyone who tries to take off his hat, and Brandy and LeAnn section, from which an accordion player Rimes are both raving nymphomaniacs. pushed me toward the bathroom. When I emerged from the shrine I was Well, maybe it was a total washout. Oh well, there's always next year; maybe I'll immediately swept up again in a tide of sneak into the Espys or something. the music biz — this time it was a herd of -Keir DuBois suits. Before being seriously trampled by Jontest To win a cool Cardigans vinyl single or a Spice Girls poster, call 893-2691 with your answer to one of the following: 1. What country are the Cardigans from? 2. Which Spice Girl is known as "Baby Spice"? Winners will be chosen at random from the correct entries received.

these guys, I recognized Celine Dion, her hair full of Crisco and bigger than the '80s, riding sidesaddle over this stampede of men who were either the entire Montreal hockey team or the 20-odd producers of her most recent effort of schlock. Soon after came the pain of being run over, and I passed out for a second time.

When I regained consciousness I found myself on a makeshift gurney in one of the many dressing rooms that were, incidentally, segregated between MTV and VH-1 artists (those who fell in either camp were dressed and made up in the hallway). My only companions were several TV monitors on which I could see Gwen Stefani, 10 pounds heavier, strutting her stuff on stage in pants six sizes too tight for her. The mere sight of the former Queen-of-All-Abs with flubber rolling over her belt on every screen around me was enough to make me black out again, but only long enough to remove the horrible vision from my brain.

I was half asleep in some morphineinduced haze when an usher rolled up a bed beside mine, occupied by one Beck Hansen.

"Beck!" I gushed, jive-less, "Man, where it's at!" to which he replied, "I cut my lips on the microphone!" while clutching his newly won Grammy like a

"Wow!" I thought. "What a great interview opportunity! The Nexites will be so proud of me!"

So, I promptly got out my trusty tape recorder and talked with the injured Beck about anything and everything until he



was wheeled out again, leaving me alone with the TVs, which now showed Lyle Lovett pissing off the entire Nashville industry by accepting his award for Best Country Album. As the interview tape rewound, I pushed "play" as I laughed out loud at Lovett's pompadoured afro and goofy smile.

I stopped laughing when I realized that my recorder, being low on batteries, had taped all of the interview I'd just finished at half speed and even less. My first question rambled on for way too long, espe-cially considering that the tape delay caused my voice to sound like a halfasleep hippo. Beck's response, played powerless machine at about two revolutions per minute, echoed





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How Do You Sav Grammy Exclusive Coverage of the Brit Awards

While ancient (and even dead) Brits were cleaning up at the Grammys, last week also saw the British record industry giving out



its gongs at the annual Brit Awards ceremony in London.

Unlike last year's eventful show, which included the now infamous "Jarvisfrom-Pulp-shakes-hisbottom-at-Michael-

Jackson" affair, and Liam Liam Gallagher pretending to insert one of Oasis' awards up his own, this year's show was fairly quiet in comparison. Jar-vis was not invited, and the only Gal-

lagher brother to turn up was Noel. Rumor has it that Liam apparently said that if he attended the awards show he was afraid he might "chin" (or slug, to those not hip in British slang) one of the Spice Girls. This led Mel B ("Scary Spice") of the Girls into challenging Liam to "Come and have a go if you think you're hard enough" (a phrase coined by Black Grape's Shauwn Ryder). Further-

ing their path toward total world domination, the show was stolen by the Spice Girls, who picked up awards for Best Single

and Best Video and performed a medley of two of their British No. 1 hits.

Geri ("Sexy Spice") even dressed for the occasion in a Union Jack outfit.

The Manic Street Preachers wrapped

up an extraordinary year by taking the Best British Group and Best Album awards for their first effort since the dis-

Mel B: "Come and

have a ao

appearance of guitarist and lyricist Richey James. Many of the award categories, though, offered no surprises. Best British New-comer award went predictably to Kula Shaker, and Best British Male Solo Artist went to George Michael for his first al-bum in 5 years, *Older*. Best British Dance Act was awarded to Prodigy, newly signed in the U.S. to Madonna's Maverick label.

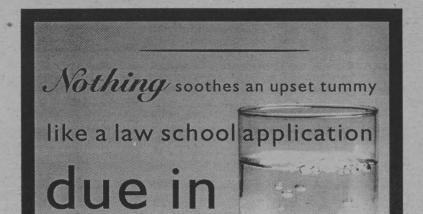
Highlights of the show included young oul

Liam: Afraid he might "chin" George: Older Known As

funksters Jamiroquai duetting with soul diva Diana Ross, and a rare British appearance by the Artist Formerly Reclusive,

performing the title track from his Emancipation album.

-William Banks, with help from British **Correspondent Tom Banks**



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Thursday, March 6, 1997 5A



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-L.F. Higgenbottom



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Thursday, March 6, 1997 7A

Rather than allow one snobby Artsweek reporter to tell you about U2's latest, Pop, we enlisted four.

Mike Ball: It's a hoax. Well, the whole buildup be-fore the album came out was "U2's gone techno!" and

there's only about two songs on here that closely re-

semble anything overly electronic. Keir DuBois: Well, there's a lot of little chirps and

Mike: It sounded like standard U2 fusing electronic

Keir: Well that's what they've been doing the past

wo albums — they've been putting unconventional

What do you think of that Prodigy thing where they asked the Prodigy to tour with them and the Prodigy

Keir: I mean there's nothing wrong with them asking but they should have known they were gonna get dis-

sed. It's the Prodigy basically acknowledging, "Yeah,

U2 ripped us off." Linda: Do you think the crowds would like the Pro-

digy if they opened up? Keir: The U2 crowds? No. My mom would. My mom grooves to the Prodigy in

Linda: I didn't really like it when I first heard it but

's starting to grow on me. I like the rest of the songs

Keir: After the stadium rock they bring you back to

Let's talk about the songs. "Discotheque"?

Eugene: I dig the Edge's sideburns. "Do You Feel Loved"?



Built To Spill / Perfect From Now On/ Warner **Brothers**

This is an album in the classic sense. There are no singles, no filler, just a full album. Everything fits with everything else. It's like a trip through a photo album: You get em-



barrassed, sad, angry, but mostly just blissed-out on the memories.

Singer/guitarist/ songwriter Doug Martsch wails and strums his unique songs over piano, strings and a bouncy beat. The subject matter is usually anger and regret, but it always sounds beautiful.

"Kicked It In The Sun" gives you the feeling that Martsch has it all figured out. He sings, "We're spe-cial in ways that mothers appreciate." Y'know, it feels good to be appreciated.

-Noah Blumberg



Various Artists / Lost Highway / Interscope

Not since Until the End of the World has such an ominously laden, multifaceted film soundtrack emerged. But put together guru-of-weirdness David Lynch and melodramatic messiah Trent Reznor and the collective offspring is sure to surprise — and raise even the most introverted quasi-masochist's brow.

From the ambient "I'm Deranged" by David Bowie (co-written by Brian Eno), to Twin Peaks' Angelo Badalamenti's soothing origi-nal musical scores, to Marilyn Manson's hypnotic cover of Creedence Clearwater Revival's "I Put a Spell on You," Lost Highway delivers on all promises, but denies responsibility for any disillusioned enchantment after listening. Be prepared for anything.

-Naz Escobar

Swell / Too Many Days Without Thinking / Beggars Banquet

Swell's Too Many Days Without Thinking definitely offers hints of the band's potential talent. However, their sound is laden with the wiry, almost bodiless stylings of an alternative garage band. The guitar is too sharp, and it's hard to tell at times if there is any bass. If the group could create harmony with their instru-ments, then perhaps they'd sound better.

Several of the songs do have their moments though, and an occasional synthesizer or piano pops up to enhance the quality. Add to that lyrics that sometimes shine with creativity, and you can feel the latent talent waiting to be released.

-Brian Langston



Blur / Blur / Virgin

Known the world 'round for being the epitome of British pop (and crowned the *de facto* Kings Britpop by the fashionable press), Blur is back with its most un-English album to date.

While Oasis took the world by storm with its universally appealing songs like "Wonderwall" and "Live Forever," Blur had to settle for only limited success with the dance-influenced "Girls 'n' Boys," and the London/Cockney little ditty "Park Life" (a name which way too many British-music clubs use as their moniker).

On Blur's latest, selftitled release, a follow-up

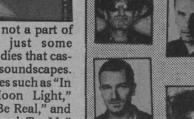
to the superb, yet largely ignored, The Great Escape, the band manages to keep up the same energy level as in its past works, make fun of indie rock, give several "pop" songs a perverse twist, try out the over-dubbed, filteredvocal Beck thing and just generally entertain.

-Jolie F. Lash 3rd Force / Vital Force / **Higher Octave Music**

The ingredients: a dash of flügelhorn, two drops of acoustic guitar, two trumpets (one muted), a pinch of saxophone, a flute, an oboe, a piano, an organ, a keyboard, some congas, some bongos, a little bit of percussion and some good vibes. Mix well and what you'll have is 3rd Force's sensual and passionate re-



Lyrics are not a part of the recipe, just some smooth melodies that cascade across soundscapes. Smash hit titles such as "In The Full Moon Light," "You Gotta Be Real," and "She Whispered To Me" are uplifting and soothing enough to relax or study to — especially if you're in that mellow kind of mood. -Adina Mills



U2 / Pop / Island

Artsweek: The techno thing.

whizzes and things like that.

stuff on their conventional songs.

noises

said "No!"?

our house.

though.

Mike: It's a fun song

something familiar.



*Mofo"? Eugene: It's definitely techno, on this one. This is drum and bass.

Mike: This is the most electronic song on the album. Do you think Pop can break the trend of slumping ecord sales for groups' follow-ups to big chart hits?

Mike: Suddenly, for some reason this is being deemed the album to save the music industry for 1997. Keir: They are the only big stars left from the '80s.

Linda: I don't think it's that great. Eugene: I think it's kind of weak. If they'd changed

the sound like they did for Achtung Baby and gone all the way I really appreciate U2 and I think this album just needs time to grow on me. That thing the press is do-ing, though, is horrible. U2 is the biggest band —

alive — in the world today, and to do that to them ... I mean, this record does bring certain genres of music to the mainstream.

Keir: It's still a U2 record though. If they tried to make anything else it would sound horrible. It's called Pop, isn't it?

Mike: It's like Achtung Baby. It's a title to throw people off. There's still a lot of dark heaviness and seriousness [like] certain U2 songs of the past. But it's not



dialogue in the movie is there for a purpose, and although the reasoning behind certain scenes is not critical in understanding the movie, it makes it all the more solid. It is very rare to find a movie so comprehensive, which may be due to the fact that it was originally a play before the script was adapted for film.

For a film that deals with such serious issues, the filmmaker, actors, and the script itself draw attention to the humorous side of life and the beauty of love and family. Marvin's Room is a special film that reminds one of the importance of family in getting through the trying circumstances in life.

Marvin's Room Deals With Serious Issues and Stuff

Combining Academy Award winners and nominees Diane Keaton, Meryl Streep, Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert De Niro can only result in a great movie. More than just a great cast with a good script, *Marvin's Room* tackles real-life issues like old age, leukemia and family relationships from perspectives seldom looked at. Streep plays Lee, a somewhat dysfunctional mother

who is struggling to raise two boys by herself while trying to establish herself as a beautician. DiCaprio plays her son Hank, who is racing to put the pieces of his past together and make them fit into his present reality. Ignored by his mother, he is forced to make her notice him any way he can.

The plot picks up when Streep's sister Bessie (Kea-ton), who has spent the larger portion of her life caring for their bedridden father Marvin (hence the film's name) and her Aunt Ruth, discovers she has leukemia. o call her snot spoken to in 20 years - at the insistence of Dr. Wally (De Niro), to ask her to get tested as a possible bone marrow donor.

What makes this film so completely exceptional is the fact that it is so well thought out. Each and every piece of really pop. "Discotheque" is probably the only pop

song. It's got a lot of sarcasm to it, and when it's done well, that can really make a pop song great. —Compiled by Jolie I. Lash

-Alicia Marotto





/ARCH 7—9

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