

and drummer Drew White joined in for the remainder of the set. The band started with "Dead Men Don't Talk," a solid rock 'n' roll track from their new album. The dancers then flocked to the floor as Cooper strapped on an electric guitar and led the band through "Twist and Shout."

Cooper then appeared back on stage for a second acoustic set after a short intermission. Cooper leaned more toward folk and country during this second acoustic set, which turned out to be better than the

first. The audience responded most enthusiastically to Cooper's renditions of the classic "Jesse James" and the country-rooted "Falling Star."

In contrast to the country and folk-oriented sound of Cooper's solo performances, his performances with Nuclear Family were pure rock 'n' roll. A particularly enjoyable moment in Nuclear Family's show was Cooper's excursion into social commentary, "Just Give Us Some Money." Cooper's lyrics invoked the names of several well-known

individuals who might have used the phrase that makes up the song's title at least once: Jerry Falwell, Billy Graham, Jim and Tammy Bakker, etc. The band are accomplished

musicians, with Cooper demonstrating his strength at the acoustic guitar, while Millsap and White are a tight rhythm section that keeps the beat going. The new material

premiered that night appeared to be some of Cooper's best. All things considered, it was a good night for this Houston musician.

*Review by Shane Hall*

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