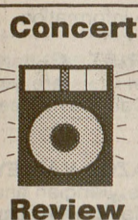


U2 delivers rock'n'roll artwork with Zoo TV tour



By Rob Newberry
The Battalion

Concert
Review

AUSTIN - Maybe U2 didn't play all the songs I wanted to hear, but they still put on the best rock 'n' roll show I've ever seen. Before a sold-out crowd at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin Tuesday night, the biggest band to come out of the '80s gave fans a taste of their Zoo TV tour. After a rather bland set by alternative rock great, the Pixies, and some dumb commentary and disc-jockeying by some guy dressed like a clown, U2 took the stage and proceeded to assault the audience with driving rock 'n' roll, lots of sexual antics and a plethora of confusing images.

The set kicked off with a string of material from their new album, "Achtung, Baby!" They opened with the album's first song, "Zoo Station," then jammed through a slew of other new material, including "The Fly," "Even Better Than the Real Thing," "Mysterious Ways," "Who's Gonna Ride Your Wild Horses," "One" and "Until the End of the World."

Granted, these new songs aren't my favorite U2 tunes. "October" is my favorite album, but the band elected to omit anything prior to their fourth album, "The Unforgettable Fire." Strangely enough, though, I wasn't disappointed to have some of my favorite songs left out. In fact, the way U2 put together their performance made me like some of the new songs a lot better.

U2 has put together much more than a collection of their new songs for a live performance. The Zoo TV show is an artistic experience from beginning to end. Using all sorts of props, and a carefully arranged song order, the band gave the entire experience a message that came across a lot better than anything I've ever

picked up while just listening to some band play their songs live.

The tour gets its name from the main props the band uses on stage - about a dozen television sets, displaying various images and films, and five large screens set up behind the band, doing the same thing. During the music, the screens display everything from a barrage of words and phrases to overlaid scenes from television shows, supposedly tuned in live via satellite from several foreign countries.

The way U2 utilized the imagery was a big part in conveying their message. During "The Fly," sexual words like "SEX," "WHORE" and "PUSSY" would flash quickly on and off the screen, interrupted at points by seemingly unrelated phrases like "GUILT IS NOT OF GOD" and "EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS WRONG." Some of the phrases seemed almost profound, like "CONSCIENCE IS A PEST," but others, like "ASSASSINATE GOD," seemed strange for a band that still claims to believe in Christianity. Then again, the message that came across through the whole show, one of loss and disillusion in everything, was brought out during the end of the song, when the word "BELIEVE," in white, faded away into "LIE," in blood red.

Some of the Zoo TV stuff was sarcastic and funny, instead of so disorienting. As some of the random scenes from various TV shows were paraded on the screen, a caption flittered by, reading "Tonight - U2 LIVE - at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin - Home of Dental Floss."

The show featured other attractions, in addition to the TV screens, like a belly dancer during "Mysterious Ways," and a small silver automobile swinging from the ceiling, hovering above the crowd and band.

The relentless pounding of imagery and sound during the initial set of new material

did eventually let up. The band walked out on a smaller stage set up in the middle of the Erwin Center's floor for an acoustic rendition of "Angel of Harlem," and kicked off a set of their older material that included "Bad," "Bullet the Blue Sky" and "Running To Stand Still." But while the imagery let up a little, the powerful emotional sadness continued, and reached a crest during the end of "Running To Stand Still," as Bono stood alone in the middle of the audience, with his face and arms raised, chanting, "Hallelujah...Hallelujah," before disappearing in a mix of green and red smoke.

The show continued with some more old material, including "Pride (In the Name of Love)" and "I Still Haven't Found (What I'm Looking For)." By that time, it was obvious that the emotional experience of the show was affecting the band as well as the audience, as Bono stumbled through his words during his introduction, "We feel very lucky...and...oh, just listen." And as if to answer those fans who have wondered whether Christian beliefs still influence the band, when the band got to the end of the third verse (a description of the crucifixion ending in "You know I believe it"), Bono threw in the phrase, "and still do," before going in to the chorus.

Before finishing the show, U2 plowed through "Desire," "Ultraviolet (Light My Way)" and "With or Without You." They concluded with the haunting "Love is Blindness" from the new album; to add to the song's theme, the band played in complete darkness, and the Erwin Center was lit only with a pale blue glow. After the song, with no lights on, Bono said goodnight and the band left.

When the lights came on, the tension of the artistic message and the emotional energy broke. But everyone that left the show took with them the memory of a great concert experience and a sad recollection of the emptiness in everything around them.

PICKUPS PLUS

Complete service and repair on all pickups, vans and 4WD's.

Free Estimates

512 W. Carson 775-6708

SERVING AGGIELAND FOR 10 YEARS

Putt-Putt Golf Courses

It's Wild!
It's Crazy!
It's Unlimited Fun for All Ages at a Special Low Price!
It's "Super Saturday" at **Putt-Putt Golf**

1705 Valley View Dr. 693-2445

©1988. All Rights Reserved. "Putt-Putt Golf Course" is a U.S. Registered Trademark.

BUNGEE JUMP

Now Only \$25

Located close to campus!
3 1/2 miles west on University Dr. (Hwy. 60)
Just past Easterwood Airport

Student devotes time to children's swim team

Continued from page 7

Love has over 40 kids on his team and is expecting more to sign up this summer. His goal is to grow as big as College Station's team which carries around 90 members.

"College Station has had a team for years and has never really had any tough competition before," said Love. "I expect the teams will become rivals pretty soon," he added. In addition to organizing the children's swim team, Love also organized a swim team for adults who wanted to improve their strokes. The class meets two nights a week at the Southwood pool in College Station. He said that there are a few in the adult program who compete, but most just come out to stay in shape.

"Coaching the adults is perfect for me," Love said. "I get to work-out with them and also earn a little cash on the side."

Love hopes to continue coaching both teams throughout his college career, but is a little unsure about his plans after then.

"I plan on coaching for as long as it doesn't interfere with my long term goals," Love said.

But for now, he is most concerned with making sure his kids are getting all they can out of swimming.

"I really hope that there will be a few kids who will find the rewards I found from swimming."

In Advance

Moore Hall rocks Quad with Northside show

This Saturday, the second Northside Concert on the Quad will be taking place from noon to 8:00 P.M. The free concert is being organized by Moore Hall, with a little help and donations from residents in the other Northside dorms.

The show is scheduled to feature five bands, all local acts from the Bryan/ College Station area. Headlining the concert will be Dr. Love and the Erogenous Zones. Also appearing will be Crossbone Butterfly, described as a sort of U2/Cult hybrid; classic rock outfit Bayou; blues rockers Mother's Monkey; and local hardcore band Grimace.

Don't get the wrong impression. The show is free and nobody will be asking for any donations. The guys from Moore say it's just something they wanted to do for kicks.

Actually, it's a great idea. With only one or two places in town that still want to bring music to College Station, it's hard to find something to do on a Saturday afternoon, and even harder for local acts to book gigs.

Go out and support this show. Although 200 people showed up for the first one last year, there's no reason why there shouldn't be twice that many people this year. After all, which would you rather do: stay and study in the dorm or support local music and rock the quad?

Around Town

Music
Information is provided by the individual nightclubs and is subject to change.

Gallery Bar

In the College Station Hilton at 801 E. University Dr. Only ages 21 and older admitted. Call 693-7500 for more information. Friday, Saturday - **Big Apple Trio**. Jazz. Starts at 8 p.m. No cover.

Kay's Cabaret

At Post Oak Mall. Ages 18 and older admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 696-9191.

Thursday - **The Toes**. Acoustic country. Starts at 9:30 p.m. No cover.

Friday - **3 Beers**. Classic rock. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$3 cover.

Saturday - **Hierophant**. Rock. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$3 cover.

Texas Hall of Fame

On FM 2818 in Bryan. Alcohol served. For more information, call 822-2222.

Thursday - **Special F/X**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$4 cover (\$2 off with TAMU ID).

Friday - **Johnny Lion and the Country NuNotes**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$5 cover.

Saturday - **Jerry Nail and the Armadillo Express**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. doors open at 8. \$4 cover (\$2 off with TAMU ID).

Equinox

Located at 329 University Dr. in College Station. Alcohol served. For more information, call 846-2496.

Saturday - **Ant Hill Mob**. Rock. Starts at 9:00 p.m. \$3 cover.

Two Pesos

Located at 303 University Dr. in College Station. Alcohol served. For more information, call 846-4135.

Wednesday - **Sneaky Pete**. Sing-along. Starts at 8 p.m. \$2 cover.

Saturday - **N the Rutz**. Rock. Starts at 9:30. \$3 cover.

Stafford Opera House

Located at 106 S. Main in Bryan. Alcohol served. For more information, call 775-4082.

Thursday - **Ten Hands**. Funk. Starts at 8 p.m. \$6 in advance, \$7 cover at the door.

Friday - **Susanne Sharp and the Samber**. Saturday - **Chris Duarte**. Blues rock. funky blues. Starts at 9 p.m. \$5 cover.

Wednesday - **KANM Benefit with The Road Kings**. Rockabilly. Starts at 8 p.m. \$5 cover.

Comedy

Information is subject to change.

Garfield's

Located at 1503 S. Texas Ave. Reservations recommended. Ages 21 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-1736 for more information.

Thursday - **Nicky Shane and Jim Nenopolous**. Starts at 10 p.m. Tickets: \$4 in advance, \$5 at door.

Sundance

Located at 801 E. University Dr. in the Hilton. Ages 19 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-7500 for more information.

Thursday - **Al D. Freeman**. Starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets: \$4 in advance, \$5 at door. No reservations.

The Department of Speech Communications and Theatre Arts

The Aggie Players present

The Story of the Conquest of the Kingdom of New Mexico

by Oscar Giner

April 9-11 & 16-18 8 p.m.
April 12 & 19 2 p.m.
Rudder Forum
Texas A&M University

General Public \$6.00 Students \$5.00
Tickets available at Aggie Player Box Office
862-2052

This program made possible in part through a grant from the Arts Council of Brazos Valley and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

DOUBLE DAVE'S PIZZAWORKS

QUARTERS NIGHT

Every Thursday Evening

2 QUARTERS buys you A FROSTED PINT of draft beer (50¢) 9-11 PM

326 George Bush 696-DAVE
211 University 268-DAVE
919 Harvey 764-DAVE
Carter Creek 846-DAVE

The TAP WOODSTONE CENTER
COLLEGE STATION, TX • 696-5570

Crawfish Boil
\$1.00 per pound
Every Thursday • 5p.m. to 8p.m.

\$2.50 PITCHERS 8-10 EVERY NIGHT
HAPPY HOUR 4-8
\$3 PITCHERS
LONGNECKS & PINS

The TAP WOODSTONE CENTER
COLLEGE STATION, TX • 696-5570

Live Music
\$2 cover charge
Every Thursday

\$2.50 pitchers from 8-10
Every Night