

It's not easy being GREEN

Musician talks about life on the road as he tours behind his new album

BY SCOTT HARRIS
The Battalion

Pat Green grasped what it means to be a Texan musician and has never let it go.

He can be credited with being one of the first artists to take advantage of a musical movement spearheaded by Robert Earl Keen and has attained a level of success usually reserved for hardened veterans of the business. He is young, full of talent and energy — and he is back headed to College Station.

Playing just over a week after his third studio release, *Carry On*, Green said he is excited about returning to Aggie land for a performance.

"[College Station] has the most

amazing crowds," he said. "I am never disappointed. They are a fun crowd."

It has been over two years since his last studio release, though he has managed to put out two live recordings to appease his fans. Green said he was a bit nervous to get back into the studio to record his latest CD.

"I didn't know what to expect," he said. "You never know what's going to happen. We got lucky; we got a full, complete record."

Fans who have had a chance to listen to the record have probably noticed a difference between this album and his other releases — it has more of a deep, personal touch.

"It is introspective and interesting," Green said. "The fans will get an ac-

complished idea of our makeup, they will get an idea of who we are."

Of course, part of being a musician is touring, and Green said keeping his shows fresh and new is something that is innate in his personality.

"I don't do anything consciously," he said.

"It's just part of my persona, it's different. I think I'm a little insane anyway. Part of it is putting out new records, playing covers, playing favorites. I feel that if I came to my own show, I'd want to get my money's worth."

Trying to keep concerts exciting isn't the only thing Green worries about when he is on the road. He said making a living as a musician can put a strain on the non-musical aspects of his life.

"It makes my private life hectic," he said. "If you want to get a family and lead a normal life, being on the road doesn't lend itself to that lifestyle. I'm having fun, though. I don't feel I have anything to complain about."

He said his life on the road has also put a strain on his relationship with his fiancée.

"She understands, I've known her since before my first album," he said. "She's been around enough, and she knows what she's getting herself into."

However, among the perks of the job, Green said he enjoys not having to work too much during the week. And the weekend, when everybody else is off, is his time to shine.

Another aspect of being a musician, a Texas country artist in particular, is having to take part in the Texas vs. Nashville debate.

"The Texas vs. Nashville story has been told about a million times," Green said. "I've said it before, and I'll say it again: I'll continue to do what I do and



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUSTIN-UNIVERSAL ENTERTAINMENT

Texas musician **Pat Green**, who is currently touring behind his new album, *Carry On*, will make a stop in College Station tonight.

see what happens. I don't know if they're going to cater to the fans and actually get quality artists—other than that, they are just digging their own graves."

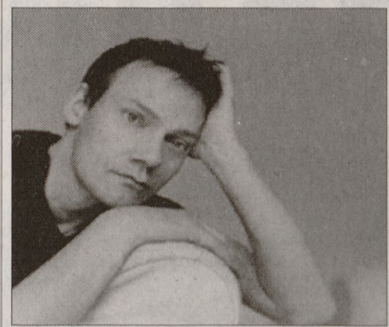
Even if the Nashville scene is sputtering, the Texas scene just seems to keep growing. More and more talented musicians are being found around every corner, and Green said he welcomes the influx of the musicians.

"The more the merrier," Green said.

"It is not a competition. If more people come in and continue to do well, then I'll do well, and the whole state will do well, and that's what it's all about. In the music industry you never know what's going to happen."

"We've been real lucky. We are just going to keep moving forward and make this a bigger deal. We'll just keep rolling along."

Green will be performing at 10:30 p.m. at Hurricane Harry's, and for fans who can't wait that long, he will be signing autographs at Hastings at 6 p.m.



William Orbit
Pieces in a Modern Style
CD courtesy of Maverick Recording Co.

England's well respected ambient-house pioneer and artist/writer/producer William Orbit has released his solo debut, *Pieces in a Modern Style*.

The album features electronic interpretations of 11 classical pieces including Baroque-era works of Handel and Vivaldi. There are also early 20th century pieces by Barber, Cage and Mascagni.

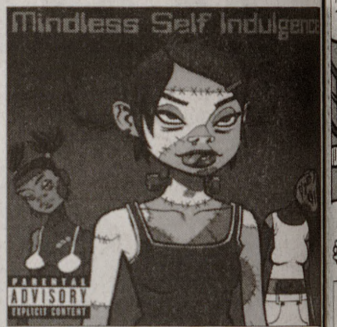
Orbit has chosen pieces that have stood the test of time. He adds his own personal spin to classical pieces while keeping artistic integrity in mind.

He modernizes the pieces, giving the listener a chance to be more accepting of the classical-esque album. There are no words to any of the pieces; it is all music that is very melodious and free flowing.

The pieces are ideal for setting a serene but spiritual mood that definitely can help a stressful time.

Orbit has previously worked with Madonna on *Ray of Light*, co-producing and co-writing the album. He follows that album with something that is almost equal in depth and power. This album is perfect for relaxation or meditation or to get away from the immediate reality ... for a while. (Grade: B+)

— Jeff Wolfshohl



Mindless self indulgence
frankenstein girls will seem strangely sexy
CD courtesy of Electra Records

This band is one of those freak show that totally repels you, but you can't look away. Mindless self indulgence is more image than substance. The album contains 30 songs filled with a lot of fast noise, record scratching and screaming.

If Gwar started ripping-off White Zombie, they would become this band. At least mindless self indulgence knows they suck. The promotional sticker on the album reads "Be the first on your block to throw this new album out!" They could not be more right.

With songs like "Dicks are for my friends" and "I hate Jimmy Page" the album is meant to shock and rail out against the oppressive censorship of this country. Mindless self indulgence should leave the social commentary to those who graduated from high school.

Some of the songs were mixed by Mario Caldato Jr., who mixes and produces for the Beastie Boys. Whatever influence he had on the album isn't seen, though.

Mindless self indulgence picks up all the trash of the music world, then throws it together in an angered frenzy. Maybe all they really need is a hug. (Grade: D)

— Kyle Whitman



CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

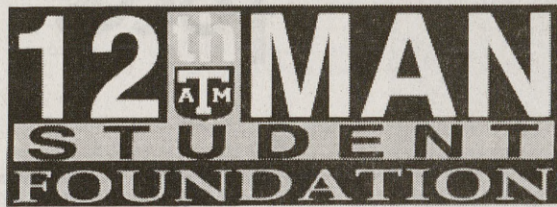
Pat Green seen in a past performance in College Station.

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