

# Chicago brings the brass back to Las Vegas

by Brad Palmer  
Staff Reporter

The band that boasts of being windy city natives, Chicago, headlined Caesar's Palace last week for six nights, highlighting their 23-year career of 20 gold and platinum albums.

The first show opened at 10 p.m. with "Beginnings," a song characterizing their start with lead vocals by Robert Lamm and keyboard solos by Lee Loughnane.

The set continued with two more songs from early in their career (1967-1977). "Saturday in the Park," which was highlighted by Jason Scheff on vocals and Lee Loughnane on trumpet, and the brassy-romantic "Just You and Me," which featured more brass and a flute solo by Walt Parazaider.

The second set highlighted the next decade and a half of songs. The high point was the classic "Stay the Night," featuring a guitar solo by Dwayne Bailey as well as "If You Leave Me Now" which included a small light show, and a display of brass, Lee Loughnane on trumpet, James Pankow on trombone with disco-like moves, and Jason Scheff on vocals.

A medley of old songs introduced their classic "What Kind of Man Would I Be?" It featured brassy interludes throughout the

song.

"It has taken us 23 years to get here but here we are at our reunion concert," said James Pankow.

The last set continued with Jason Scheff on lead vocals for "Hard Habit to Break," which showed off the talent of all the band members. The next song began with a strong brassy intro by Walt Parazaider, Lee Loughnane, and James Pankow on "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" featuring Lamm on vocals and a hand-held keyboard solo.

"We Can Stop the Hurtin'" opened the next set of songs, and featured Parazaider on saxophone. This was an audience pleaser as the audience rose to sing along. The next number was the provocative and last song from the album "19," "You're Not Alone," which featured long guitar solos by Champlin and Murphy, and featuring vocals by Champlin and Scheff.

"We have enjoyed the pleasure of such a responsive audience and have enjoyed Vegas over the years, we will play a few more songs before we leave," said Walt Parazaider, woodwinds.

Chicago closed their 80 minute set featuring two romantic songs, "Look Away," and the classic theme song from the 1982 movie, "Summer Lovers," "Hard



Chicago - From left to right: Dwayne Bailey, Bill Champlin, Lee Loughnane, Walt Parazaider, Robert Lamm, Jason Scheff and James Pankow.

to Say I'm Sorry" which featured Scheff on vocals and the ending "Get Away" which rose the audience to clapping and singing.

Chicago came back for their planned encore, "You're the Inspiration," featuring brassy interludes and a solo by Scheff.

Closing the 95 minute set was Scheff on "25 or 6 to 4" featuring guitar solos and vibrant lyrics and brass.

Chicago will release their 21st album next month, and will continue to be heard for years to come.

# London Quireboys invade Las Vegas

by John Glynn  
Staff Reporter

A new invasion of British rock 'n' roll has stomped its way into America. No, it is not another clone of Led Zeppelin or the Rolling Stones.

This is a band that has combined many influences that range from early British rock bands (Stones and Faces) to American rocking blues (Muddy Waters and Chuck Berry). Still they have a style that is clearly their own. The band is The London Quireboys and they recently rolled into Las Vegas to promote their debut album, "A Bit of What You Fancy."

The rest of the world has already experienced the band through heavy radio airplay and touring. The U.S. is the only country in which the band has not been in the top 10 on the album charts. The album has gone gold in Germany, Japan, Scandinavia, Italy, Greece, and Spain and platinum in England and Canada.

The band has been in Europe this summer playing with such acts as the Rolling Stones, Aerosmith, Whitesnake and Poison and now they have come to the United States to present their musical road show.

In America, the band must get used to playing to smaller audiences, but as Chris Johnstone explained, "The hardest thing to get used to is the size of the country and playing in so many cities,

but clubs are where we started and it's more of a tighter feeling with the audience than with big projected stage shows."

While in Las Vegas, the band delivered a show that included all of the songs on the new album and a few rock classics for their encore.

This band consists of a group of guys that Nigel Mogg says, "don't have tattoos, wear Jack Daniels shirts and don't have a million cuss words in their songs."

Spike's (lead vocals) raspy voice gives such a bite to the tunes and the double guitar attack of Guy Bailey and Guy Griffin is very tight and rhythmic.

Also, the band doesn't mix in a million mindless solos. With Nigel Mogg (bass) and Rudy Richman (drums), the band has that solid backbone that is needed to deliver such a tight rhythm section. For that extra dynamic touch, Chris Johnstone's piano/keyboard playing cuts through the band's vibrant playing with class.

The band is touring with no help from radio or MTV.

Johnstone exclaimed, "Take a look at bands like Faith No More and Guns 'n' Roses. It took forever for the public to catch on. Bands made it before MTV. So, we will just have to tour till America knows us."

He tells it like it is in the American music market today. In time, the United States will catch on to the great music of The London Quireboys.

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