

Robert Plant guides Las Vegas through a rock 'n roll field trip



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

All hail - the golden god of rock and roll. Robert Plant performs with an almost mystical aura about him.

by John Glynn
Staff Reporter

Only a few rock musicians have such an intense persona that they can completely mesmerize an audience. Robert Plant is one of them.

When the "Tall Cool One" hit Las Vegas, he and his band took the audience through the show like it was a rock 'n roll roller coaster ride.

The band would take the audience up to the crest of a slow song and then plummeted into a fast, frenzied tune.

The show mixed Plant's solo work with some classic Led Zeppelin tunes. Such Zeppelin tunes as "Living Loving Maid," "Going to California," "Nobody's Fault but Mine" and "The Immigrant Song" got the crowd into a tremendous uproar. His solo work was equally impressive, including songs such as "Tie Dye On the Highway," "Ship of Fools," "In the Mood" and "Nirvana."

Plant's haunting voice was just like in his old Zeppelin days. After 20 years, he stills loves to

wail away. Doug Boyle, Plant's new lead guitarist, delivered superb licks throughout the show and did justice to the classic Zep tunes. The rest of the band (Phil Johnstone, Charlie Jones and Chris Blackwell) played very tightly and you could hardly even notice them on the bare-boned stage.

The stage was supplied only with a white circular backdrop for a film projector that produced clips which went along with certain songs. The legend and his band, as Aerosmith would say, "Let the Music Do the Talking" instead of cheap stage gimmicks.

Don Dokken faced quite a chore opening for Plant. There was no way he could steal the show and Dokken even acknowledged he was nervous opening for a giant like Plant. He was so nervous that he forgot that the song "The Hunter" is on the album *Under Lock and Key* and not as he said, on *Tooth and Nail*. The new band's second show was highlighted by Dokken's acoustic version of "Alone Again" that involved the crowd singing along.



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

Rockin' - Peter Baltes and Don Dokken jam out the riffs at last Friday's concert.

Dr. Strange Glove visits Las Vegas

A night of skiing action, rocking music and wacky humor

"Skier Craig" and Nevada Ski Scene will present Greg Stump's newest movie, *Dr. Strange Glove*, on Saturday, Nov. 17. There will be two showings of this new and most bizarre ski movie. The first show will begin at 7 p.m., with the late show at 9:30 p.m. Door prizes, drawings, and exhibitors from ski areas will be featured at both showings in the Sands Ballroom.

Elk Meadows Ski and Summer Resort will once again co-sponsor the event, for the fifth consecutive year. Each year Elk Meadows gives everyone in atten-

dance an Elk Meadows Club Card. Ferdinand's Restaurant and Saloon will give everyone who attends *Dr. Strange Glove* a 2-for-1 Discount Coupon good for food, drinks, and bar specials. Ferdinand's will host the "after movie ski party" which features lots of goodies, drinks, and door prizes.

It is completely different and very bizarre. It has rocking music, extraordinary action and some wacky humor thrown in as well. For further information, call "Skier Craig" at 458-7669.

Where can heavy metal fans go to enjoy their music?

by Brian Stransky
Reporter

Heavy metal music has a reputation for being a rebellious and misunderstood art form. Some of the current bands that best exemplify this genre are Slayer, Megadeth, Anthrax, Metallica and Testament. All of these have a distinct but characteristic metal sound, with a variety of politically conscious, or anti-establishment based lyrics.

Heavy metal is not to be confused with self-proclaimed hard rock bands that often stem into top 40 music, like Bon Jovi. It is more a performance art than a ratings catcher, and fans find it difficult to enjoy this music without a live performance outlet to experience.

Las Vegas fans of this fast and hard music have long been

neglected by their idols, who have no local outlet for their musical stylings. The last concert of any notability was the Sept. 26 performance by Danzig, a Slayer-style band. Metallica and Faith No More have also appeared in Las Vegas.

Metallica proved to be the most original act. The concert by Danzig, held in Artemus Ham Hall, produced a small but satisfied crowd, and a ban on future heavy metal shows at Artemus Ham Hall. Speed metal artists Megadeth were scheduled to play with Testament on Nov. 6, but the show was cancelled.

According to Artemus Ham Hall Facilities Manager Larry Henley, "I don't have any negative opinions on the type or style of music. But the audience at Danzig demonstrated such characteristics, that the larger crowd

expected at Megadeth would have posed too great a risk to audience safety. It's a long fall from the balcony to the floor, and the promoter couldn't afford the security to safeguard all possibilities."

Nearly \$2,500 worth of damage was done to the hall during the Danzig concert. Danzig was the first heavy metal concert to come to Las Vegas in a year.

With only one current radio station geared toward heavy metal music, and little hope for major heavy metal music acts to visit Las Vegas, what is its future here?

One alternative is that Las Vegas heavy metal fans can turn to local acts, heard occasionally on KMTW on weekends. However, whatever the fate of heavy metal music, the Las Vegas followers remain a small, but dedicated group.

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