

Music Avenue record review

by John Glynn

**Queen
Innuendo
Hollywood Records**

Grade: A-

Freddie Mercury, Brian May, Roger Taylor and John Deacon have put out an album they can be proud to have their name on. This veteran band of the '70s lost that Queen "magic touch" in the mid to late '80s, and they're now trying to rekindle the magic.

The new album, *Innuendo*, has the great production and dynamic range of musical styles that the old Queen albums such as *Game* and *News of the World* used to incorporate.

From beginning to end, the song structure on *Innuendo* is in typical old-fashioned Queen style. The slow songs are intertwined with the fast-paced cuts to make

this superb album move like a great new Hollywood thriller.

The opening cut, "Innuendo," is like a movie theme that gets you ready for the show. "Innuendo" uses the services of Steve Howe on Spanish guitar.

"Headlong" proves to be the strongest cut on the album, and rocks with the same hard edge that made their tunes so popular in the '70s. The melodic "Don't Try So Hard" is Freddie Mercury's best vocal work in a long time.

Brain May's guitar work on "Bijou" is one of his brightest moments on record, and on "Hitman" his lead and rhythm guitar work is dynamite.

The rest of songs are just as terrific, and the album is not just a one- or two-hit wonder.

In 1981, Queen played in South America to 251,000 people in Sao Paulo, the biggest-ever paying audience for one band. The question to be asked is, "Where are all the Queen fans now?"

This great band deserves more respect.

**Will Downing
A Dream Fulfilled
Island Records**

Grade: B+

A Dream Fulfilled is a fantastic album that combines soul, contemporary jazz and R&B. Will Downing used to provide background vocals for the likes of Billy Ocean, Kool & The Gang and Stephanie Mills, but he can now be proud of his own lead vocal work.

"Don't Make Me Wait" and "No Love Intended" really show off some of Downing's great vocal work and his terrific songwriting abilities. Jazz and soul are not great money makers, so Downing's talents will probably go unnoticed to the music-buying public. And that is a shame.



Will Downing

photo by Carol Friedman



Queen

photo by Simon Fowler

Sneakers--The latest club to present live entertainment

by Elisa P. Garcia

Sneakers, voted the No. 1 sports bar three years in a row, has more to offer than just basketball and booze. The establishment also serves food and offers live entertainment on the weekends.

Since its opening six years ago, Sneakers presented bands without realizing that an entertainment license was required. Last New Year's Eve, when seven bands were scheduled to appear, the club was reprimanded by authorities. Now they've finally obtained their license and will show their first band within a two-month period.

The Leisure Lizards will play

legally at Sneakers this weekend.

In addition, on Saturday evening March 30, Joel Habbeshaw, rock director at KUNV, will be hosting a party. Patio concerts are also offered once or twice a month.

Sneakers finds its entertainment through connections in Los Angeles and through local contacts, so the bands include mostly local and L.A. groups.

The club's major drawback is its obscure location. It's located in the corner of the Renaissance shopping center, near Lucky's and Ricardo's on East Tropicana. Don't let its concealed location discourage you from checking out the scene at Sneakers.

Celebration of life

A concert of the classics

Senior Dimensions and KLAS-TV 8, with the cooperation of the United Way Volunteer Center, will co-sponsor this year's Celebration of Life concert featuring the classics according to John Henry on Sunday, March 17 at 2 p.m.

The event, to be held at Cashman Theater, is free to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"The concert ... features American's most recognized collection of traditional and contemporary classics," Henry said.

The program, intended to provided a greater appreciation of the classics, is a presentation of originally scored and updated versions of the most recognizable masterworks of the past 300 years. Henry's scores, style and sounds constitute a new approach to both classical and symphonic jazz, while remaining faithful to the folkloric phrasing of the original work.

Joining Henry in concert will be musicians George Valadez on guitar, Richard Wright on percussion and Richard Straub on bass. Collectively, the group will present a musical celebration of originally scored and updated classics.

Seating is limited and those planning on attending are encouraged to arrive early. For additional information, call 892-2322.

Redd Kross

The cure for all ailments of commercial rock

by Bret Skiba

Originally formed in 1979, Redd Kross has been providing a rock and roll cure for music lovers everywhere. Founded by brothers Jeffery and Steven McDonald, the band is presently on tour supporting its latest effort *Third Eye*, which is its first major label release on Atlantic Records. This band claims it will write about anything from socks to state of the world affairs, but refuses to limit its musical ideas to any one subject.

Members of Red Kross enjoy having fun so there is a good deal of humor involved in their music. Band members cite the Ramones and Osmond Brothers as musical influences. Don't be fooled by this. The band had two major goals when they set out. They list these as a desire to reach a wide variety of people and an endeavor to please themselves. That is just what they have done. They are serious about their music.

This is a four-piece band. The most solid new member is guitarist Robert Hecker who has been

with the band for seven years.

"I was serious about the music I didn't think of it as a lifestyle until high school," said Steven McDonald who started the band in junior high school. It's evident that this is what he and the rest of the band plan on doing for a while. This is a four-piece band. The most solid new member is guitarist Robert Hecker who has been with the band for seven years.

The band performed at Calamity Jayne's concert house on Friday night. Las Vegas is the first city on the second leg of the tour which lasts until May. This is a straight-forward alternative rock band that should be an inspiration to other bands who haven't made it big yet. It took these guys 12 years to get a major label.

The newest album is great if you enjoy this kind of music. It pleases the members of the band and shows the band's love of pop culture and life itself. This band is definitely an alternative to the usual sounds of all the commercial music and bands out there these days.

MOVIES

'New Jack City' Scarface in Harlem

by Kelcey West

"New Jack City" is not a black movie about a black problem in America. The movie features numerous black entertainers (Mario Van Peoples, Chris Rock, Christopher Williams, Flavor Flav, Keith Sweat, Guy, Levert and Troop), but it takes a bite at the universal problem of crack addiction and distribution.

In the March 9 issue of the *Review-Journal*, Lawrence Toppman reviewed the movie "New Jack City," starring Ice T, Wesley Snipes and Judd Nelson.

The irony of Toppman's review was that he failed to emphasize the meaning and true purpose of the movie by only paying attention to the actual lifestyle of Ice T as a rapper appearing in his first movie.

Although "NJC" won't win an Oscar, it is of the caliber of

"Scarface" or "The Godfather." The only real difference between the movies are the lengths and soundtracks. "NJC" is sharp yet genuine with a touch of R&B soul, to make a necessity for today's assuming society.

Society is bewildered about the real strength of crack addiction, the intelligence of drug dealers, and the money flowing like the Mississippi River inside the drug game. For that reason, this movie shouldn't be characterized as a "Spike-Lee-blacks-only" type movie such as "Do The Right Thing."

The purpose of the movie is to show that if the people in our democracy unite as one, then there is hope for the next generation.

In the words of Wesley Snipes, "Once our government begins to value human life in the same sentence as oil, drugs will leave our communities."

Fun for the whole family!



The Yellin' Rebel Entertainment Section...