



Local record stores celebrate release of new Guns N' Roses albums

by Daniel W. Duffy and *Use Your Illusion II*. The Wherehouse had G N' R Fest with a live remote from the heavy metal radio station Z-Rock as well as free bandannas for those who pre-ordered the two albums. Starting at 11 p.m. fans had already formed a line in Tower Records had similar festivities with a live remote from KOMP. KOMP had G N' R posters for all the fans. There was a drawing for an entire Guns n' Roses library. While the line started a little later, Tower was still packing them in until the wee hours. KOMP DJ "The Outlaw" Mike Colotta commented on hype, saying "No other band in history has released two different albums at the same time." they got their albums, they just wanted to have those CDs or cassettes in their players by midnight and take Tuesday off from school to fully appreciate the two new releases.

'Use Your Illusion I' 'Use Your Illusion II'

by Tricia Romano

Question: How does a band that has sold 14 million copies of their debut album and charted two records in the Billboard top 5 simultaneously, top themselves?

Answer: They release two of the most anticipated albums in rock history, at the same time.

Guns N' Roses, whose first effort, *Appetite for Destruction*, surpassed the debuts in sales of Led Zeppelin and the Beatles, have returned with *Use Your Illusion I* and *Use Your Illusion II*.

The first volume contains 16 tracks, including the original version of "Don't Cry."

From the start of the record it is easy to notice the growth of the band. Songs like "November Rain" and "Coma" are epics in the same league as Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven." "Coma" is the creation of guitarist Slash, and "November Rain," the pretty, piano-based ballad is a result of singer W. Axl Rose's emotional outpourings.

G N' R never stops pulling tricks out of their top hat. Rhythm guitarist Izzy Stradlin takes the lead (as in vocals) on several songs. His laid-back drawl fits the sleazy-sounding "Dust N' Bones" to a T. Still, Rose's voice is so powerful, it creeps up from the background, threatening to take over.

Of course, the trademark style of G N' R is present. "Perfect Crime" is in the same family as "You're Crazy;" it's fast and furious and right at your throat.

"Right Next Door to Hell," (an ode to Rose's neighbor) is pulled straight out of the Gunners box of good old rock n' roll and "Bad Obsession" picks up where "Mr. Brownstone" left off.

At any rate, whatever the type, the songs are nothing short of brilliant. 'Nuff said, dude.

by Daniel W. Duffy

With the release of *Use Your Illusion I*, and *Use Your Illusion II*, Guns N' Roses have caused a frenzy unparalleled since the early days of the Beatles or the Rolling Stones. They have established themselves as one of the biggest and baddest bands of the decade.

No other band crosses over to so many different audiences.

Their listeners range from heavy metal to alternative to punk to Top 40.

Use Your Illusion II, deals with the more mainstream side of G N' R. It contains the previously released hits "Knockin' On Heaven's Door," "Civil War" and "You Could Be Mine," that have whet the appetites (for destruction) of G N' R fans for the past year or so.

The rest of the album shows the maturity and diversity the Gunners have achieved with their second effort. The highlights include "Locomotive," which has a hard hitting rhythm section with Ozzy Osbourne-esque vocals. The song "14 Years," has a down n' dirty feel with rhythm guitarist Izzy Stradlin taking over on vocals, but fear not, lead singer W. Axl Rose still sings backup.

The ballad "Don't Cry" appears on both albums but the version which appears on *Use Your Illusion II* is the updated, relevant version for 1991, said Axl Rose. "Get in the Ring," is a controversial song that attacks G N' R's media critics, while "Pretty Tied Up," is the Gunners' ode to sadism and masochism.

On both albums there is a good balance of mellow tunes and hard rockin' jams that should satisfy all listeners. The soft tune, "So Fine" is the brainchild of bass player Duff McKagan while "Estranged," is Axl Rose's wild dedication to guitarist Slash. This is real rock n' roll. 'Nuff said.

ALBUM REVIEWS

Guns N' Roses - *Use Your Illusion I and Use Your Illusion II* Geffen Records

Jive Opera Gallery spotlights local talent

by Robert J. Williams

There's a new place in town to hear the best local bands and see the best local artists. It's called the Jive Opera Gallery.

The gallery is located at 101 E. Charleston. (It's located above the Las Vegas Sports Center.)

After topping the stairs, I entered a huge, spacious room with wooden floor and an open ceiling.

The room itself reminded me of the second story of an old fashioned barn without the hay. The grayish-green walls and lack of bright lighting leaves something to be desired but the place has a fantastic layout for a small concert.

The proprietors, Tammy Greenspon and Kirk Hansen have been in town for four years and said they've noticed a lack in the number of places where local artists can display their work. Jive

Opera Gallery is an effort to fill that gap.

The Jive Opera Gallery does not have a rigorous dress code: clothing ranged from cocktail

dresses and three piece suits to skimpy shorts and torn tank tops.

It's a place that opens the mind. One could say that with its rustic look it is an alternative art gallery. It's not a club, and it's not your average stuffy museum; it is simply a place to view the arts and enjoy the social scene.

Robert Wilner, an employee, said the Gallery was "family renovated and full of heart."

The gallery has an ample wall display and plans to exhibit sculpture, stage performance art, entertain poetry lovers and to have local bands play.

Jive Opera currently features the art of Fred "Buz" Giovannitti. The youthful Giovannitti credits most of his style to "Life's-a-Beach"

streetwear where he worked making designs.

Giovannitti's works are cartoonish styled inks and watercolor that contain a bit of social commentary.

"Some things are still vulnerable to outside dangers," and, "What more can I ask for? I have a brain! The world is mine." are a few phrases found in Giovannitti's work.

David Anson, a junior majoring in philosophy at

the university, began displaying his works beginning Sept. 14. Anson works with a wide range of mediums: inks on paper, clay sculpture, as well as acrylics on canvas. He said he hopes to display four works.

The gallery houses several other local talents; displays range from photographs to paintings. Admission is free and is open to anyone 18 years or older.



Jive Opera Gallery is a new night spot featuring local artists as well as live concerts.

'Fantasticks' offer plenty of fun

by Tricia Romano

COMMENTARY

The Fantasticks, the off-Broadway musical originally written by Tom Jones, ended on a high note last Saturday night.

Playing to a full-house in the Cafe Espresso Roma, the actors all turned in fine, memorable performances.

With only seven speaking parts, it's hard to give the title of "lead" to anyone without taking away from the other characters. Directed by Ed Humphrey, the play focuses on lovers Luisa and Matt, played by Donna Heaton and Jason Mosley. (Remember, this is a modern day version of *Romeo and Juliet*.)

Heaton gives a believable performance of a naive, 16-year-old girl. This is impressive considering that she is actually 25 years old. She has been performing for 10 years.

Interestingly enough, Heaton said that she didn't

audition for the part. "They couldn't find anyone else to do the part, so I ended up doing it," she said.

Mosley, who has been acting for three years and singing for six years was cast well in the part of the boy, but he and Heaton did not have the chemistry needed to seem believable.

The most natural performance of the play came from Karen McLang-Avalos who played the part of Matt's mother, Mrs. Hucklebee. The veteran actress said she's been in acting "on and off since high school."

Not surprisingly, she was originally planning to become an opera singer; her voice was the strongest of the cast.

Bruce Dicey played Mr. Bellomy, Luisa's father. At the start of the play, Dicey