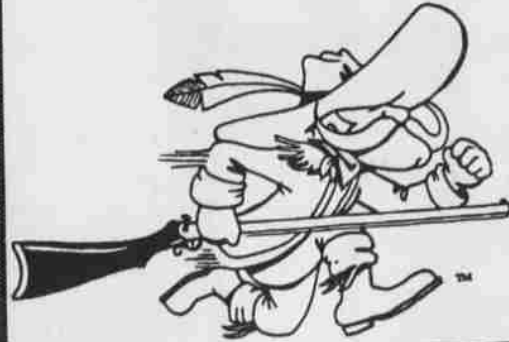


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REBEL
YELL

Jared Dean
reviews a
Bruce Willis
flick...only in
Variety.

Best Kissers in the World Interview

Just cause they have a stupid name doesn't make their music stupid!

BY ARIEL
STAFF WRITER

So there's this really cool band from Seattle. They just signed with a major label and released a full album. The band is **Best Kissers In The World** and the album is called *Been There*.

Earlier this year the Kissers released the five-track EP *Puddin'* which had some great tracks. To support it they toured with **School of Fish** and even stopped here in Vegas.

Well, *Been There* also has some great tracks with the same interesting lyrics, too. "She Won't Get Under Me Till I Get Over You" is a great track with killer guitars leading the way through the song.

Almost all the songs on **Been There** are pretty happy sounding while the lyrics deal with pain and broken hearts. The one exception to this upbeat album is "Waltzing" which is an acoustic ballad using only vocalist Gerald Collier and guitarist Jeff

Stone. The lyrics: "I called up the station, told the DJ the situation as he dedicated 'Communication Break-down' to you and me."

Another track, "Present at Your Party" puts the speaker at his girlfriend's party knowing that she has lied and cheated. But the song still sounds jovial. **Best Kissers** sound a lot like **Squeeze** vocally with harder guitars. They're really a great band with a great sound that proves that not everyone from Seattle is grunge.

Crazy, wacky rendition of Shakespeare comes to Black Box

Tickets going fast for madcap production

JAMES WILSON
STAFF WRITER

"It's a non-traditional approach - no doublets, no fancy speeches."

These reassuring words come from Arizona State associate professor of theater David Barker, whose one-man Richard III adaptation appears Sept. 24 and 25 at the Black Box Theater.

The production, entitled "Inductions Dangerous," features Barker as one of Shakespeare's most psy-

chologically unbalanced characters, Richard III. Barker laces the drink with a twist, however.

Far from the traditional solo performance, Barker will act against dummies dangled above the stage, representing the various other characters in the original Shakespeare play.

"The dolls represent the manipulation Richard III exercises over people, and he acts against them accordingly. There's a lot of sym-

see *Nutty Professor* p.10

The Opera Beggars: Slam dancing scares us!

ARIEL VIEW
An Overview of
the Vegas Scene

In the past few years the world has watched various music scenes explode. We all know about Seattle and L.A., but what about Vegas? There is so much talent packed into this city, yet no one has discovered it.

So I've set myself on a mission. Once a week the students of UNLV will have the opportunity to meet the local bands in this column. To start it all off, I had the chance to talk to Boulder City's **Opera Beggars**. They are Mike Hall on lead guitar; Rob Catalano, lead vocals; Brian Haraway, drums; Todd Whalen, bass; Adrian Jones, percussion; and Jaycen Orgo on guitar. Also, each member sings backing vocals.

As cars zoomed by us at an outdoor cafe, we talked about what the band has done, and what they plan to do. Having been together for two years the **Opera Beggars** have played all over Vegas (they've even been banned from a few places including the states of Arizona and Utah). And, believe it or not, they don't play covers (ex-

cept for an occasional request for Inna Gadda Davida).

Their set is composed of their pick from the thirty original tracks they've written (Catalano does most of the song writing but everyone contributes). "Fxxx Like This" and "Tired of Getting Old" are both played on KUNV and

reflect the acoustic-based sound the Beggars tend to lean towards. I tried to get an idea of their backgrounds but with these guys it is difficult to tell when they're joking or serious. They told me that Devo, Dino and Dio are their influences. Yes, the 3-D's of rock. But, really, they have metal, punk, classical, folk and even country influences that when mixed together make a great sound. So, what

are The Opera Beggars about? They are just out to have fun while playing good music. "It's not important for us to be discovered and signed," says Catalano. They are interested but not look-



ing. In December we can expect a full album release which they are recording in their own studio, Tin Shed. They built this 16-track studio all by themselves by putting money into an account over the last two years (it sure helps playing all those gigs). And speaking of gigs, there's a whole slew of 'em coming up (look below for listings). When you go to one

of their shows you can expect to "hear an acoustic guitar, vocal harmonies and rhythm," Catalano adds. They don't like slam dancing but do encourage the audience to pogo (a pre-slam-

ming dance where everyone boxes up and down without injuring others). If you're lucky you may even be able to get body piercing at one of their gigs (they have a friend who performed this task at a past show). They like people to come up to the stage and get into the show, either by jamming with them or just sitting on the stage. It's a very friendly atmosphere. Oh, and their name? Well, The Opera Beggars got their name from a story told by Hall's brother who encountered a lady begging for

money by singing, that's right, opera tunes.

So, they're a cool band with a cool sound and a cool attitude. And, by the way, they're looking for a new logo. Any ideas? If so, call 293-0156 which is also the number to call if you would like to be on their mailing list (it gives info about upcoming shows, the album, etc). Just leave your name and number and someone will get back to you for the vitals.

So, now you know them, check them out. The Opera Beggars are playing:

Friday, Sept 24- Mad Dogs and Englishmen The Strip- 9:30pm

Saturday, Sept 25- Bassett Book Shop- 3pm

Saturday, Oct 9- Cafe Rainbow- 8pm

Saturday, Oct 23- The Gazebo Park, Boulder City- 12noon

Ariel is a Rebel Yell staff columnist and KUNV d.j. Her column appears in the Variety section every Thursday.