

# Warrant kicks off new album at Drink

By Jason Sheehan  
Staff A&E Writer

Early into the concert, lead singer Jani Lane told the crowd he planned to drink himself into oblivion. He wasn't joking.

Midnight madness filled the confines of the Drink as Warrant transformed head banging and heavy drinking into a hard-rocking show loaded with reams of mayhem.

Before indulging in alcohol, Lane ripped into the two ballads from the late '80's that helped put Warrant on the map, "Heaven" and "I Saw Red," which left the crowd roaring in unison, accompanying Lane as he sang.

These songs, which helped Warrant become musical giants, were responsible for labeling Warrant as a ballad band incapable of pumping up the volume.

"Our second single ("Heaven") did so well that we got pigeonholed as a ballad band," said rhythm guitarist Erik Turner. "If



PHOTO: Orin Borowsky, staff photographer  
Warrant single-handedly revives the 80's.

you listen to other songs on our older records, there's usually a couple ballads on them.

"A good song is a good song," Turner continued. "You don't

want to limit yourself to just playing one type of song."

When the ballads concluded, Lane exited the stage and jumped into the crowd. Flocks of people surrounded Lane as he sang a range of material dating from the band's inception to its latest album *Belly to Belly*, which was released Oct. 1.

In the midst of mayhem and drunkenness, Lane invited a fan on stage to sing a popular song with the band. The man gladly accepted the offer and fearlessly sang "Cat Scratch Fever" in front of the eager crowd.

The crowd buzzed again when Warrant played a crowd favorite, "Cherry Pie." Midway through the

song, Lane threw his audience for a loop by breaking into "We Will Rock You," by Queen. After this change of pace, he cleverly returned to "Cherry Pie," finishing the song at a fever pitch.

("Cherry Pie") ended up doing really well for us at the time," said Turner. "But at the same time, it was hard for us to overcome being pigeonholed as the 'Cherry Pie' band. It's a good thing or a bad thing depending on who you talk to."

Shortly after the release of "Cherry Pie," Warrant lost its appeal and faded from the music scene. This was around the time when heavy metal bands including Poison and Def Leppard were overtaken by a new alternative boom led by Nirvana and Pearl Jam.

During the past seven years, Warrant has taken giant to blend in with the music of today.

"The natural progression of the band is a big reason we're still here," Turner said. "We could

write 'Cherry Pie' over and over again but what's the point. We want to keep ourselves excited, our fans excited and keep people guessing what we're going to do next."

Drummer Bobby Borg agreed. "At the time (Warrant) was popular, the stuff we did was perfect for that time and era. Now, a lot of bands are pretending that they were never into ('80's rock).

"It's silly, because everyone develops within time," Borg continued. "What the band did 10 years ago has little to do with what we're doing now."

The band's newer material from the album *Belly to Belly* still carries many of the same elements that made *Dirty Rotten Filthy Stinkin Rich*, Warrant's first album, a popular release.

Nevertheless, concert goers seeking a flash from the past got exactly what they wanted; a band capable of vibrating the Drink's walls during the wee hours of the morning.

# Slow to Burn melts, lingers in the mind

Vanessa Daou's sultry follow-up to *Zipless*

By Danny Kim  
Contributing A&E Writer

One of the most unique recording artists to surface in the past few years, Vanessa Daou, has released a new album titled *Slow to Burn*.

Raised in the tropical Virgin Islands, the 29-year-old Daou began pursuing poetry and painting after sustaining a hip injury that forced her to abandon dance, her first love.

She met her husband, Peter, while they were both in school at Barnard College. In the recording studio, he composes and performs most of the intricately crafted instrumentals while Daou provides soulful vocals to fill out the rest of the sound.

Among Daou's many influences are Leonard Cohen and Billie Holiday, to whom she has been compared.

In 1992, Daou and her husband released a jazz and dance project,

"Head Music." The single "Surrender Yourself" reached No. 1 on Billboard's "Hot Dance Music, Club Play Chart" in July 1992.

Daou's music includes a broad mix of smooth jazz, urban beats, slow dance and lounge. *Slow to Burn* is a natural and sophisticated progression from her debut release, *Zipless*, which features poetry from one of Daou's favorite authors, Erica Jong. A mix of spoken poetry and musical structure, *Zipless* also features Jong's performance of "Smoke," an original song penned specifically for the album.

Every song on *Slow to Burn* celebrates a famous female artist: "How Do You Feel," Isadora Duncan; "Evening," Bettie Page; "Taste the Wine," Josephine Baker; "If I Could (What I Would Do)," Georgia O' Keefe; "Waiting for the Sun to Rise," Greta Garbo; "Fugue States,"



PHOTO: Michael Levine  
"Slow to Burn": Daou's newest jazz/dance trance.

Gertrude Stein; "Don't Explain," Billie Holiday; "Two to Tango" Frida Kahlo; "This Blue Hour," Nico; "For Anything," Edie Sedgwick; and "Cross that Bridge," Camille Claudel.

Daou has read biographies of the women and painted their portraits in order to better understand their lives.

"I started painting portraits of all the women, and as I did, these other images would come to me, ideas, snatches of poetry and moods that I wanted to capture," explained Daou.

Most of Daou's songs sound best the first time around. However, Peter and Danny Tenaglia, who previously collaborated on a number of works, have managed to give drastically different sounds to "Two to Tango," the first single available from the new album.

*Slow to Burn* combines the best elements of urban jazz and dance. The result is a seductive and sophisticated weave of prose and hedonism. The experience of this album is just that—an experience. Close your eyes and imagine sitting at a frosty glass table on a terrace, sipping champagne from a crystal flute and verdant ivy burgeoning down from a cedar gazebo. That is what comes to mind.

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*The Most Happy Fella*, Department of Theatre Arts and UNLV Opera Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, tonight through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m., Admission: free for full-time students and \$10 for non-students. For info: 895-3801.

*Hung Liu, You can't go home again* and *Robert Parke Harrison Photographs*, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission: free. For info: 895-3751.

**Saturday**  
*Necropsis De La Musique* (UNLV student band), Enigma Garden Cafe, 7 p.m., Admission Free. For info: 386-0999.

**Tuesday**  
*State Symphony Of Russia* (concert), Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 8 p.m., Admission prices vary. For info: 895-3801.

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