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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12, 7 P.M.
PINBACK

ROB CROW AND ZACH SMITH FROM PINBACK PLAY LIVE AT AMOEBAMUSIC IN CELEBRATION OF PINBACK'S NEW CD *AUTUMN OF THE SERAPHS*, NOW AVAILABLE.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13, 6 P.M.
DJ MUGGS VS. SICK JACKEN

DJ MUGGS (CYPRESS HILL), SICK JACKEN (PSYCHO REALM/SICK SYMPHONIES), CYNIC (STREET PLATOON/SICK SYMPHONIES). THEY'LL BE AT AMOEBAMUSIC PLAYING SONGS FROM THE NEW ALBUM AND SIGNING COPIES AFTER THE PERFORMANCE. THE NEW CD *LEGEND OF THE MASK & THE ASSASSIN* IS OUT NOW!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20, 7 P.M.
FJLM SCHOOL

CELEBRATING THEIR NEW CD *HIDEOUT*—NOW FROM BEGGARS BANQUET RECORDS.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27, 7 P.M.
SO PERCUSSION WITH TRISTAN PERICH

CANTALOUPE RECORDS ARTISTS SO PERCUSSION AND TRISTAN PERICH PLAY LIVE AT AMOEBAMUSIC SO PERCUSSION. "ELABORATELY CONSTRUCTED PERCUSSION SUITES WITH MINIMALIST ELECTRONIC ELEMENTS LAID OVER TOP... IT'S SIMULTANEOUSLY ONE OF THE MOST SOOTHING AND MOST ACTIVE RECORDS WE'VE HEARD IN A LONG TIME." —APRIL TRISTAN PERICH PERFORMS A PIECE FROM HIS *1-BIT MUSIC* COMBINING HIS MUSIC WITH PRIMITIVE, HAND-PROGRAMMED ELECTRONICS THAT INVESTIGATE THE FOUNDATIONS OF DIGITAL SOUND.

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WEDNESDAYS, 7-10 P.M. MANDALA

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RESONANCE
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DJ JUN (BOSSA NOVA FOUNDER, RESIDENT AT SOUNDLESSNESS, THE STANDARD, CINESPIA, VOTED "BEST DJ" BY *LA WEEKLY* IN 2003 AND BUYER FOR AMOEBAMUSIC'S ELECTRONIC MUSIC SECTION), TAKES THE REIGNS AS OUR FRIDAY NIGHT RESIDENT!

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music live show reviews

WILCO

Aug. 29 @ Greek Theater

Chicago's Wilco—undoubtedly one of the best live acts touring today—took the stage at the Greek Theater to promote their sixth and latest studio album, *Sky Blue Sky*, and won over a typically jaded L.A. crowd with a stellar set.

Frontman Jeff Tweedy has surrounded himself with a first-rate band. The sheer musicality of each member has the group sounding better than ever.

Glenn Kotch's vital and inventive drumming and John Stirratt's bass propel the band, while multi-instrumentalists Pat Sansone and Mikael Jorgensen supply the varied, layered textures found on the group's studio albums. Weaving brilliantly in and out of the sonic tapestry, his frantic picking rendering him a man possessed, is lead guitarist Nels Cline, who completes the tight ensemble.

Wilco, a band that is constantly evolving, has since *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* courted a mostly indie rock crowd. However, the group doesn't pander to any one sect of its sometimes-divided fan base.

Playing a set that drew mostly from the laid-back, dreamy *Sky Blue Sky*—perfect for a summer night—Wilco still managed to fit in some *Yankee* and *A Ghost is Born* tracks, as well as appealing long-time fans with old favorites, "Via Chicago," "Outta Mind Outta Sight" and "California Stars."

By the end of the show, Wilco had the sold-out crowd clapping in unison on an extended jam of "Spiders (Kidsmoke)." Filtering out of the venue, one could overhear fans remarking that it had been the best show they'd ever been to.

Mission accomplished.

—Mike Sebastian

KRONOS QUARTET/WU-MAN

Aug. 30 @ California Plaza

Eclectic string ensemble Kronos Quartet has made a name for itself by exploring non-western musical forms with classical instrumentation. Consisting of two violins

(Dan Harrington, John Sherba), a viola (Hank Dutt) and a cello (Jeffrey Zeigler), the group experiments in nearly every genre, including tango, jazz and minimalism.

The band demonstrated its extensive repertoire by playing pieces from India, Iran and other parts of the world. The evening's highlight was an interpretation of Bollywood legend Rahul Dev Burman's "Mehbooba, Mehbooba," a bouncy, accelerating jig that accentuated perfectly Kronos' ability to string seemingly disparate elements of cacophony into an ascending, syncopated melody.

The quartet was joined by Wu-Man, an internationally renowned pipa virtuoso credited by many as the artist responsible for shedding new light on the pipa, an ancient Chinese instrument similar in sound and shape to the lute. Wu-Man's Chinese folkloric solo towards the end of the concert had the audience out of their seats and yelping in applause.

The quartet ended with a frenzied and uncanny rendition of Jimi Hendrix's "Star Spangled Banner."

—Peter Friis

FAMILY VALUES TOUR

Sept. 2 @ Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre

Back in the day, the Family Values Tour epitomized the big summer tour and brought together all the ginormous names of harder mainstream rock. While this year's tour attempted to recapture that large-scale air, the balance between big name acts and generic up and comers left much to be desired.

The first hours of the show blurred together in a sweaty whirl of riffing, male egotism and faux edginess, with no legitimate standouts; definitely not a good start.

Flyleaf's set would mark the shift towards



Amy Lee of Evanescence

bands with legitimate stage presence, however, and proved them to be the most likeable act of the day. While singer Lacey Mosley's vocals weren't perfect, she brought an emotional rawness to the stage and, along with her band mates, a youthful energy none of the other bands could capture.

Atreyu was... Atreyu, same as ever, while frontman Alex Varkatzas continued to look decreasingly integral to his band's sound and performance.

Conversely, Evanescence frontwoman Amy Lee showed off her signature vocal range, which, impressive as it may have been, still couldn't completely mask that the rest of her band members were distractingly unrecognizable hired guns.

Though they may have been the headliner, Korn did little to close out the show with the proverbial bang. Maybe they're over trying to wow audiences, or maybe aging has left them physically incapable of it, but for a tour called Family Values, it sure doesn't seem like the audience got its money's worth.

—Brien Overly

music dvd review

MAKING THE GRADE: A EXCEPTIONAL | B WORTHWHILE | C MEDIOCRE | D SAVE YOUR MONEY | F WILL BE ON HELL'S TV

G. G. ALLIN & THE MURDER JUNKIES

Hated
(MVD Visual)

This is a documentary film made by Todd Phillips, the writer and director who was involved with the major films *Old School*, *Road Trip* and *Starsky & Hutch*. Here he tracks the last days of G.G. Allin, a very vile man who spent his 15 minutes of fame masquerading as a musician.

To be fair, Allin wasn't bad as a hardcore shouter, and his various back-up bands were always competent. But he rarely finished a show let alone a tour; if the cops didn't close the show down G.G. would find some other way to clear the joint.

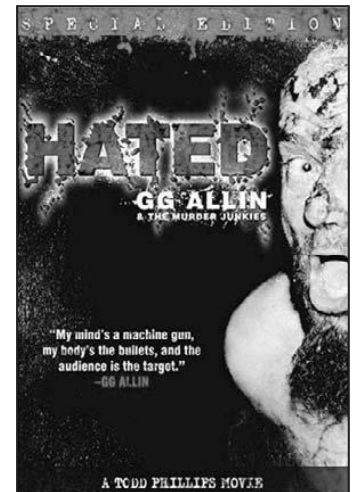
He would defecate on or near the stage then fling the muck at the crowd after he had eaten some of it and smeared it all over himself. He would bust beer bottles over his own head, beat up his band and audience

members (including women) and he usually performed completely nude. That made it easy for him to perform another one of his favorite tricks—stuffing a banana up his ass.

All of this and other acts even more disgusting are on this film. Watching is like viewing the proverbial train wreck that you don't want to see but can't turn away from.

The really pathetic thing is that this was not an act for Allin—it was his lifestyle. Dee Dee Ramone once joined one of Allin's bands but quit very quickly because he couldn't handle the insanity.

The film does show Allin in the occasional lucid moment, and there are opportunities here to appreciate the musical aspect of things, but mostly *Hated* is going to leave the viewer shaking their head and wondering how many more guys like this are out there. Allin died of a heroin and alcohol overdose in 1993.



Grade: B

—Kevin Wierzbicki

Hated is currently available.