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Sound Waves

Volume 19
Issue 12
September 2009

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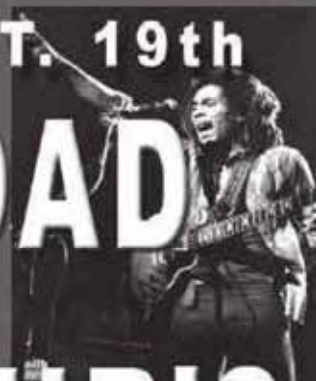
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September 2009
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13 - Civic Center, Providence, RI

Black Crowes

16 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

Boz Scaggs

17 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

Ellis Paul

11 - Wilde Auditorium, Hartford, CT

Journey

7 Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Kings Of Leon

9 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Loggins & Messina

13 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT
15 - Hanover Theatre, Worcester, MA

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MUSIC NOTES

"Good Morning America, How Are You?"

By Mark T. Gould



It was a scene that probably plays out in parks all over America; two middle-aged men sitting on a ledge, strumming acoustic guitars, singing and playing popular songs, albeit for a very small audience.

They finished their version of the classic "Stand By Me," and my wife and I applauded. They smiled, a bit self-consciously. The duo then tried to work out

an arrangement of Steve Goodman's "City of Orleans," but "the way Arlo (Guthrie) did it," as one of them put it.

They weren't satisfied, but again we clapped, bathed in the pleasure of two listeners enjoying the playing of two enjoyable musicians.

Yet, our ovation, such as it was, was undoubtedly one of the quietest ever at the site, because we weren't at just any park; we were at the base of "the hill," near the monument erected in a special place, where, some four decades ago, an estimated 400,000 wet, tired, hungry, and, yes, stoned, music listeners much like ourselves grooved to something just a wee bit bigger, although arguably no more passionate than our two acoustic players, amid our generation's finest public spectacle of the "peace and love" that we all espoused.

Yes, we were at the former Yasgur's Farm, situated in bucolic Bethel, New York, an upstate hamlet tucked into the Catskill Mountains where, as the old farmer/landowner himself told the crowd back in the day, "half a million kids (got) together for three days of fun and music, and nothing but fun and music."

Yes, we'd finally made it to Woodstock. And, we weren't alone.

The offer to see the site came from my good friends, the country-rock pioneers Poco, who were scheduled to open a concert for Loggins & Messina in the new Bethel Woods Center For The Arts, an outdoor concert amphitheatre adjacent to its Woodstock/Sixties museum complex tucked into the top of the hill, that still virtually undisturbed "sacred ground" that the Bethel Woods developers mercifully, and smartly, left in its pristine, natural condition, post-clean up that is, from the days after the concert.

Ironically, it was also Poco's first trip to Woodstock, too, having turned down the chance to play the festival back in August 1969, because, according to founder Rusty Young, "our managers had us a better gig, for \$500 more, playing a high school in Long Beach (California).

"You might have seen the movie," he cracked, in one of

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the better lines of our time.

The Bethel area, which is surrounded by the equally tiny hamlet of White Lake, where everyone swam and cooled off in the eponymous lake during the big weekend, actually does mean “place of God,” or “sacred place,” and, living up to its name, remains as peaceful and quiet today, as it probably was back in the time of the legendary three-day concert.

Cloth flags bearing the famous Woodstock logo of the guitar neck with the dove perched on it adorn virtually every lamp post in town, providing a pastoral GPS directive of sorts to travelers as they journey up the hills toward Hurd Road, the site of the festival. Turning onto the road, we pilgrims are first faced with comparative oodles of paved parking areas (now, that would have been a concept in '69, right?) for the amphitheatre and the museum, blacktop that appears somewhat out of place amid the breathtakingly beautiful rustic acres of trees, farm land, cows and barns that surround the complex.

Appropriately, within that natural beauty and sacredness, there is little in the way of directional signage to the permanent monument, at the base of the hill, about 500 yards from the original concert stage, where the names of all of the performers, and reference to the 400,000 who both witnessed and made the spectacle, lies. But we found it, just off Hurd Road, next to a small gravel parking lot, where we ran into our new acoustic friends.

Being, of course, that it's Woodstock, it had to rain on our way to the festival site. No, make that pour, and I mean pour, as in apocalypse, bring out the Ark, and the giraffes and elephants pour, but, as we reached the gravel parking lot near the monument at the base of the hill, the sun peaked out from behind the black clouds, another sure sign of the magic of this special place.

We gazed up at the hill and the stage, read the names of all the performers on the monument (like we couldn't recite them from memory, right?), listened to the guitar players, and took a slew of pictures. When it was quiet enough, I could swear we could hear Woodstock stage announcer Chip Monck calmly plead to “come down off those towers,” caution the crowd about the “brown acid that is not specifically too good,” and send “Bugsy to the pink and white tent.”

We could hear the roar for Country Joe McDonald (“gimme an F!”), Sly & The Family Stone (who actually got a city-full of exhausted people up and dancing), The Who (playing “Tommy” at dawn at the sun came up), and the booming rhythms of then 17-year-old Santana drummer Michael Shrieve, as he thundered through “Soul Sacrifice,” which, looking back, just might be the theme song for the festival.

We felt the glory, the magnificent music, and yes, amid all the hassles of being wet, tired, cold and hungry, the peace and the love of those three days, which remain a benchmark for our generation.

As we turned to walk away, my wife remarked, “it doesn't seem like there were 400,000 people on that hill.”

No, I thought, it was a lot more.



Sound Waves columnist Mark T. Gould, who will wear a Poco tee shirt just about anywhere, takes in the atmosphere at the site of the 1969 Woodstock concert in Bethel, New York. (photograph by Jan Gould)



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BAR FLY JOURNALS

By Stephanie Shawn



Hello, my Sweet BarFlies....Oh, how I've missed you....but My God, did the month of August and yes, the *Entire Summer*, just fly right by. I Can Not Believe it's over! Summer...Gone...Oh, the humanity!!! Anyways...kept myself quite busy this month as well. Lots going on in the world and you need to know about it!

Just returned from the last Poker Run of the year (and possibly ever) and we had a blast!

Let me start this whole subject off with the statement that I am a women, therefore I am allowed to change my mind whenever I choose...so go with it, people. So the plan was to start at the HANDLEBAR CAFE, then head to SKIPPER'S DOCK in Stonington, UNCLE CRANKYS in Jewitt City and then CLYDESDALES of Westerly, then back to the HANDLEBAR CAFE in Pawcatuck. Well, we had a rough start...didn't seem as though many people were going to show up...and my officer friend Ed, was not with us and that makes traveling outta town a little sketchy, cuz I like to rely on him for possible backup. So I decide, that thanks to his failure to appear we would stay local.

So off to the Borough and SKIPPERS DOCK....absolutely gorgeous night. We sat out on the deck in a special little area they arranged for us and watched the sun set. How romantic....too bad I was with Artie. Several people ordered food, including Pam with her two dozen oysters....think she's lost her mind....won't even tell you the price of that in the Borough! But I must say they were awesome and it's truly a breathtaking spot!

Then (so sorry) we cut UNCLE CRANKYS out ,(I will make it back there someday soon!!!) for the aforementioned reasons, and set off for VOODOO GRILL in Mystic. Somehow, though, it must always turn into a clustering mess, people need to stop for gas (apparently they must not realize they are going on a Poker Run), no one seems to be capable of following the pretty, black "38 Street Rod.... they have to race me or take short cuts. I don't know...is it so tough?

So, I arrive at the flagpole in downtown Mystic and the bridge is up....it's dark now. I feel I have my posse behind me, when suddenly Mr. Vargii pulls up alongside me and says "how 'bout RIVERWALK?" Fab-U-Lous....so i pull in with my sidekicks, Tony, Jess and of course, Arthur. We walk in and find that apparently we've lost a few members along the way. Guess you shoulda followed the pretty, black "38 StreetRod (as I've mentioned I am a woman and I will change my mind!!)

Several texts later...we discovered that there was a revolt among the travelers and they were refusing to leave JOHN'S CAFE, because they couldn't find us earlier. The

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revolutionary leader was of course, my stubborn friend.... the BAAAAAFATHA, himself...Mr. Bell. Well, we ordered some food...(hello??? deviled eggs on the Pub Menu?? How cool is that???) The staff was awesome and even the tourists were friendly. Had a great time!!!

We collected our Grumpy friends from JOHN'S and were headed back to town, when I came up with another brilliant plan!!! Let's do a quick little zoom around my mother's neighborhood!! Called her to warn her and she was so cute silhouetted in the window in her jammies, waving to our little parade....Big Smile!!! :)

Off for our final stop at CLYDESDALES (see....i can stick with a plan...kinda). Anyways, it's always a fun time with Miss Rosey at CLYDESDALES. She is quick and efficient and she looks pretty hot, too!! And because we had been out way past our bedtimes, it was a quick stop and back to the HANDLEBAR. Rachel Ray was the \$250 winner of the run and apparently my nephew Dan, her boyfriend had been a winner earlier, but that's a story for another time. And so another year of Poker Run's ends and I'd like to Thank God that we all came back safely!!! Hope to see you in the Spring for our next round of Runs!!

Well that wasn't the only fun that I had this month.. Had a fabulous girl's nite out to celebrate my friend Dot's birthday. It was also my niece Samantha's first Girl's Nite since giving birth to my beautiful great niece...Luna Mae. We started off at PERKS AND CORKS in Westerly at their new location at the old HAMMEN HOME spot. Looks absolutely beautiful in there!!! Dot and I had a DragonSlayer? Martini and it was TOO DIE FOR!! Bonnie stopped by for a water and lemon (thanks. Bonnie) and Sam braved a glass of red wine.

We had parked at the KNICKERBOCKER CAFE and walked, so when we finished our drinks, we walked back to the KNICK....what a beautiful night. Although we've had a fairly crappy summer...there were just enough beautiful nights to enjoy and make you appreciate summer more. Back at the KNICK....Bobby Christina was working his magic again with another band and another Lisa Marie....this band was much bluesier and jazzier... but simply fabulous!!! Loved them!!! And I was so happy to see the always beautiful, New Bar Manager of the KNICK, Jen Lentz? (sorry for any misspellings)....and also WoW!!! Gordon Scott, looking Hot, bartending.... very smart move, Jen!!

The night ended up,(as it sometimes does) at CLYDESDALES, with the BAAAFATHA. Pamtastic and I ran in...I belted out an incredibly bad rendition of 'BARRACUDA' at the Karaoke area and then I ran out...thankfully before Pam belted out her rendition of DIGITAL UNDERGROUNDS "Humpty Dance".....ewwwwww, I shudder!!!

And OMG....how could I forget to mention my fabulous night out with my beautiful, new best friend Stacy to OLYMPIA TEA ROOM in Watch Hill??? Can anyone say Pear Martini? I can!!! It was a beautiful evening and we ended it with a tour and drinks aboard the Setag with Captain Keith....thanks so much!!

Now, for the month of September. I've simply got to



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ALTER EGO

5 - Stash's, New London, CT
12 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT
26 - Junes Pub, Killingworth, CT

BAND OF HUMANS DUO

12 - Angie's Pier 27, Mystic, CT

BOAT CAKE

4 - Hanson's Pub, Wakefield, RI
5 - The Cove, Charlestown, RI
19 - Sneekers, Groton, CT
25 - Mariner Grille, Narragansett, RI
26 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI

THE BUZZ

4 - Sandy's Lighthouse, Westerly, RI
12 - Happy Jack's, Plainfield, CT
19 - Brown Derby, Montville, CT
26 - Christopher's, Groton, CT

DAN STEVENS

5 - Farmers' Market, Old Saybrook, CT 11am
6 - Mistick Village, Mystic, CT 2-4
11 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
12 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
13 - Delta Grill, New York, NY 12:30-3:30pm
14 - Farmers' Market, W. Hartford, CT 3:30-5:30
17 - Blue, Portland, ME
18 - Coveside, S. Bristol, ME
19 - Harbor Inn, York Harbor, ME
24 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
25 - Theatre Company, Fairfield, CT 7:30
26 - Pier 27, Mystic, CT
27 - Farmers' Market, Marlborough, CT 1-2pm
27 - WPKN 89.5FM, Bridgeport, CT 6pm

14 SOUND WAVES

DARIN KEECH

11,25 - Daniel Packer Inn, Mystic, CT

DOGIE & THE COWPIE POACHERS

5,12,19,26 - Billy Goodes, Newport, RI
18 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA 8-12

DOUBLE FISTED

4 - Chacer's, Norwich CT
12 - Harbor Park, Middletown CT 4-7pm
18 - Legends, Gales Ferry CT

FULL CIRCLE

4 - Narragansett Café, Jamestown, RI
5 - Lou's Café, Manville, RI
12 - J.C.'s Tavern, W. Greenwich, RI
19 - Balls, Cranston, RI
25 - Rusty's, Middletown, RI
26 - Part II Lounge, Johnston, RI

THE GOAT ROPERS

19 - Francis Farm, Rehobeth, MA 8-12

GOPHERBROKE

7 - Frankie's, Westbrook, CT 2-5
9 - Town Green, Bolton, CT 6-7:30
11 - Catcher's, Wethersfield, CT 5-8
18 - Governor's Tavern, E. Hampton, CT
19 - Blue Cottage, Branford, CT 6-9
22 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA
25 - McKinnon's, Hartford, CT
26 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT

GREEN TEA

11 - Sandy's, Misquamicut Beach, RI
25 - Ninigret Park, Charlestown, RI 5:30

HOPE ROAD

6 - Skipper's Dock, Stonington, CT 2-6
19 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

JAMES HARRIS

5,9,16,19,23,30 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
3,17 - Apizzo, Pawcatuck, CT 6:30 pm
11,25 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8:30pm
8,15,22,29 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
10 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT 6:30pm

JAMES ROAD BAND

12 - Buckeley House, New London, CT
25 - Hard Rock Cafe, Mashentucket, CT

JAY DEMPSEY & HIGHWAY CALL

12 - Fair, Ledyard, CT
18 - Stash's, New London, CT 6pm
26 - Sneekers Cafe, Groton, CT 8:30

KEVIN CRANDALL BAND

4 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
11 - Dogwatch Cafe, Stonington, CT
12 - Cottrell Street, Mystic, CT
19 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT

kGb BAND

18 - VooDoo Grill, Mystic, CT
30 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT

LATE FOR DINNER

6 - Bills Seafood, Westbrook, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

19 - Little Man's Diner, Westerly, RI 4-6:30pm

PIRANHA BROTHERS

7 - Elks Club, Westbrook, CT 2-6
12 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT 7-11
25 - Free Spirit Cafe, Vernon, CT

SIREN

18,19,26 - Hard Rock, Mashentucket, CT

SKINNY MULLIGAN

18 - Wood River Inn, Richmond, RI
20 - Elks, Westerly, RI 12-6pm

SUE MENHART BAND

3 - Toad's, New Haven, CT
5 - B&G Lounge, S. Windsor, CT
17 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm

SUNDAY GRAVY

3 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
5 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
16 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & FRIENDS

6,13 - Tamarack, Voluntown, CT 2-6pm
19,20 - Vineyards, Stonington, CT 11am-2pm

WILSON KANE

5 - Burkes, Niantic, CT
6 - Yacht Club, Westerly, RI
10,24 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
11 - Clydesdale Tavern, Westerly, RI
12 - Aspen, Old Saybrook, CT
19 - Hooked On The Wharf, Norwich, CT
20 - Pier 27, Mystic, CT
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THE OUTRIGGERS



In a musical career that spans over two decades, keyboard wizard Jordan Rudess has performed and/or recorded with numerous artists including the Dixie Dregs, Paul Winter Consort, and David Bowie. Based upon his impressive body of work (he appears on over 40 recordings), one could reasonably argue that Jordan is the most prolific keyboardist on the rock music scene today.

Jordan first gained widespread exposure when Keyboard Magazine voted him Best New Talent in the Overall Best Keyboardist category after his 1994 solo release *Listen*. He gained considerably more exposure in 1999 when he joined Dream Theater, the most critically acclaimed progressive hard rock band in the world. Since then, he has maintained his solo career while acting as an integral member and creative force behind Dream Theater. In 2009, Dream Theater released their tenth studio CD, *Black Clouds & Silver Linings*, and Jordan released his eighth solo CD, *Notes on a Dream*.

Dream Theater's music can be described as a seamless blend of complex progressive rock, powerful hard rock, and highly accessible pop rock. Along with Jordan, the band consists of vocalist James Labrie, guitarist John Petrucci, bassist John Myung, and drummer Mike Portnoy. While all five band members are renowned for their individual performance abilities, their considerable songwriting abilities have gone largely underappreciated. For example, many casual Dream Theater fans are likely unaware of the many beautiful ballads that are sprinkled throughout their catalog. These ballads strongly showcase the band's songwriting chops while also demonstrating their great versatility.

Jordan's new solo CD is appropriately titled *Notes on a Dream*, as it includes his unique and innovative solo piano interpretations of nine of Dream Theater's favorite ballads. These include tracks that were written before he joined the band, as well as during his time with the band. These songs lend themselves surprisingly well to solo piano, and these new versions will likely provide Dream Theater fans with a greater appreciation of these deep compositions. However, by no means will these performances only appeal to Dream Theater fans (or even rock music fans). Simply put, anyone who appreciates highly accomplished piano playing will enjoy this music. Upon hearing these recordings, a "non rock fan" would probably never believe that a modern hard rock band originally performed these songs.

Notes on a Dream also includes three completely original solo piano instrumentals. These original songs are even more adventurous and impressive than the Dream Theater covers, and they should appeal to fans of the solo

piano work of rock gods like Keith Emerson (ELP) and Rick Wakeman (Yes). As of this writing, the new CD is a completely independent release, and it is only available on Jordan's web site (www.jordanrudess.com). However, it is expected to become available on several of the various other outlets (e.g. iTunes) in the near future.

Dream Theater is currently on tour to promote their new CD as part of the "Progressive Nations Tour 2009." The diverse tour features four bands that are all considered "progressive" but sound absolutely nothing like one another. For lack of a better explanation, progressive rock (or prog rock for short) is highly complex music that typically features long songs with unconventional lyrics and instrumentation. The pioneers of this genre include Yes; Emerson, Lake & Palmer (ELP); Genesis; King Crimson and Gentle Giant.

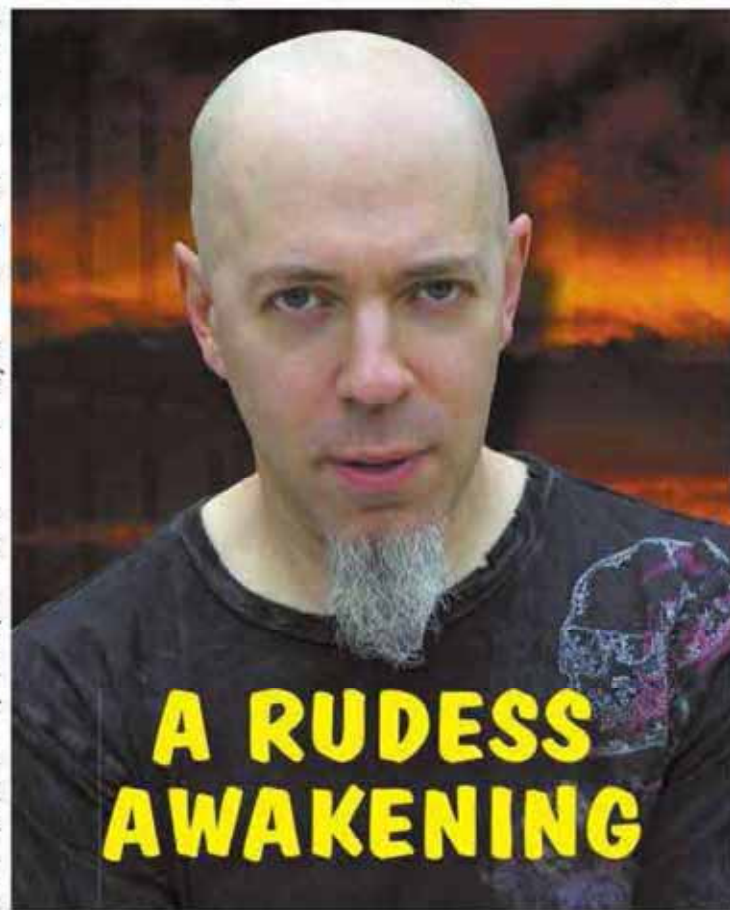
The current tour is co-headlined by Dream Theater and Zappa Plays Zappa. For the uninitiated, Zappa Plays Zappa is the band that Dweezil Zappa has assembled to faithfully recreate the music of his late father, the legendary Frank Zappa. The band is loaded with several amazing young musicians, and their performances have successfully brought Zappa's extremely progressive music into the 21st Century.

I had the pleasure of speaking at length with Jordan Rudess shortly before Dream Theater's recent performance at the Chevrolet Theater in Wallingford, CT. The following is an excerpt of our conversation:

SW: "How has the tour been going so far?"

JR: "It's actually been very exciting. We just spent a month in Europe, we played all over Europe and we also went outside of Europe to play Moscow and Israel. Both were very exciting shows, and we had never performed in either country before. There was a very warm reception waiting for us. It seems there are Dream Theater fans all over the world. One of the most fun things to do is go to some of those places that we haven't played before, and to have a new experience."

"Now we just started our US tour two weeks ago, and we are heading northeast which is home for me. I live in New York. It has been fun to tour with these other bands. I think it's a very interesting progressive package. The last time we did a "Progressive Nations" tour, we did it with more of what you could consider more "heavy" bands. This time it's really mixed up. The whole Zappa meets Dream Theater thing is very interesting for us. We're both progressive bands, but progressive in very different ways. Dream Theater leans more toward "metal" while Zappa has more quirky stuff going on, not really metal. It's going really well."



By Walter Modliszewski

SW: "Have you spent much time offstage with Dweezil or any of the other musicians on this tour?"

JR: "Not much because the way this works is that there are four bands during the day. There is a lot of setup, and it's really pretty crazy. The way we've been doing it is, we get to the hotel and stay there until 6:30 or so. We then go the venue and we're really busy. We have "meet and greets" going on, and "signings." There's practicing before the show, and there really isn't a whole lot of time to socialize. This is kind of sad because, the couple of times I did get a chance to socialize with some of the other musicians, it was really fun."

SW: "Since you're co-headlining with Zappa Plays Zappa, you've probably been playing for a lot of people who normally don't enjoy the "hard rock" side of your music as much as your typical audience. Have you adjusted your set lists at all to accommodate this new audience?"

JR: "Our set list is something that is very well conceived. We don't take it lightly, and there are a lot of considerations in the set list. Mike Portnoy (our drummer) is totally into the set list, and he does a lot of planning. He'll literally take out pages of information, considering all sorts of things. For example, he'll consider what we played last time we were in Connecticut to make sure that we don't play the same things. There is a certain time constraint on our performance, so we need to make sure that we have a balanced set that goes smoothly. Not only that, we also consider the other bands that we're playing with. Also, what's our latest album? So, all told we want to play what we all feel is the best music given the larger situation."

"When we played with Yes a few years ago, we really did customize our set to emphasize the melodic "art prog" side of Dream Theater. I think most people know that we have a really huge repertoire. We have everything from Iron Maiden style heavy metal to light progressive rock like Yes and Genesis. So we really could play with anyone and do it well. Having said that, this is really our show and we have a new album to promote. There is only so much we can do to tip our hat to the other bands on the bill while still showcasing what we really do."

"Actually, our new record Black Clouds & Silver Linings is not really our heaviest album. But as on any Dream Theater recording, there are a lot of sections that go pretty deep into the darker side of the band. But the songs are long. For example, the song that opens the album, "A Nightmare to Remember" is a long song that has melodic parts, heavy parts, and spacey parts. So on this tour, we're just doing our thing."

SW: "Going back to the beginning, how did you get into playing piano?"

JR: "When I was in second grade, there was a piano in my classroom. My teacher called my mother to tell her that I was accompanying the children in their school songs really beautifully. My mother was very surprised because as far as she knew I had never touched a piano, since I don't come from a musical family and there were no instruments in our house."

"My mother enjoys the arts, and she was excited to sup-

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port my interest in music. So my parents bought a small white baby grand piano and found a local piano teacher for me. My first teacher decided to pay little attention to the basics of reading, and instead taught me how to play chords and read guitar style charts. That did not last long! When my mother realized that I had a real talent, she quickly found me a very serious Hungarian teacher. This teacher had a strong temper, and she would gently kick me if I played the wrong note."

"At age nine, I was accepted into the pre-college program at the Juilliard School of Music. I stayed at Juilliard until I was close to nineteen. At that time, I was enrolled in the college program, but I eventually decided that classical music was not for me."

SW: "How did you get interested in playing rock music?"

JR: "When I was 17 and still at the Juilliard pre-college division, high school friends began to turn me on to progressive rock like Yes and Gentle Giant. Specifically, when I heard "Tarkus" by ELP, it confirmed to me the power that a rock keyboardist could present. Also Patrick Moraz was part of a group called Refugee, and they had a song called "Someday" in which Patrick played a Moog synthesizer solo that blew my mind."

"I realized that the style of music that I had been composing since elementary school had elements of progressive rock. I knew then that rock and synthesizers were a natural direction for my musical future."

SW: "What was your first "big break" that got you established as a professional musician?"

JR: "When I worked for Korg as a product specialist, I used to do clinics around the country. One time when I was at a trade show in California, I was performing a product demonstration. I was with my wife, and she went over to Jan Hammer while I was getting set up to play. She led him into the Korg booth, he watched the demonstration, and then I met him."

"Fast forward a bit, I later received a phone call from Jan Hammer while I was at work for Korg. He wanted to talk to me because he was going on tour with drummer Tony Williams, and he wanted me to help him out and be in the band. So I ended up going on tour, and that was my first big break."

SW: "How did you hook up with Dream Theater?"

JR: "When their original keyboardist quit the band, they asked me to join but I declined because I had just begun playing with the Dixie Dregs. A few years later, guitarist John Petrucci and drummer Mike Portnoy put together an all-instrumental Dream Theater side project with me called Liquid Tension Experiment. I played on two albums for this side project, and they were both very successful. As a result, they asked me once again to join Dream Theater. This time I accepted!"

SW: "What inspired you to create solo piano interpretations of Dream Theater songs?"

JR: "My wife was really on my case to do it. She really thought that it would be a great idea musically as well as marketing-wise. I put it off for a long time, but when I finally sat down to do it, I got through it much quicker than

I thought I would. Making Notes on a Dream turned out to be a very enjoyable experience."

"I took nine Dream Theater songs that I thought had very pretty melodies that lend themselves well to being reinterpreted on the piano. I just did my thing, and I think they ended up sounding very different from the originals. I tried to be very true to the melodies, but I would also wander a bit and go into passages that were completely new. That is essentially the balance that I tried to maintain. I also did three original songs, and these original songs are truly my own stuff. Some of it is very progressive, like a "Keith Emerson meets Bartók meets Khachaturian" kind of vibe."

SW: "My last question is for all the hardcore Dream Theater fans out there that know everything about the band. Please tell me something they don't know!"

JR: "They probably don't know that John Myung, our bass player, really does speak. He's actually quite verbal at times, given the right setting."



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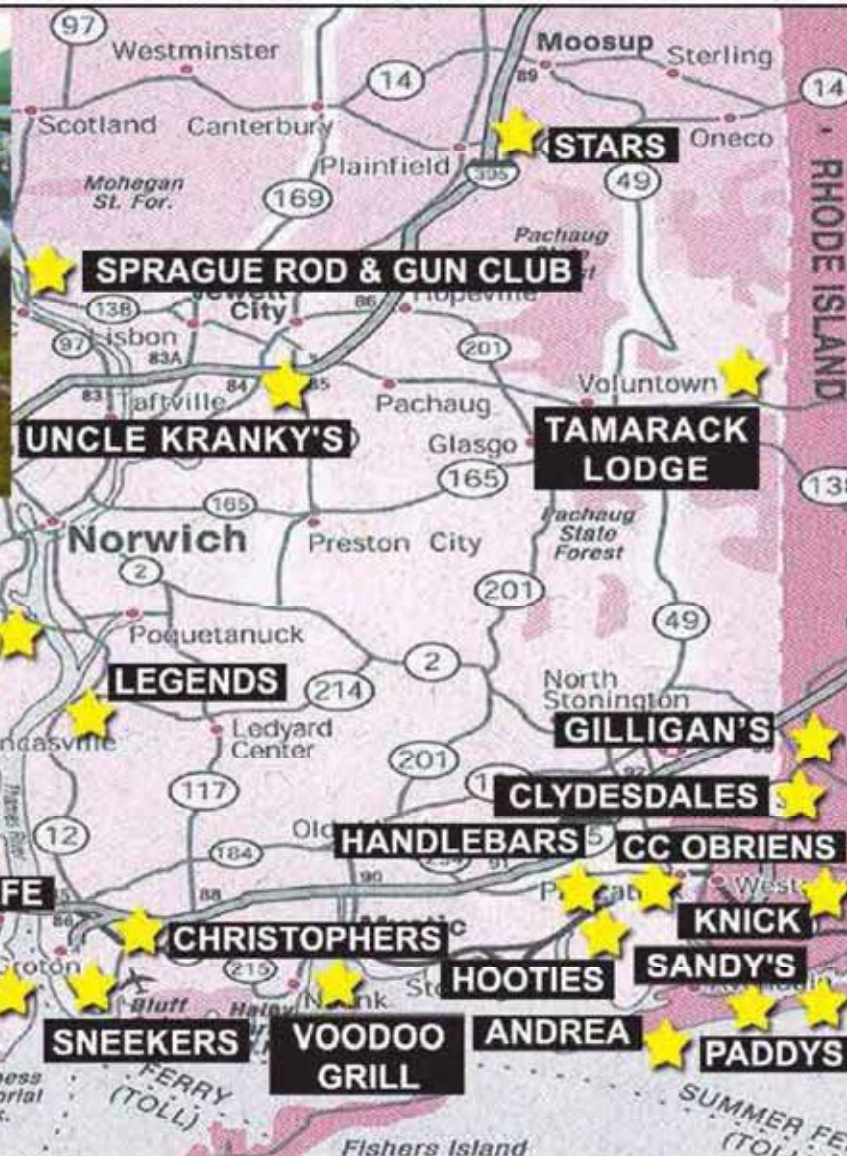
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BAR FLY JOURNALS CONTINUED

mention The Westerly Elks and their now famous Harley Davidson Motorcycle Raffle, Sunday September 20th starting at Noon. Every year for \$50 you get a 1 in 800 chance to win a 2009 Harley from MIKES HARLEY DAVIDSON. Thanks to my Secret Spy Heather, I have been told that Skinny Mulligan (love ya, Tony!) will be playing and there will be a Pig Roast, beer, etc., and raffles will be held all day!! It's always a good time and nice chance to see old friends and kinda end the summer. The Elks do a lot for the local area including offering Scholarships, helping out in the Community with many different activities and benefits. I know I will be there and I hope to see you!!



Captain Frank tasting the Portuguese brew

And now for a quick update on the boys of the RAIN-MAKER....we got an Ahoy from the boys traveling most of the seven seas...apparently they are now in the Port of Said at the top of the Suez Canal...they are awaiting parts and are unable to reserve a passage thru the Canal until the engine is running properly....they are now trying to make it thru to Djibouti in Africa using band-aids and bubblegum.....we can't wait for Frankie and his Fearless Crew to return so we can enjoy all their tales..

I'd like to say a quick hello to Sheree?(again, sorry for the misspellings)....she told me she's a big BarFly Fan so I, of course, love her!!! Also, a Happy Belated Birthday to our sweet Editor...Dave...can't believe I didn't know!!! I'd like to welcome Autumn and I hope to see all of you out there as we make our BarFly Rounds....love ya and will talk to you next month and as always barfly2u2@yahoo.com for all your BarFly News!!!

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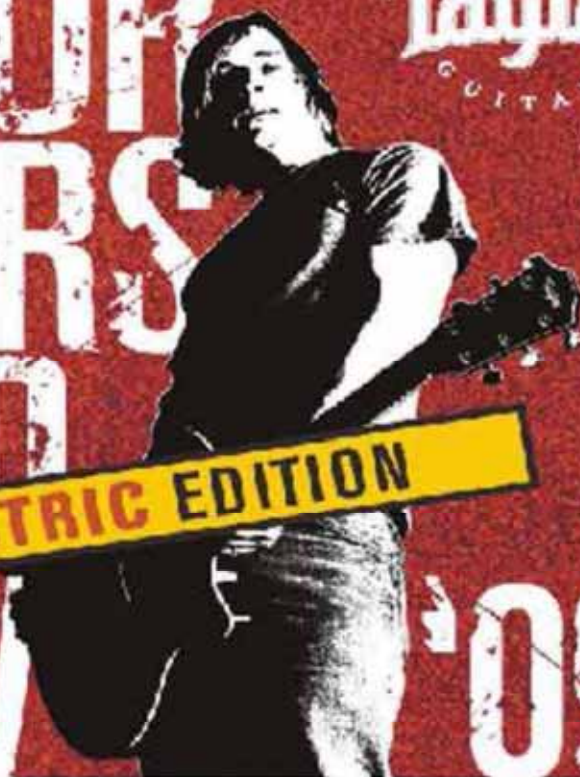
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