

# Live

'LIVE' FROM PAGE 21

mainly dreadful — sometimes apparently unable to decide whether he was the Edge (*di-dit-di-dit-di-dit-di-dit-dow-dow*) or Jimmy Page (*brrowwwbeedumbowowow*). Bass player Bryn sweated and talked to the crowd down front and appeared to play his instrument hard — even if most of his bass-lines were drowned by the synthesiser's.

The Damned aren't a band, they're dodgy musical theatre, and as if to emphasise the fact they punctuated nearly every "tune" with aimless solos and unimpressive show-offs that crippled wonderful pop songs like 'Smash It Up'.

They each seemed to spend about a quarter of their time sitting at the back of the stage having a drink — small wonder under a lighting rig big enough to nurture a small rain forest.

The sad joke of it was the sight of a horde of new-age punks eagerly thrashing about with each other to the strains of such pompous, affected rock music. Is that what it's come to? The Damned's pop orchestrations are amiable enough on record, but they're ludicrous live.

But things did get a bit better — they finished off the main set with a rather good precis of the long, dramatic one on side three of the *Black Album* and in the encore answered the constant calls for 'New Rose' — a song with a riff so great that Dire Straits could play it and still sound urgent. The second en-

core... Rat played guitar (a lot better than Roman) and they did 'Pretty Vacant' and 'Wild Thing'. Vanian was showered with obligatory spittle and tried to look happy about it. Distinguished by a lack of solos, but I still think it's cheating to have the synth player in on yer spontaneous punk encore.

But it was more interesting and eventually numbing than unpleasant. After all, I only had to go to the bar and the toilet once each. Afterwards I went up to the Rising Sun to see some drunken happy Merkins clamber on stage with Crunchy Something. And that seemed a lot more like rock 'n' roll.

**Russell Brown**

**Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble, Fabulous Thunderbirds**  
Auckland Town Hall, March 14

After setting the audience on fire at the Logan Campbell Centre, Stevie Ray and the Fabulous Thunderbirds returned to Auckland a week later to stoke the embers at the town hall. Just like Wellington's old town hall, it's a much better venue for a rock and roll concert — if only the councils would let you get down (some of their paranoia is justifiable, admittedly — at a recent concert in Wellington, a George Thorogood fan crapped outside the mayor's office).

But there were no complaints from this bleary-eyed black T-shirted crowd who had come to boogie. Two more appropriate bands couldn't be found, but the

evening was also a celebration of the guitar. It began with Stevie Ray's personal guitar roadie Rene Martinez, who ambled out to give a demonstration of Flamenco guitar. Flamenco is an astonishingly complex style (Rolf Harris's man was just a ham-fisted charlatan) and Martinez's skills stunned the restless audience.

The Fabulous Thunderbirds lived up to their reputation as a strutting honky tonk band. These guys are the real thing. Barrel-chested Kim Wilson is a strong singer and blues harpist, while Jimmie Vaughan plays an angry rockabilly-tinged guitar. But it was the rhythm section that had the real power, with Fran Christina twirling his sticks to the ceiling, and double-bassist Preston Hubbard anchoring the mix with the meatiest bottom this side of Divine. Particularly on their latest single, the TBirds proved they are tough enough, but the perfect environment for them would be an intimate bar — not warming up a roomy hall at support band volume.

The decibels were upped for the entrance of Stevie Ray Vaughan. Immediately he put his head down and out of his guitar gushed a dazzling display of wizardry. He looked like a sly Mexican bandito with his wispy moustache and flat wide-brimmed black stetson, and he spoke like one — when he finally looked up after three long and furious instrumentals. A few mumbled words then it was back to the pyrotechnics, ripping through his well-studied Hendrix moves: play-

ing behind his back, with his teeth and with the distortion and feedback, all heavily wah wahed. When the speed eased off, it seemed indulgent, and his band looked on detachedly with fixed smiles. The lengthy explorations would always be followed however by crowd-pleasers such as 'Lovestruck Baby' but two and a half hours was more than enough.

The final encore did show Stevie Ray has some sense of humour though — he fought with elder brother Jimmie over who got to play a double-necked guitar (one of about two dozen on stage) ... they ended up both playing it, simultaneously, seamlessly shifting from rhythm to lead — so the audience left still shaking their heads.

**Chris Bourke**

**Roy Harper**  
His Majesty's Theatre, March 26

In brief, the man is brilliant.

I was lead through a night of legends and tales, as each song unfolded another page and opened another door.

Harper proved himself an impassioned player. He tore through his angrier pieces and brushed through the gentler. He laid his soul bare, and at no expense. One of those characters that despite blowing you away, you realised he was capable of so much more.

On stage with guitar and voice, he layered melody with harmony and phrase on phrase. A guitarist with an amazing combination of left and right hands. A vocalist with soul and an astonishing blend of style. Stunning stuff — believe it. '12 Bars of Sunset', with its drifting peace and stillness. 'South Africa', a message of love to the bugged country. And 'Unknown Soldier', phaser turning the entire mix from wall to wall of His Majesty's.

The evening grew angrier with a beer under his (and my) belt. 'One of These Days in England', off his recent album *Bullinamvase*, lifted a weighty reaction from punters with its searing guitar work — and I'm talking *feel*. First encore 'Hangman', with its nerving touch of tremelo, drew a similar reaction. How would you like to have your head pulled off, incarcerated O.H.M.S.

What amazed me about Roy Harper was his selfless and direct approach. Love, laughter, sorrow and pain. Not only an orator, song-

smith, superb musician, but an incredibly warm human being. Anyone that refers to Roy Harper as a folk musician is an oaf.

**Barry Caitcheon**

**The Front Lawn Presents: The Reason For Breakfast Little Maidment Theatre**

It's happened. And it's about time it happened too.

Here's a band you can look at, it's music you can watch. And what do you watch? People playing.

It's interesting that one word describes what children do, what musicians do and what actors do. Play is what *The Reason For Breakfast* is all about. It's a combination of music, acting and ordinary kids' play. The show is fun. It has silly, often slapstick, comedy routines. It's fresh and spontaneous and sometimes it looks like Don and Harry are making up their own rules as they go along.

As musicians, Don and Harry play superbly, both together and alone. Don McGlashan is a bit of a musical institution. He played drums with Blam Blam Blam, percussion with From Scratch and for the Laura Dean Dance Company. Who else could turn a kitchen table into a drumkit? Harry Sinclair is better known as a Theatre Corporate actor than a musician, but his song 'Put Me In Your Pocket', both haunting and memorable, almost stole the show. Together they work brilliantly, weaving together theatre and music to make an hour and a half of fun.

So, you may ask, what is the Reason For Breakfast? It's a variety show, a compilation made up of Don and Harry's *Songs From the Front Lawn* plus the title piece, 'The Reason For Breakfast'. A curious mix of spontaneity and perfect timing, with a distinct New Zealand flavour. Impossible to describe, but if you've never seen anyone play split nienko nienkoputz, go along and find out. I don't know when these two are playing next, but I look forward to seeing them.

**Siennyew**

**Edwin Simperingham**

**Rainbow Warrior Festival**  
Mt Smart Stadium, April 5.

You could tell it was going to be a friendly day — the crowd relaxed, the sun shining. Is it the lack of booze or the Cause that brings about the good feeling?

Herbs opened the show. They *CONTINUED ON PAGE 24*

## VIDEOS BY MAIL



### NEW: IRON MAIDEN THOMPSON TWINS QUEEN MADONNA

All on high quality VHS tapes:  
**MADONNA LIVE** Virgin Tour. All the hits, 10 tracks, 50 mins, \$49.95  
**NOW 6** 19 hits; UB40 & Chrissy Hynde, Simple Minds, Arcadia. \$49.95  
**DURAN DURAN** 'Arena' \$49.95  
**DURAN** 'Sing Blue Silver' \$49.95  
**IRON MAIDEN** 'Live After Death' 90 mins \$54.95  
**QUEEN** Greatest Hits 60mins \$49.95.  
**THOMPSON TWINS** 'Single Vision' 11 hit videos 45 mins \$59.  
**OMD** 'Crush' 11 tracks, 70 mins \$59.50  
**VIDEO AID** 21 hit videos donated by artists. Proceeds to Band Aid Trust. Durans, Spandau Ballet, Wham! Frankie, Style Council, Ultravox. \$39.50.  
**MOCKERS** Video Hits, 13 tracks, \$49.95  
**U2** 'Live at Red Rocks' 'Under a Blood Red Sky', 12 tracks live \$59.50.  
**CULTURE CLUB** 'Kiss Across The Ocean', live. \$59.50.  
**ECHO & BUNNYMEN** 'Pictures On My Wall', 14 tracks, 58 mins \$49.95

**INXS** 'The Swing & Other Stories', 11 tracks & documentary footage, 58 mins \$49.95  
**GRACE JONES** 'One Man Show', \$69  
**ULTRAVOX** 'Collection' 12 hit videos, 60 mins \$69.  
**BOB MARLEY** 'Legend' 13 tracks, 54 mins \$69.  
**PHIL COLLINS** 'No Jacket Required EP', 5 tracks, 28mins, \$49.95  
**ELVIS** '68 Comeback Special', 20 hits, 76mins, \$65.  
**DAVID BOWIE** 'Ricochet', behind scenes portrait on 'Serious Moonlight Tour'. 59 minutes. Includes 5 live tracks. \$59.50.  
**GENESIS** live. Mama Tour. 102 mins. \$69  
**TWISTED SISTER** 'Stay Hungry', 11 tracks, 9 live, 2 clips, 60 mins. \$59.50.  
**CHAKA KHAN** 'This Is My Night', 10 tracks live. \$59.50.  
**UB40** Live \$59.50.  
**GARY MOORE** 'Emerald Aisles' Live in Ireland, 11 tracks \$59.50.

To purchase, post payment to VIDEOS BY MAIL, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1.

Name .....

Address .....

..... enclosed \$ .....

## The Metropole

Hamilton's No. 1 entertainment room.  
Fully licensed. 20,000 square feet.  
Top room to present a show!

**Booked: Drongos Peking Man**  
**Dance Exponents Models**  
**Hello Sailor Midge Marsden**  
**Dr Feelgood**

Available to all Promoters and Touring Acts  
Bookings, phone Hamilton 76-161

## NEW BOOKS: U2 TALKING HEADS BOB MARLEY DOORS SEX PISTOLS MAX HEADROOM ZZ TOP YOUNG ONES LED ZEP

**HM A-Z**  
112 pages, compiled by Paul Suter (Kerrang!) \$23.95.

**Max Headroom's Guide to Life**  
To Life (humour) \$8.95  
Max Headroom colour photobook \$15.95

**U2 File** 162 pages, info & pix, B&W colour, 1978 to Live Aid. Compiled from Irish mag *Hot Press*. \$19.95.

**David Bowie Starzone** interviews. 128 pages, rare pix from Bowie fanzine. \$19.95  
**Bowie by Steve Gertt.** Pic bio, great colour pix \$13.95

**Doors Concise Complete** music, lyrics, photos, 223 pages \$35.95  
**Jim Morrison** poetry, The Lords, The New Creatures \$17.95

**Power & the Glory: Robert Plant & Jimmy Page** New 96 page book focusing on Plant & Page in Led Zep and since. Lots of rare pix \$18.95.

**Black Gospel** Illustrated History by Viv Broughton. 160 pages \$16.95.  
**Africa Pop Goodtime** Kings of African music, 143 pages \$19.95.

**Rebel Rock** 80 pages of pix from final Sex Pistols tour \$19.95

**Miles Davis Carr** \$14.95

**Masters of Metal** New 128 page A-Z of metal bands. \$17.95

**Twisted Sister Official Bio** all colour, by Garry Bushell \$17.95.  
**Twisted Sister Robus** photo-bio \$9.95.

**Talking Heads brand new bio** by David Gans. From '77 to Little Creatures, well illustrated. \$19.95.

**Bryan Adams** **Huey Lewis** **Paul Young** **Billy Idol** **Tears For Fears** **Cars** **John Cougar Mellencham** Robus photobooks with pix, info & COLOUR POSTER. \$11.95 each.

**The Young Ones Book** \$13.95

**Judas Priest bio**, superb colour pix with BONUS POSTER \$9.95. Others in Metal Mania series: **Quiet Riot** **Motley Crue** **Scorpions**

**Joy Division/New Order Pleasure & Wayward Distraction** by Brian Edge, 96pp, \$19.95.  
**An Ideal for Living** by Johnson, Lees, Morley etc. 125pp, \$20.

**Uptight: Velvet Underground Story** Definitive Velvets book. \$23.95

**Iron Maiden Running Free** \$19.95  
Official story by Garvey & Bushell.

**Born To Run classic bio** by Dave Marsh, 192 pages with pix. \$24.95.

**Rolling Stones Complete** music, lyrics, pix \$27.95

**Led Zeppelin** \$27.95  
**Deep Purple** \$21.95  
**AC/DC** \$23.95  
**Judas Priest** \$24.95  
**Ozzy Osbourne** \$24.95  
Deluxe HM Photobooks. Superb photos with bio by Chris Welch.

**ZZ Top bio** \$19.95  
ARRIVES JUNE

**Bob Marley Catch A Fire**, 412 page bio \$10.95  
**Marley Soul Rebel** \$11  
**Marley Illustrated Discography** 95 pages \$15.95

**New Rock Record 719** page directory of LPs, musicians of rock era. \$13.95.  
**Record Producers File** All rock LP producers 62-84. \$17.50

**Jerry Hall's Tall Tales** world's top model tells all \$19.95  
**Tears For Fears Tales From Big Chair**, 64 page bio \$13.95  
**Rare Rock 350** page collectors guide \$19.95  
**Little Revenge** \$12.95  
**Jah Richard** Jah politics & pix \$18.95  
**Jimmy Hendrix Story** Hopkins \$14.95  
**Nightmare Movies** History of Horrors \$24.95  
**The Who Maximum R&B** \$23.95

**Clash** \$15.95  
**Sex Pistols** \$15.95  
**Led Zep Visual Documentary** \$24.95  
**Iggy Pop I Need More** \$27.95  
**Split Enz** photobook \$5.95  
**Madonna Lucky Star** \$10  
**Pink Floyd Another Brick**, illustrated discography, 71 pages, 67-84, \$15.95.  
**Jimmy Page Tangents** \$19.95  
**Encyc. Metallica** \$15.95  
**AC/DC Hell Ain't No Bad Place** \$15.95

**Sylvester Stallone** 109p photo-bio \$17.95  
**Motley Crue official bio** \$14.95  
**Nowhere To Run** Soul history \$18.95  
**Rock Archive** Michael Ochs, 400 pages of pix \$27.95  
**The Guitar Handbook** by Ralph Denyer, 256 pages \$27.95  
**Rock Mastermind quiz** \$4.95  
**Genesis** by Schacht \$21.95  
**Grateful Dead** by Jackson \$15.95  
**Quiet Riot** colour bio \$13.95

**Black Leather Jacket** by Mick Farren \$22.95  
**Hall & Oates Dangerous Dances** bio \$27.75  
**Eric Clapton bio** \$19.95  
**Rock & Pop Crossroads** \$5.95  
**Simple Minds Glittering Prize** \$19.95  
**Eurythmics** \$19.95  
**Reggae Deep Roots Music** \$19.95  
**Bowie Pitt Report** \$27.50

### BOOKS BY MAIL

To order any of these books post payment to **BOOKS BY MAIL, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1**. Postage is included in price. To request catalogue send standard sized stamped-addressed envelope.

Name .....

Address .....

Title/s required ! .....

..... enclosed \$ .....