## usic live show reviews

## JENNY OWEN YOUNGS

May 8 @ The Hotel Cafe

Indie girl crooner types have never really been my thing. Maybe it's jealousy, or maybe it's being too closely tied to their endless appeals for real fairy tale like love, but



Jenny Owen Youngs

something seems unjust about select girls getting a captive audience to listen to their toils. Jenny Owen Youngs, however, brings a refreshingly unrefined, simplistic attitude to this genre, infiltrated with women trying too hard to pioneer their own distinct label.

In an understated black button up and simple jeans, it's truly Youngs' persona shining through as she chats casually and frankly with the audience between songs, introducing numbers riddled with cuss words and lyrics like "Everything I Touch Turns to Shit."

Her immense enjoyment of her craft radiates through her natural stage presence and lighthearted manner, in which she energetically discusses lost loves and lowered expectations. Even without streaked pink hair or heavily blackened eyelids Youngs manages to break barriers and keep the audience on their toes.

Famous for her cover of Nelly's "Its Getting Hot in Here," her sensually-infused vocals make this ridiculously humorous

vocals make this ridiculously humorous song almost legitimate as you think, "man, it really is about time I take off all my clothes."

—Hayley Fox

## RJD2

May 14 @ Henry Fonda Theater

The majestic, old-era atmosphere of the Henry Fonda sets the perfect scene for this appropriately eclectic mix of performers. RJD2's newest album, The Third Hand, has caused some dissension amongst the ranks of his most loval fans as he takes a softer approach to instrumentals and does every aspect of the production himself. RJ has no fear of challenging his audiences and developing as an artist, regardless of public criticism.

Happy Chichester opened the night with acoustic guitar and harmonica, explaining his somewhat fish-out-of-water involvement in this hip-hop tour. With upbeat crooning tales of the trials of living in a proverbial Hollywood, Chichester was originally invited on the tour as part of RJ's live band, but remained faithful to his solo album by suggesting an individual slot as well; and I'm glad he did.

Pigeon John live is impossible to compare to any other artist, as his humor and genuine talent lend his songs inspiring charisma. Playing the majority of his songs off his newest album, *Summertime Pool Party*, his intermittent anecdotes of self-doubt and light-hearted personal criticism

separates him from the often ego ridden hiphop pack. With catchy beats backing real life traumas of awkward love, Pigeon John brings a likable personality to the stage.

RJD2 decided to set his own precedent by taking the vibe down a notch with the feel of his new album. Though the multiple monitors, turntables, synthesizers and electronics were not completely absent from his reinvented set, RJ demonstrated his own inherent talents foregrounding his distinct singing voice and instrumental capabilities.

Alternating between his most popular dance songs and party beats with his newer more intimate songs, RJD2 demonstrated his fearless range and ever-evolving capabilities.

With a line-up stylistically across the board, this evening maintained one



RJD2

consistent with artists that break all genre classifications and boundaries between their personal lives and their stage lives. In a musical world full of caricatures and clichés of previously established concepts, Pigeon John and RJD2 are nothing but themselves, and not apologizing for it.

—Hayley Fox

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### OVSIS

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POSTERS & COLLECT/BLES WWW.AM<u>OEBAMUS/C.CON</u> Morning Glory: A Classic Album Under Review

(Sexy Intellectual)

First, a bit of clarification: this film is not by Oasis. It's about Oasis.

It's billed as "the ultimate critical review of Oasis' Morning Glory" and is one in a series of critique films that Sexy Intellectual has released that dissect various popular recordings. As such, it's not authorized by Oasis or their management or their record label.

So what you have is basically "talking head" footage from a cadre of British movers and shakers from the *Morning Glory* era, folks like Oasis biographer Paolo Hewitt, Inspiral Carpets organist (and early Noel Gallagher employee) Clint Boon and early Oasis champion, (and Manchester DJ) Justin Moorhouse.

They go through the album cut by cut, giving their opinions and explaining why they feel that way. The fact that many at the time, including the band, had Oasis pegged as the saviors of rock'n'roll weighs heavily on the editorializing.

There are a few very brief performance snippets, but not enough to warrant a purchase based on them. Buy this one if you are a student of Oasis or a student of rock'n'roll phenomena.

Grade: A

### -Kevin Wierzbicki

Morning Glory: A Classic Album Under Review is currently available.

