

tuition each semester.

Even if pearls remain out of your budget, *Simply Pearls* offers an interesting money-saving strategy for poor college students

jewelry maker in you.

While Alden makes a point of emphasizing that pearls deserve respect and should be combined with quality materials, many of

information that will be appreciated by the pearl buff and trivia fanatic alike. For instance, do you know the difference between an opera and matinee strand of pearls? I know I do.

Queen Documentary Will Rock You All Over Again

By PAUL BASCOPE
STAFF WRITER

Over the last century, there have been very few bands that have had the level of success and popularity that Queen has acquired. Queen not only boasts a huge British and American following, but a massive international fan base that stretches from South America to Japan. In case you are not a big fan of rock or music in general, allow me to tell you a little about this majestic band.

Queen a British rock band, began in the early 1970s. The band consisted of bass player John Deacon, drummer Roger Taylor, front man Freddie Mercury, and lead guitarist Brian May who had a unique homemade guitar which was simply named "The Red Special." With the release of *A Night At The Opera* in 1975 which featured the now all time classic "Bohemian Rhapsody," Queen went from moderate to ultimate success. What followed was the album *News of the World* which featured the now-sports-motto songs "We Will Rock You" and "We Are The Champions." Needless to say, Queen rode the wave of success into the 1980s.

Queen in the 1980s and beyond is the focus of the new DVD entitled *Queen, Under Review, 1980-1991, An Independent Critical Analysis*. This DVD feature claims to be

"the ultimate review and critical analysis of Queen's music and live performances during the 1980s." It includes has several music journalists and British disc jockeys that break down Queen in the 1980s album by album. As opposed to American music documentaries that you find on a channel like VH1, the film takes a pass on having modern music artists and celebrities add their opinions and comments; you won't be finding any of Alice Cooper's thoughts in this film.

The analysis starts with Queen's foray into movie soundtracks for movies like *Flash Gordon* and the *Highlander* series. It also covers Queen's big album *The Game* which featured stand out songs like "Another One Bites The Dust" and "Crazy Little Thing Called Love." Other special projects of Queen included their collaboration with David Bowie in the song "Under Pressure" and their questionable foray into the black disco style in the album *Hot Space*. In addition to breaking down Queen's albums, the DVD discusses Queen's legendary live performances and the virtuosity of front man and lead singer Freddie Mercury in those performances. The death of Mercury in 1991 of AIDS marks the end of the DVD and this portion of Queen's career, although his work on the *Made in Heaven* album which was released in 1995 is discussed.

The film does a good job of taking us into the world of Queen with a mixture of live and studio performances in addition to taped interviews. The panel of critics and commentators offer insight, but basically establish that



Photos courtesy of Google Images

Retrospective chronicles Queen's '80s Heyday.

Queen was unique and very talented in addition to being very successful. I think most people knew that already, but I may be wrong.

Considering the age, seeing some of the clips and sound bites in DVD quality is great. Extended interviews and a featurette that discusses Queen memorabilia and its big following as well as a "Queen Quiz" for the diehard fans are some of the extras on the DVD. The features help round out the DVD, but the film doesn't really provide any ground breaking insight. It feels rather low budget at times, so that may be why Flavor Flav isn't chiming in.

Overall the made-for-DVD feature is helpful for learning about Queen from those who lived in its heyday. It provides decent insight for those who weren't around in that era. I know a good amount about Queen and their music, but even I learned a fair bit. I wouldn't recommend shelling out your hard earned cash but it's worth a rent. Whether you're an expert or a newcomer, I'd recommend a look at the DVD if you ever have a yearning to learn more about the icon that was Queen in the 80s.



less-known artists play at small restrictions. Being by far the youngest meant some obstacles along the way from seeing the bands I wanted to get into these venues, I've only limits.

Going to concerts has taken me to six states and three different countries over to what I consider the world's largest music festival, South West (SXSW) in Austin, Texas for more than four full days. Every year I attend a portion of SXSW called the CMJ Music Marathon.

Francing around from state to state is probably healthy has left me with memories that are irreplaceable. One time I saw an unknown band called The Crows in New York's Irving Plaza. Lead singer was only able to get through three songs before Chris was no longer able to sing. They then finish singing their hit "Yellow" and you'll find me following Franz Ferdinand one week I saw them six times and I met Paul Thomson, gave me the name of his drumhead. Keeping with Freddie Mercury in their music video for "Do It Right" This past year alone I've danced in the Club Room almost every time I've seen them. I think not.

The most ridiculous thing I did was to see the band Sons and Daughters, where I was an hour before doors opened because I had to go to the summer before. Once inside, I went to the girls' bathroom and hid in a stall for an hour. The coast was clear. I then heard a rumor that about to come out of the bathroom was the bathroom making out with a girl. I was a member of Sons and Daughters.

If that's not dedication, I don't know what is.

In the upcoming months there will be a lot of what to do with, so will you go to?

FOR MORE

Check out the "Who wants to be a Queen" group on



(Top) Sarah dancing on the stage with the band. (Bottom) Sarah and her sister with