

music reviews

Martin still manages to craft an album full of rich guitar tones and smooth vocals (as any fan would expect) supported by some very solid drumming and bassplaying. To those lacking SF59 in their music collections, do yourself a favor and remedy the problem acquiring this release and really anything else put out by them. -Zip

Taken Under "Silence Your Enemies" High Fidelity Records

Although they're from Tennessee, Taken Under deserves respect from the hardcore scene. The brand new album "Silence Your Enemies" from High Fidelity Records has a strong metal influence but is layered and diverse. Having rocked with every major hardcore band, experience has made their sound tight and cohesive. It's like starting your night with a smooth frozen shot of Jägermeister- it foreshadows a traditional and simple good time. -SI

In Theory "This is It" Shelter From the Storm Records

In Theory is self-proclaimed as "modern melodic rock." I'd call their album "This is it" more like softcore pop punk. But don't let the labels fool you, they've had their shares of trials and tribulations like all true rock musicians. When they first formed, they were kicked out of their religious high school for "playing together" but somehow they made it through that. However, last year due to "parental pressure," they almost had to break up. How a band with this story and a song they claim was inspired by the T.V. show "The OC," get airtime on KROQ? You got me; I don't drink virgin fuzzy navels. -SI

These Are "Hold True Recordings" Scare Tactics

I don't know about this CD. To listen to it, you gotta have ear muffs of steel. But if you're down with the sound of high pitched screaming, not great distorted sounding twangy guitars, and fast paced drums all rolled into what tries to sound like a hardcore band then you will love it. Otherwise, I'll be honest...you probably won't... -BVG

DVD & SHOW REVIEWS

The Queers "Are Here" DVD

I use to love the queers so much, and still do, but I guess my feelings for them have been luying dormant for them. It just was such a bummer for me when we lost hugh and then

b-face. But "The Queers Are Here" DVD gave me a sweet little boost back to queer lovin'! It felt good to see live footage that spanned about 10 years, it was good to see Joe backed by so many memebbers, it even finally made me kind of like the new guys even though they werent hugh and B-face. This DVD is an hour long has a bunch of live songs from a bunch of different venues, a few music videos, a few interviews with Joe Queer where you learn to love the sour guy all over again. Joe Queer is an anchor. He doesnt change. He has been wearing the same baggy shirts and baseball hats for like 20 years, he still hates fallout boy, and my chemical romance, and warped tour... An especially nice little treat was some of the live footage that was from a show they did in Italy where they flied Wimpy into Italy to sing some classic ols amazing shutty songs, it was great! Anyways Gd bless the goold old days and Gold bles this DVD for taking me back there and getting me pumped for a new go round with the boys (or boy) from New Hampshire. -JE

The Early November The Trocadero in Philadelphia Sunday April 15th, 2007

It was an early November kind of day outside the Trocadero in Philadelphia, but inside The Early November warmed the hearts of their loyal fan base at what they deemed to be their final show together as a band. In March, a posting on the band's website had declared that The Early November would be taking an indefinite hiatus in order for the band members to be able to spend more time with their family and friends and not let life pass them by as they toiled away on the road. Originally hailing from southern New Jersey, it was appropriate for the band's final show to be at the Trocadero in Philadelphia, where guitarist Joe Marro had pointed out they had grown up seeing some of their favorite bands play there.

The show was a family affair for the band, as the upper balcony of the Trocadero was full of family and friends and space was a premium backstage as well, where even more family and friends had congregated to see the show. The opening band, OneTwoThreeFour was fronted by lead singer Ace Ender's sister, and during the band's final encore, Ender's dad joined in the festivities by crowd surfing.

The Early November entered the stage to the Thin Lizzy classic, "The Boys Are Back in

Town" and the crowd immediately surged to the front. As the band jumped into the first song, "Money in his Hand", the crowd began to pulsate to the beat and crowd surfing was a constant. The band had begun what would be a two-hour set composed of songs from all four of their albums. Highlights of the set included an energetic performance of "All We Ever Needed", a transition into Oasis's "Champagne Supernova" during "No Good At Saying Sorry", a highly potent rendition of "Decorations", an emotional performance of "Ever So Sweet", during which the band had the crowd hold up their lighters and cell phones, and a final performance of the rock heavy, "Every Night's a Story" which caused a circle pit and ended with bassist Sergio Anello jumping into the crowd off of a speaker.

Each member of the Early November has their own distinct personality and together they formed something special. Ace Enders stoically led the band with his soaring vocals and emotional delivery. Joe Marro commanded the stage right from the start, demanding the crowd to get into the music, while splitting his time between guitar and the keyboard. Bassist Sergio Anello had dance moves that conjured up the spirit of Sting, even dressing the part with white high top sneakers and a cut-off t-shirt. Drummer Jeff Kummer was the backbone of the rhythm section and guitarist Bill Lugg provided some stirring slide guitar riffs on some of their slower numbers.

The show ended after a three-song encore with the band embracing one another for one final bow to the crowd. Hugs were shared among the band members, tears were shed by a few emotional fans in the crowd, and the band was able to exit the stage to a standing ovation, thanking their fans every chance they got near the microphone. The Early November are slated to play one final show at the Bamboozle Music Festival in East Rutherford, New Jersey on May 6th, but that show will pale in comparison to this emotional performance. -DMH