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FREE

SCENE

*The Kinks;
preserving live
music* see pg. 13

The Scene's fourth X-Mas
issue.
Happy Holidays from the
Scene Staff.



Too band **PRESERVATION** couldn't be put on record in its present and polished state; I'm sure it would be a raving success. This would be because the almost 90-minute play showed several improvements over the story presented in the two albums. For example, "Mirror of Love" was sung on stage by "Belle" (whereas on the **PRESERVATION ACT 2**, Ray Davies had to sing the woman's saga). Also, things like "Daylight" was done with full choruses rather than just Davies alone.

The recorded and filmed portions of **PRESERVATION** blended perfectly with the on-stage performances. And with Ray Davies in the role of the ill-fated Flash, the entire show was the most pleasurable evening I have ever spent at a so called "concert."

It looks like The Kinks have a winner. I'd love to see it again. I hope **PRESERVATION** tours here again next year; and for once real theatre was blended with rock and roll. This one could send the so-called cracked actors of the rock world back to the drawing board.

Jim Girard

RUSH, DOWNCHILD BLUES BAND

Agora Mistake
Dec. 16.

It was Canadian night at the Agora with Rush playing upstairs and The Downchild Blues Band performing downstairs in the Mistake. But, sharing national origins was as similar as the two bands got. While Downchild provided some of the most enjoyable blues this city has ever seen, Rush provided some of the most nauseating clatter this city has ever suffered through.

The sax joined the rhythm section of the Downchild band, restricting himself to playing the riffs that a rhythm guitarist would, leaving the harp and

piano as solo instruments. And solo they did. Both the harp player and the female pianist dressed the raw, driving rhythm with inspired licks.

But the real star of the band was the singer, who didn't come on stage until the set was well under way. He gave the blues its due with projection and emotion similar to that of Muddy Waters. His voice wasn't quite as deep or as gruff, there were times when he sounded much like the legendary blues singer. That old adage about blacks singing the best blues may or may not be true, but Downchild's singer made the whole point moot. Though he, like the rest of the band, was white, he gave the songs as black a treatment as could be asked for.

The Downchild Blues Band will appear in the Mistake through this week, and they are one band

that any blues aficionado should not miss.

Meanwhile, upstairs; BBB-
AAAAEEEEEBBEEEEAAAH-
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEELLALLA-
AAAAEEEEEEKKAAAAEEEE-
EENNEEEEEEDDDAAAAAAE-
EEFFRUUUUUUGBAAANN-
GSSSSCCCREEEEECHSSHOO-
OOOOUUUUUTTDISTORTION-
FEEDBACKNOISEMOREDIS-
TORTIONMORENOISEOOOO-
OOOOHHHHHHHHHSCREAM-
CRYAGONYBOOGIEYEAHRO-
CK&ROLLDISTORTIONNOI-
SECRASH etc, etc.

The next time Rush comes to town they ought to arm the audience with a few Marshalls and Stratocasters. Then they can battle it out and whoever walks out of whatever is left of the building can say they've been to hell and back.

Henry Keiluhn

[cont'd page 14]

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