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20

QUESTIONS WITH

Raquel Estrella

Concert Exclusives

**Green Day,
Bad Religion &
Chuck Ragan**

GAMES REVIEWED



FROM THE MAKERS OF MORTAL KOMBAT
INJUSTICE
GODS AMONG US



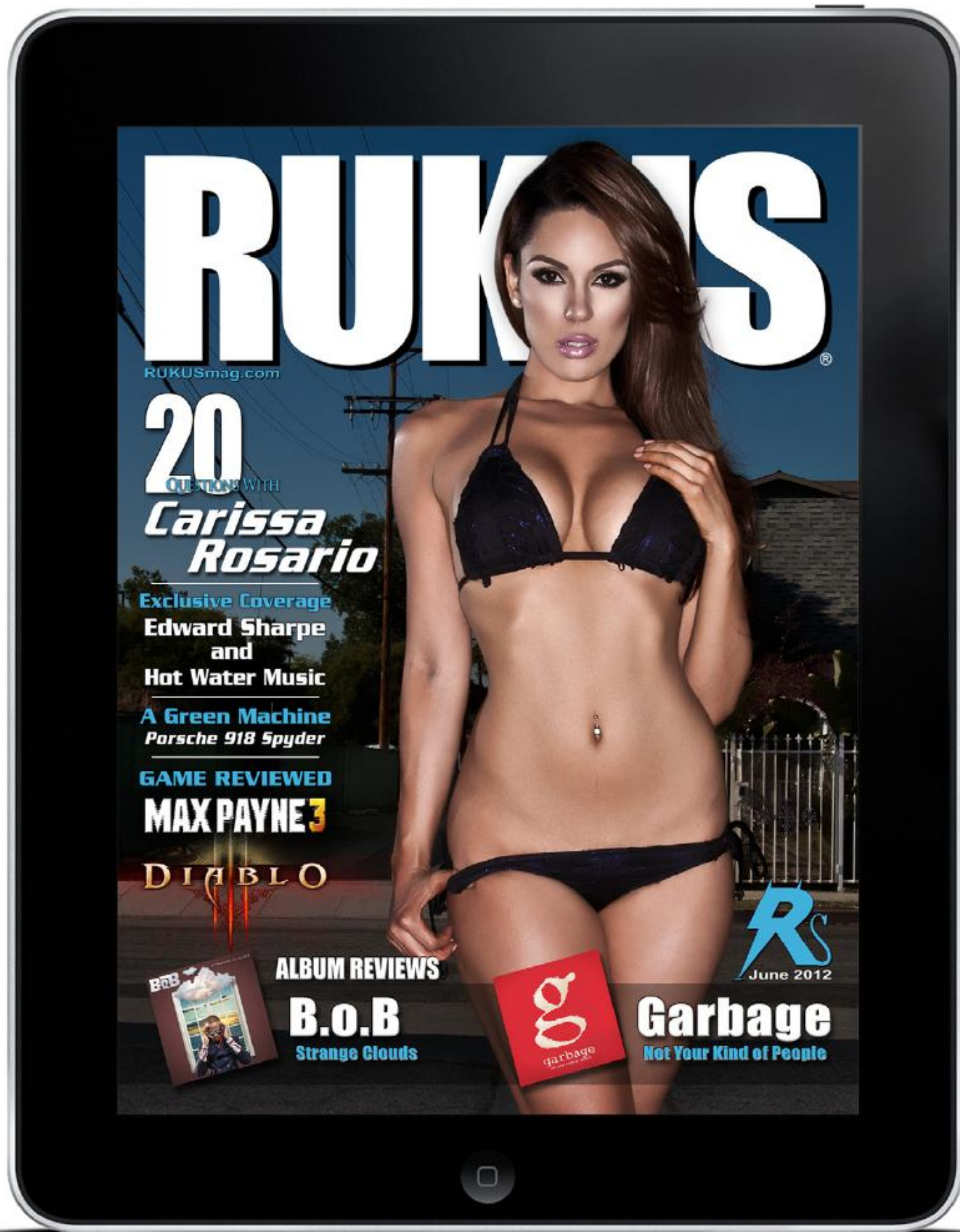
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Venemous Rat...



LL Cool J
Authentic

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May 2013

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20 QUESTIONS

Get To Know Your Cover Model

Raquel Estrella

Photography by Andrew Gates
Make-up and hair by Kimberly Hill

R

aque! Estrella was born in Guadalajara Jalisco, Mexico, but was brought to this country as an infant. She was raised in Bakersfield, CA and moved to Los Angeles very recently. Raquel got her start in 2011 when she placed as one of the top two finalists for a national event competition. This gained her much recognition and propelled her career to new heights. In 2012 she went on to become Miss Extreme Autofest San Diego, Miss Spocom Anaheim and Miss Badbeat all within her first year as a professional modeling personality. This vivacious firecracker hopes to continue her ascent to stardom by dominating all fields of live competition and expanding her presence within published media and eventually hopes to transition into TV. It seems the sky is nothing near an effective limit for this promising young star, as Raquel Estrella just continues to rise.



20 QUESTIONS

Your Cover Model Cont'd



20 QUESTIONS

1.What's your Ethnicity?

I am half Filipino and half Mexican. My father's from Manila and mommy is from Mexico.

2.What's your zodiac sign?

I am a Cancer; Born wild.

3.Where are you from originally?

I was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and was raised in Bakersfield, Ca.

4.What did you like most about growing up in the Bakersfield?

Bakersfield is a small city, enough to where people are very family oriented, yet it is big enough where you always meet new people. It's very diverse in culture.

5.What kind of mischief did you get into while growing up?

As a child I was a troublemaker. I was close to my older brother so naturally, I became a tomboy. My knees were always scraped, I was always fighting and I never liked anyone telling me what to do. I was a stubborn little thing.

6.What's the craziest thing you've ever done?

The craziest thing I've ever done was when I took a random trip across the Nation alone.

7.What's your favorite hobby and why?

My favorite hobby is dancing. I dance in the shower, I dance at the gym, I even dance while I grocery shop. Music makes my body happy which relaxes and frees up my mind.

8.What's your guilty pleasure?

Being that I'm trying to keep my body in top shape, bacon cheeseburgers with extra cheese and avocado and Ferrero Roche chocolates are my top two favorite guilty pleasures.

9.Who do you admire and why?

The person I admire the most in this world is my mother. She is the strongest woman I know. She was a single mother who fought to make a living with four kids in a country where she had to work illegally with no help from her or our father or the government. With all that she still managed to raise all four kids to be intelligent, self sufficient, good-hearted human beings; not many people can say they can do that.

10.If you could change one thing in the world what would it be and why?

I wish people weren't judged so quickly by their exteriors. I wish we could all have the "Shallow Hal" effect where everybody is judged by their hearts.

11.What's one of your personal goals?

One of my personal goals is to become financially independent and be comfortable. This is not an easy task because I have expensive taste. By financially independent, I mean; I am making enough money so I can buy myself a single family home, be able to take care of my mother and be able to travel as I please.

12.What do guys compliment you on the most?

I get a lot of compliments on my face. Everyone always compliments me on facial features. A lot of people say I look exotic and it's hard to tell what I am exactly.

13.What's your favorite body part on yourself?

My favorite body part are my thighs. I was lucky to have some of my Filipino genes kick in and bless me with full thighs, I know guys love legs.

14.What do you look for in a guy?

I don't usually look for guys, they tend to find me. But when they get a chance to wow me, I look for personality traits like; confidence, ambition and drive. I like a guy who has a boss personality, but doesn't have to flaunt it for it to show.

15.What's the first thing you notice about a guy?

When I notice a guy, three things happen at one time: I see the physique, I see their smile and I see their eyes.

16.What's your ideal first date?

I'm not picky, I am a woman of detail, so as long as the date is something that the guy really had to sit down and think about what would be special to me and I know he had to put in work, that is definitely ideal. I'm tired of the cliché "dinner and a movie" guy.

17.What turns you on?

My biggest turn on is a man with confidence. I like guys who are just themselves no matter who is around and they don't have to be flamboyant or over the top for people to know he is the man.

18.What turns you off?

My biggest turn offs are when people think they are better than others because of their status or their appearance or what they have. I don't like people who put other people down to make themselves feel better.

19.What's your biggest pet peeve?

My biggest pet peeve are Liars. I know everybody does it because the truth is sometimes a little harsh, but I am one of the few people who can take it and I make it very clear. I feel like liars are people who want to hurt others and that gets under my skin.

20.Who's your celebrity pass?

My celebrity pass has been the same one since I was a kid, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. He is simply amazing.

RM

20 QUESTIONS

Your Cover Model Cont'd



20 QUESTIONS

Your Cover Model Cont'd



20 QUESTIONS

Your Cover Model Cont'd

I like a guy
who has a boss
personality...

20 QUESTIONS

With Your Favorite Model Cont'd



STATS:

Birthday:	July 16
Height:	5'1"
Weight:	104 lb
Measurements:	34D-25-34

See more of Raquel at
[instagram.com/Raquel_Estrella](https://www.instagram.com/Raquel_Estrella)

ALL ACCESS

The Latest Albums Reviewed

Keepin' it Real

Written by Jeremy Weeden

Grizzled hip-hop veteran LL Cool J has been around for almost 30 years since his first album, *Radio*, was released in 1985. There are few, if any, rap artists who have as many true classic jams as LL Cool J. From "I Need Love" to "Around the Way Girl" and "Hey Lover" to "I Can Love You Better," LL has continually delivered hits for the radio. Now an international superstar with movies, TV shows and hosting the Grammy Awards under his belt, LL returns to the music scene with his 13th studio album, *Authentic*. With *Authentic*, LL Cool J attempts to capture some of his original flavor while introducing a new generation to the legend of James Todd Smith.

The album opens with the Trackmaster's produced "Bath Salts" where LL raps over a fast paced synth beat and quickly reminds the listener he has been around for years with the line "I skywalk where the force is/Back in the 80s I was playing in Porsches/Money ain't a problem I absorb my losses."

The next track, "Not Leaving You Tonight" finds LL alongside soul pop band Fitz and The Tantrums. This smooth flowing melodic track features a catchy heartfelt chorus from Fitz and The Tantrums, as LL pours his heart out to a girl promising to never leave her. This song is very radio friendly and one could easily see it as a future single. "New Love" is an upbeat, funky song about the joys of a new love and R&B legend Charlie Wilson's voice lays perfectly over the old school flavored beat.

LL Cool J has not forgotten his original style as he shows on the songs "We Came to Party" and "Whaddup." "We Came to Party" features fellow veterans Snoop Dogg and Fatman Scoop over a hard-hitting, bass-heavy old school beat that is reminiscent of a Rick Rubin track. "Whaddup" features Travis Barker and Chuck D over a drum-heavy old school beat. LL's flow on these tracks are reminiscent of 1980s LL as he delivers hard-hitting staccato raps.

Other songs on *Authentic* include "Give Me Love", a soft, easy going song in the vein of "I Need Love" featuring Seal. "Bartender" has Snoop Dogg popping up again and also features funk veteran Bootsy Collins. "Closer" samples "I Like" from Guy and features songstress Monica.

One of the standout tracks on the album is "Waiting On You" featuring Babyface and Noelle Scaggs. This song is a smooth R&B rap hybrid that is sure to be a hit with fans of 90s R&B. "Take It" featuring Joe is in this same vein and features Joe singing a catchy radio ready chorus.

On "Live For You" LL Cool J and Brad Paisley pair up again and the result is much better than the failed song "Accidental Racist." This pop flavored song has LL rapping about love and Brad Paisley singing a light hearted pop chorus and the two thankfully avoid discussing race relations.

On *Authentic*, LL Cool J does not break any new ground or stray too far into the new rap scene, which is a good thing. While many will say the album is the same old same old from LL, it is better than making music that is unnatural just to sell records. LL Cool J delivers more of what he has for the past decade: radio friendly love songs with a sprinkling of old school hip hop. LL Cool J is a living hip-hop legend and *Authentic* will not be the last we hear from him.

Artist: LL Cool J
Album: Authentic
Website: llcoolj.com

★★★★★
Label: S-BRO Music Group
Release Date: April 30, 2013



ALI
The AI



Cinco de Zombie

Written by Dan Sinclair

Venomous Rat Regeneration Vendor (VRRV) is the fifth solo album from Robert Bartleh Cummings since he changed the color of his Zombie from "White" to "Rob." And Mr. Rob Zombie has been a busy man lately as this album was released only days after his latest horror film *The Lords of Salem* hit theaters. Yes, the man sure has worn a lot of hats since donning that big black one on *Beavis and Butthead* back in the day.

Warning for the first track: don't spend hours trying to figure out exactly what the phrase "Teenage Nosferatu Pussy" means. Is Mr. Zombie calling out the vampire in the 1922 film *Nosferatu* as a sort of wimp in his youth or is Rob saying that if there was an underage female version of said vampire, he'd love to hit that? But once one gets past all that, he or she will realize that "Teenage Nosferatu Pussy" is a classic example of what Zombie does best with the horror movie-esque dialog intro, the aggressive, mounting rhythmic guitar riffs and Zombie's familiar creepy yet engaging lead vocals proclaiming, "I am a shadow/I am tomorrow/I am a hero with a buggy whip." By the time the chorus comes around, you find yourself singing along, not giving a single shit you're actually saying the words, "Teenage Nosferatu Pussy."

The second song "Dead City Radio" features Zombie doing a pretty crafty vocal style that best represents the loud, talky-talky, annoying radio disk jockey voice set to music, but the style isn't nearly as annoying as what it's supposed to represent. Usually gimmicks like that don't work well in rock and roll, but somehow here the form functions well. Good job, Rob.

Best song title goes to "Ging Gang Gong Do Gong De Laga Raga," but please don't spend as much time thinking about the meaning of this one. Instead remember the line "Rally around the skull on her ass," because believe it or not, Rob Zombie songs are all about the ladies. Here it's a beautiful woman's tattooed rear end that makes Rob sing the gibberish chorus. In "Rock and Roll (In a Black Hole)," Rob does claim that "We're all dancing in a black hole when all we want to do is Rock and Roll" but not before he informs some girl she's "Gotta gotta open her mind." I can only assume that "The Pretty Filthy Creatures" we are meant to "Behold" are also women based on the chorus where Zombie repeats "Mamma" over and over again before instructing her to "Shut your mouth." In the song "Lucifer Rising," "All the girls scream, 'I love you, baby,'" and track "The Girl Who Loved the Monsters" is "the girl who wants to fly." See? Rob is really just a hopeless romantic at his core.

But let's not forget that VRRV is above all a rock album and this is best illustrated on the guitar heavy songs "Trade in Your Guns for a Coffin" and the The Grand Funk Railroad cover "We're an American Band." Plus "Trade in Your Guns" features the unforgettable lines "It's why we suck/It's why we fuck."

Rob Zombie is one of those artists who has already completely polarized most music fans. At this point, one either celebrates or despises his combination of horror, sex and rock and roll and there's little the man can do to sway your mind the other way. *Venomous Rat Regeneration Vendor* may not impress those already in the despise category, but those that fall on the other side will be more than satisfied with another fun rocking album from their hero. The latter will surely make Mr. Zombie happy because like he says in "White Trash Freaks," "Life ain't shit if you ain't a star."

Artist: Rob Zombie

Album: *Venomous Rat Regeneration Vendor*

Website: robzombie.com

★★★★★

Label: Zodiac Swan/T-Boy/Universal

Release Date: April 23, 2013

ALL ACCESS SPOTLIGHT

Written by Silas Valentino

Facebook.com/CultOfLunaMusic



Fall Out Boy, *Save Rock and Roll*

The cover of Fall Out Boy's new record, *Save Rock and Roll*, features two young boys from Burma. One wears a traditional robe while the other exhales cigarette smoke and wears an (edited out) AC/DC shirt. The recently reunited band stumbled upon this photo while flipping through pages on the Internet for inspiration and the photo captures Fall Out Boy's musical mission. They wish to play somewhere caught in the middle of the past and future and *Save Rock and Roll* is covered with genre-smashing sounds from both yesterday and today. There are heavy beats mixed with sampling, '80s synth ballads and even a nod to hair metal in lead single, "My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark (Light Em Up)." Fall Out Boy have been on hiatus for the past five years and *Save Rock and Roll* is their official return. Leaving behind the emo music of their past, Fall Out Boy have branched-out for more arena-sized amplitude. Tracks "The Phoenix," "Alone Together," and "Death Valley" are just waiting to be unleashed onto the crowd. Returning to the stage after years off is a tough task and Fall Out Boy can't hardly wait.

Phoenix, *Bankrupt!*

Bankrupt! is the product of what happens when four French pop music wizards lock themselves in a room with synthesizers and drum machines for months and hit record. The result is colorful, adventurous and proves that Phoenix are more than just the French band that made those two catchy songs in 2009. *Bankrupt!* begins with the single "Entertainment" and its hook is a rising contender to beating The Vapor's "Turning Japanese" for the best Asian-influenced riff of all time. The track flows all over the place and the "I'd rather be alone" lyrical drop towards the end of the bridge solidifies Phoenix's ability to create a great pop song. Placed in the album's middle, is the title track "Bankrupt!" Similar to "Love Like a Sunset" from their previous record, "Bankrupt!" is instrumentally driven, full of synths and ends on a sweet note. Other songs that will have your friends asking you "is this the new Phoenix album?" are "Bourgeois" and "Trying to be Cool." The band has stated that this record is a departure from their previous work and they're not lying. It may take a few listens to hear it, but *Bankrupt!* is a pop success.

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Foals, *Holy Fire*

Foals hail from Oxford, England and they like to expand the boundaries of modern rock music. Beginning in 2008 with their smash debut, *Anecdotes*, Foals have been developing their sound into the indie/math rock-heavy, *Holy Fire*. The record begins with the aptly titled "Prelude." The track begins to form and grow throughout its 4:08 length and the finished product leads you right to the record's single, "Inhaler." The single is equipped with lead singer Yannis Philippakis' falsetto pipes and jingling guitar melodies. *Holy Fire* was produced by TV on the Radio mastermind, David Sitek. Known for his glossy electronic productions, Sitek helped bring out Foals' ability to sway the rhythm. Tracks such as "My Number" and "Late Night" feature pounding drums that coerce your foot to the beat. The band relocated to Australia to begin recording demos and harvesting inspiration for the album. The band admits that not a lot was accomplished while in Australia but their time there was a heavy influence. The band began to experiment with old synthesizers and sound samples and its effect can be heard all over the album. *Holy Fire* showcases a band that still has a lot more to say.

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LIVE & LOUD

The Live Show Reviews

Green Day

Photos by Nicolas Bates
Written by Katie J. Norris

As fans poured into the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, the roar of the stadium almost became deafening. And in attendance, was an incredible age range; from the folks that rocked out to *Dookie*, *Insomniac* and *Nimrod* in their young teens, to their own kids who are now in their pre-teens. With a jungle of laser lights crisscrossing in all directions, and Green Day's signature drunk pink bunny hopping around and hyping up the excited mass of people, the show gave way to an electrifying start.

The light grid that served as a backdrop flashed "GREENDAY" and the band started right in with songs from their new trilogy of albums, *¡Uno!*, *¡Dos!* and *¡Tré!*, including their recent radio hit, "Oh Love." Lead singer and guitarist Billie Joe Armstrong was an extraordinary showman—as always. He was a springboard of energy revving up the audience with rock and roll flare gestures, all while impressively power-belted his lyrics and jamming out his guitar accompaniment. Mike Dirnt, on bass guitar and vocals, was egging on the crowd from his side of the stage while Jason White, guitar and backing vocals, had his own strong stage presence as well. Tre Cool, on drums and backing vocals, was just as animated and entertaining behind his drum set as any member that stood before him.

A bit of giddy nostalgia ran through the vast majority of the adult audience as Green Day launched into a good 45-minute set of their most popular hits from their older albums. It was a bit of a surprise that the band still played those tunes as if they had just written them the week before. None of those hits from over a decade ago felt stale or washed up, and the audience was thrilled to sing along at the top of their lungs.

A clean acoustic-sounding guitar played the familiar intro to "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" sending the stadium of people into a cry of approval. The mosh pit on the floor in front of the stage became increasingly more noticeable. The number of grown men without shirts running hard circles into the concrete floor grew exponentially until a visual human hurricane dominated a quarter of the area. "Welcome to Paradise" allowed the lighting operator to show off some of his tricks with cues from Armstrong during the choruses. The two were quite in sync and made it look like a magic trick.

This show would not be complete without Armstrong hosing down the entire floor section with an industrial water gun followed by a rapid-firing double-roll toilet paper gun in the middle of the show. Of course, the t-shirt gun was next. With the force comparable to a military weapon, that must have been the most powerful cotton-shooting machine ever created.

"Brain Stew" inspired the band to get mischievous on stage, throwing around their equipment and pulling off basic stunts. For their classic hit "Longview" Armstrong picked a tall, curly blonde-haired kid out of the crowd to come up on stage and sing. The band stayed cool as the kid went a little nuts running all over the stage. They let him scream a drunken "I love you!" to his girlfriend in the crowd and hug Armstrong with a death grip. The band let him finish and set him up for a running start to stage dive back to his spot in the audience.

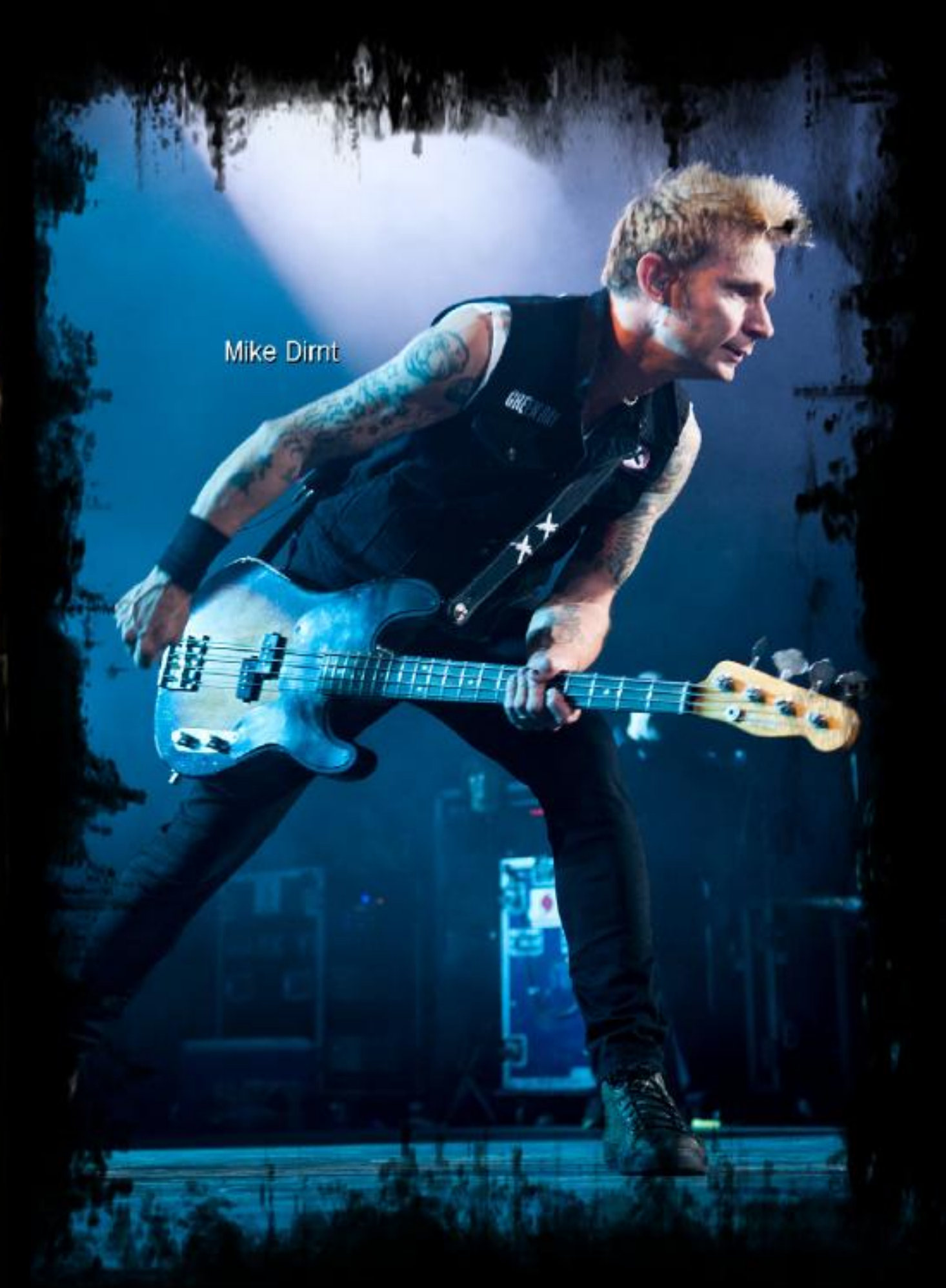
The rest of the show was Halloween costumes, a medley of rock songs from every era, and another twenty minutes of hits. The show ended with a grand sing-along of "Minority" and I can guarantee you not a single fan left unsatisfied after Green Day played over two hours worth of music. Who would have thought with the release of *Dookie* that almost 20 years later the band would be playing songs from over ten albums to sold-out arena audiences? Me either. So go see them!

Venue: Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena
Website: greenday.com

Date: April 18, 2013
City: Los Angeles, CA



Billy Joe Armstrong



Mike Dirnt



Tré Cool

Bad Religion

Photos by Andrew Gates
Written by Dan Sinclair

Bad Religion was formed back in 1979 in the San Fernando Valley, so it seems only fitting for the legendary punk rockers to end their 16th studio album, *True North*, 34 years later where it all started: in the City of Angels. Nobody loves Bad Religion like L.A., and this is proven once again by the thousands screaming before the band even takes the stage at the Hollywood Palladium's sold-out show.

Loyal RUKUS fans may remember Greg Gaffin telling the crowd at the Sunset Strip Music Festival last summer that they were heading right to the studio in Pasadena to record a new album. Well, *True North* was that album and it's now complete... and it's live.

When the lights go down, only guitar can be heard—the beginning to the new album's first song, "Past Is Dead." Then the rest of the instruments kick in and it gets loud. And the crowd fucking moves. A giant mosh pit in the middle of the crowd is formed and even those not involved in the mayhem are jumping around like madmen all the same.

Then the band shifts from new to old as they play "We're Only Gonna Die" from their first full-length album, 1982's *How Could Hell Be Any Worse?* Next is 2007's "New Dark Ages" where frontman Greg Gaffin sings and directs the band center stage, surrounded by bassman Jay Bentley and the three guitar players: Greg Hetson, Brian Baker, and of course, Mr. Brett Gurewitz. Brooks Wackerman wackers away methodically on the drums behind them all because, after all, next to the politically-driven lyrics and catchy melodies, it's the super-fast yet somehow soothing rhythm that has made Bad Religion so great for so long.

Greg tells the crowd, "We've missed you all terribly, L.A.," before he sings the title track from *True North* for the city that has missed him just as much, which is followed by "Anesthesia" and "Generator." During one of the band's biggest hits, "21st Century Digital Boy," every single "Yeah, yeah, yeah," is matched by thousands of pumping fists in the air.

"Overture" and "Sinister Rouge" showcases some of Brian Baker's finest guitar work and then Greg takes time to thank his co-song writer for joining the band on stage, as it's not something that is always done. But he had to bring him out for everyone's new favorite Bad Religion single "Fuck You." A sea of middle fingers rises in approval.

And the songs just keep coming: "Los Angeles Is Burning," "Recipe for Hate," "Suffer," "Sanity," "Nothing to Dismay," "You," "Do What You Want," "No Direction," "Beyond Electric Dreams," "Submission Complete"—there is no rest. It's time for punk rocking and the vets show no sign of doing anything less than that. The crowd's not slowing down either as they keep on thrashing around to "Come Join Us," "Against the Grain," "No Control," and another great off the new album, "Robin Hood in Reverse."

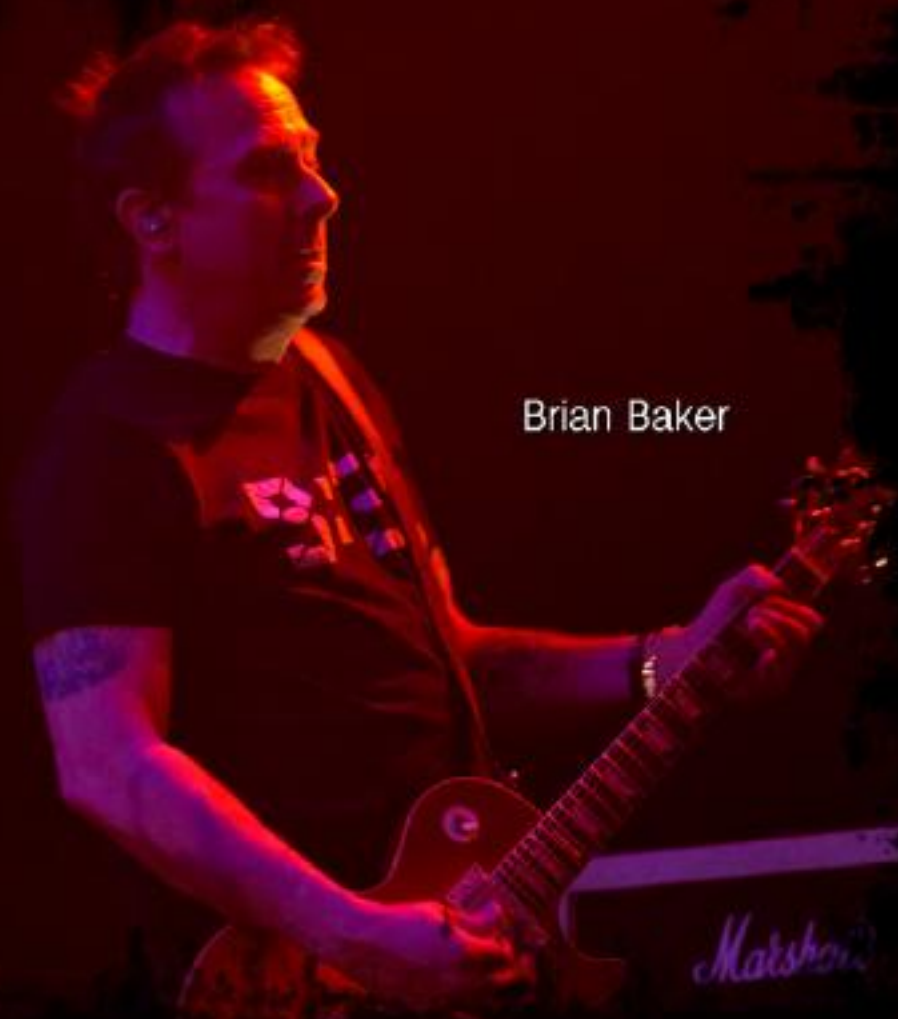
Greg polls the crowd to see how many fans are here to see Bad Religion for the first time, and though there are plenty, the cheers are louder for those asked if they've been to many shows. And they get even fucking louder for the set's closers, "American Jesus" and "Sorrow."

The band thanks everyone and leaves stage, but the crowd refuses to go anywhere. Jay Bentley is the first back on stage but he plays coy, telling the crowd that he's just there to wrap up his bass and go home. But soon the rest of the band joins him and they play "Fuck Armageddon... This is Hell" and "Vanity" much to the crowd's delight, but it's the ever-popular "Infected" that brings the house down. The show and tour close with "Dept. of False Hope" and the encouraging words of "Hold your head up high, Forgotten Man."

This night was 34 years of great punk rock celebrated fondly in the city where it all started for a truly one-of-a-kind band, even all these years later in a music genre where most bands are just carbon copies of each other. If you haven't done so already, add "See Bad Religion live," to your bucket list because Bad Religion is really the *only* good religion.

Venue: The Hollywood Palladium
Website: badreligion.com

Date: April 18, 2013
City: Los Angeles, CA



Brian Baker



Greg Hetson



Brett Gurewitz



Greg Gaffin



Jay Bentley



Brooks Wackerman

LIVE & LOUD
Live Show Reviews Cont'd

Chuck Ragan Revival Tour

Photos by Nicolas Bates

Written by Dan Sinclair

According to Hot Water Music's Chuck Ragan, folk music is "age-old and the way that families and communities have shared music for hundreds of years." Chuck is a folk performer in his own right, having released several solo albums on Los Angeles's SideOneDummy Records. But for Chuck, folk music isn't really just a one-on-one thing and that's where he and his wife Jill came up with the idea for the Revival Tour, where several artists share the stage and spotlight in a revolving set of sorts; no one being any more important than the next. Chuck says, "It's about sharing music together and bringing it to people in an extremely honest and grassroots fashion."

Things really get going at the El Rey when Mr. Ragan introduces The Loved Ones' Dave Hause to the stage. Dave doesn't seem to think the fans are into it enough and yells out, "It's our last night here—make it fucking count!" and the energetic crowd sings along to "Heavy Heart." Joe Ginsberg then steps in to play some stand-up bass on "Time Will Tell." Joe is a regular musician here on the Revival Tour along with fiddle-man Jon Gaunt, who both also accompany Chuck Ragan on his solo albums.

The L.A. crowd roars when Dave tells them tonight "Beats the fuck out of Orange County!" During "C'mon, Kid," Dave introduces us to a pre-teen from England named Max, who dives into the crowd to surf. Dave urges the crowd to carry him to the bar and return with a whiskey. The crowd does their best to follow orders, but before they can get little Max all the way back to the bar, Dave remembers, "Oh, wait, he's too young to drink. Bring him back!"

Next up is Alkaline Trio's Danny Andriano who claims "This tour changed my life." He plays a few songs including "Hurricane Season," "Me and Denver," "Hollow Sounds" and "From This Oil Can," which he dedicates to his "Wife and daughter sleeping back home."

Finally, the tour's mastermind stops playing host and takes the spotlight as Chuck Ragan is joined by his good friends Joe and Jon for "Nothing Left to Prove" and "You Get What You Give." If you have yet to experience Chuck Ragan live, know this: he has the voice of an angel... a manly, brawlin', cigarette smokin', whiskey chuggin' bad-ass angel.

Chuck's vocals are so uniquely raspy and passionate he needs not a microphone to be heard as the power of the music comes out powerfully enough from man alone. But this manly man would be nothing without the woman by his side, his lovely wife Jill, whom he thanks for everything and dedicates "Rotterdam" to. He also plays "Right for Rain" and "Bedlam Lullaby" before giving the crowd what they want with great renditions of their two favorite Chuck songs, "The Boat" and "California Burritos," where he's joined by the rest of the musicians on stage.

Rise Against's Tim McIlrath proudly bellows out Chuck's chorus, "I can't stand standing for nothing when standing up's all I know," and then stays on stage to play the show's last solo set. He gives the crowd a taste of a few new songs like "What Are We Gonna Do?" and one I believe is called "Dirt and Roses," and also keeps them satisfied with the familiar Rise Against favorites "Prayer of the Refugee," "Audience of One," "Hero of War" and "Everchanging."

And Tim's set isn't even close to the last bit of music of the night as all of the evening's performers return to stage, each grabbing an instrument of choice, going strong for another seven or eight songs together. And the audience remains just as enthused as the artists for the last of the songs as they were for the first, everybody singing along, clapping and dancing right until the end.

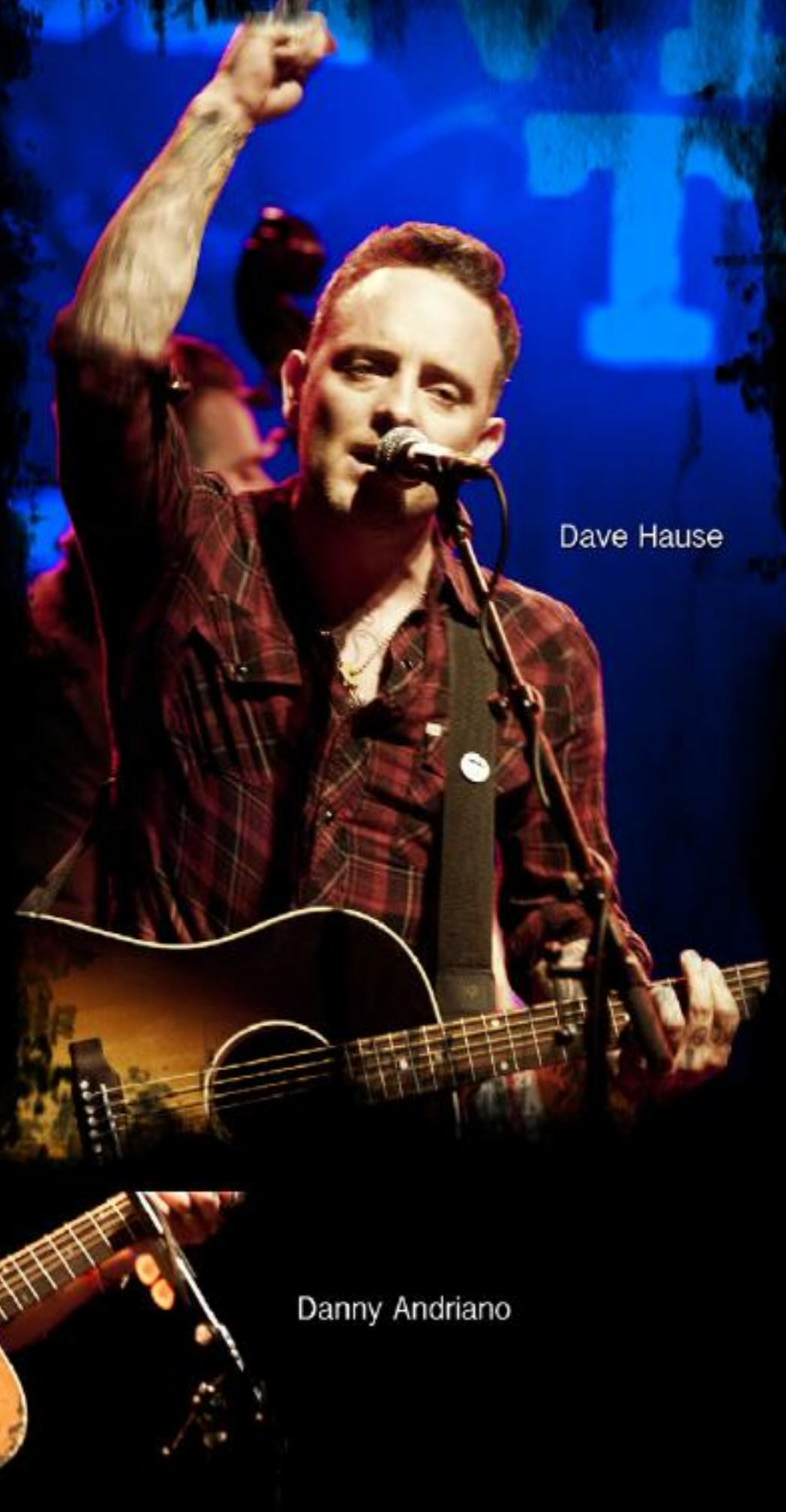
So if you're up for something a little bit different than your average concert—one with great musicians all collaborating together making beautiful music together—better make sure you catch Mr. Chuck Ragan and his crew next time around on the 2014 Revival Tour. Seriously, punk rockers getting all folky on you all night—what more could you ask for?

Venue: The El Rey Theatre
Website: therevivaltour.com

Date: April 23, 2013
City: Los Angeles, CA



Chuck Ragan



Dave Hause



Danny Andriano



IT IS

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COMING UP

Models To Keep An Eye On

Danielle Merrell

Photography by Andrew Gates
Make-up & hair by Petra Levitt



Danielle Merrell is a fitness model, nationally qualified bikini competitor and personal trainer. She moved to Los Angeles, CA from Reno, NV when she turned eighteen. Danielle first attended Santa Monica College where she earned an AA in Business Management, but had always dreamed of becoming a model. At first she feared being in front of the camera, but after booking a job for an international fitness commercial her fears had subsided. She found that being in front of the camera wasn't so bad after-all and that she actually enjoyed it. She went on to become the face of numerous fitness clothing lines and brands. Danielle plans to continue competing in fitness competitions and spreading the fitness gospel.



COMING UP

Models To Keep An Eye On Cont'd





THE STATS

Birthday:
January 8

Zodiac Sign:
Capricorn

Measurements:
34C-24-25

Height:
5'7"

Weight:
122 lb

Ethnicity:
Swedish, French and German.

Hometown:
Reno, NV

Turn Ons:
Confidence, strong work ethic, family values and a man that holds the door open for me everytime.

Turn Offs:
Self-entitlement for sure. I can't stand when a person acts as though they are better than others. If we go to a restaurant and you are rude to the server, you will never see me again.

Ideal first date:
A Laker game! I love grubbing on a huge pretzel, cheering for my team and watching Kobe Bryant do his thing.

Guilty Pleasure:
It would have to be peanut butter, with Yogurtland coming in a close second.

Pet Peeves:
I'm not sure why, but I get goosebumps (and not the good kind) when I hear people eating obnoxiously, it's that fingernails on a chalkboard kind of feeling.

Celebrity Pass:
I still have yet to see any man that can compare to Brad Pitt.

See more of Danielle at
twitter.com/Danileefit

COMING UP

Models To Keep An Eye On Cont'd



COMING UP
Models To Keep An Eye On Cont'd

Samantha Autum

Photography by Andrew Gates
Make-up and hair by Bioanca Robinson



Samantha Autum was raised in Southern California. She got her start in the modeling business when she was just five years young when her mom took her to Sears Portrait Studios to get some pictures taken. The people at Sears offered to buy the proofs since she was so damn cute. Samantha has always loved being in front of the camera and plans to make the most out of her career. She recently signed with Blaze modeling agency and plans on traveling around the world. Although, she loves modeling a lot, she would ultimately like to become an occupational therapist and help with kids since it would be a rewarding career.

COMING UP

Models To Keep An Eye On Cont'd





THE STATS

Birthday:
October 30

Zodiac Sign:
Scorpio

Measurements:
28B-22-32

Height:
5'8"

Weight:
108 lb

Ethnicity:
Hungarian, Dutch and Indian.

Hometown:
Hemet, CA

Turn Ons:
Confidence and a little mystery plus kisses on my neck.

Turn Offs:
Cockiness.

Ideal first date:
Something fun like go cart racing and mini golf or a nice walk on the beach.

Guilty Pleasure:
Shopping. I can't help it, I shop everyday. It doesn't matter if I'm broke I'll hit up dollar tree. I can't go into a store without spending some money.

Pet Peeves:
Lying and rude people.

Celebrity Pass:
I don't really have one.

See more of Samantha at
twitter.com/Samantha_Autum

GAME ON

The Latest Games Reviewed

Salt and Vigor

Written by Josh Schilling

I couldn't wait for *Bioshock Infinite* to be released, and I realized that in feeling that way, there was a huge chance for some serious disappointment. After I was about half-way through, I was hearing from other gamers about how great this game was and I couldn't bring myself to jump on the bandwagon. It was undoubtedly good, that's for sure, but I was convinced that my recently completed *Tomb Raider* experience was better. It was all about expectations. *Tomb Raider* was a surprise for me, while I demanded that *Bioshock Infinite* fulfill each and every one of my lofty dreams of gaming perfection.

It seems like there's always a city and a man in the *Bioshock* games, and that's what you are, and that's where you go. It is the year 1912, and you begin the story by literally launching yourself up to Columbia, a city in the sky, and from there you must find Elizabeth, a girl with mysterious powers, and bring her back to New York City. It all seems simple in the idealistically pure Columbia, but this is not a deserted wreck of a city like Rapture from the original *Bioshock*. Columbia is relatively thriving under the leadership of Zachary Comstock and the sense of peace and harmony threaten to overwhelm you, but your preconceived notions fall one by one as the layers of the city are uncovered, and the dark heart is slowly revealed as your conflicts and the killings begin. "Bring us the girl and wipe away the debt," you are told repeatedly, and that, in the end, is what you must do.

The gameplay in *Bioshock Infinite* is solid all the way around. The AI is mostly "I", and some of the fights are truly challenging. Innovative aspects such as the sky rails that allow you to skirt along, roller-coaster style, throughout a conflict, or the tears that Elizabeth can open that reveal strategic additions to large battles, add an innovative touch to the first-person genre. You can also choose from a litany of firearms, and the familiar, plasmid-like Vigors that magically enhance you can be used in many different ways. As nice as these things are, and as wonderful and jaw-dropping as the setting can be at times, it all pales in comparison to the truly ground-breaking story.

As I stated before, I was only half-way through *Bioshock Infinite* when I was under the impression that *Tomb Raider* was a better game. Then I finished *Bioshock Infinite*, and my opinions switched dramatically. The journey through the story is what sets this game apart from just about any game I have ever played. It is bold in its choice of subjects and it is eye-opening in the twists and turns that it leads you. Even if you guess some of the mysteries that it reveals, the way this game puts the pieces together to complete the heavy narrative leaves you wanting to learn more about what you just experienced. I ended up playing through this game three times, and each time I was still trying to squeeze all of the information that I could from every corner of every room. It is rare for a game to have such an impact on a player, and it is even rarer to have a game surpass such lofty expectations.

Game Title: Bioshock Infinite
Producer: 2K Games
Platform: Xbox 360, PS3, PC
Website: bioshockinfinite.com

★★★★★

Ratings: Mature

Genre: First-Person Shooter

Release Date: March 26, 2013



GAME ON
The Game Reviews COND'T'D



FROM THE MAKERS OF MORTAL KOMBAT
INJUSTICE
GODS AMONG US

Simply Marvelous

Written by Jesse Seilhan

Comic books have become the blueprint for modern media, with tired studios taking scripts straight from classic trades and turning them into modern dramas. The Avengers broke tons of cinematic records, shows like *Smallville* and movies like *The Dark Knight Trilogy* attracted millions of eyeballs, but only a few videogames have done the medium any justice. *Injustice: Gods Among Us* has solved that problem, delivering one of the most complete, fluid, and fun fighting games of this generation. Leave it to NetherRealm Studios, the geniuses behind last year's *Mortal Kombat*, to bring together the stellar storytelling and complex combat to make a fighting game really stand out.

The cast of DC Comics characters is huge, spanning both iconic and newer heroes and foes and the story the developers have constructed is just as epic. Spanning 12 chapters and almost as many playable heroes, we are introduced to a world in which Superman has been tricked into killing Lois Lane, going insane after realizing what he has done. The Joker manages to set off a nuclear bomb in the meantime and Metropolis is toast. While Batman is attempting to stop the nuke from going off, a tear in space and time occurs and the heroes from "our" world get transported to another world, finding that not everything is at it seems. Superman has gone rogue and is using his Justice League friends to basically enslave the world and it's up to our heroes to stop their evil alter egos. It's over-the-top and crazy, but it leads to awesome moments like Green Lantern squaring off versus himself, but a version of himself that has donned the Yellow Ring.

Locales range from Earth to vast reaches of the universe, all with their own personality and interactive objects that can be turned into deadly weapons. Pianos and motorcycles are flung across the stage, while some objects release fire, lasers, or poison gas onto your foes. Each character has their own set of signature moves, special powers, and devastating "Super Moves," gigantic attacks akin to *Mortal Kombat*'s "Fatalities." The major difference being that in *Injustice*, you don't kill your opponent, making the super moves more similar to the *Street Fighter* series. You can use these after building up a meter filled with each blow you land and receive. Throws are awesomely animated, as are "clashes," moments where both combatants fly straight into one another, applying some of that super meter toward a massive attack. This risk/reward system adds another wrinkle into a deceptively deep fighting system.

As for modes, there are a ton. Online features your standard versus contest, along with a practice mode for you and a buddy to try new moves, a King of the Hill mode, and a more grueling Survivor option, where players maintain the same health bar across multiple competitors. Offline, you have the same practice and versus modes, along with the awesome campaign, but it's two other areas that give this game legs. First, S.T.A.R. Labs is this game's version of the Challenge Tower from *MK*: a 300-level objective-based mission mode where players are asked to do a whole host of crazy things with each character. Battles mode is also nuts, where straight-up arcade ladder matches get modifiers such as mirror matches, villains only, and random fights. The entire package is filled with content, and with four playable DLC characters on the way, your \$60 is extremely well spent with this fantastic brawler. Grab a buddy, a second controller, and solve this riddle once and for all: who would win between Batman and Superman?

Game Title: Injustice: Gods Among Us

Producer: Warner Brothers

Platform: Xbox 360, PS3, Wii U

Website: injustice.com

★★★★★

Ratings: Teen

Genre: Fighting

Release Date: April 16, 2013



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