

Tigers Jaw brings new record 'Spin' to Grey Eagle

REVIEW

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The crowd surges forward, causing those who were standing directly in front of the stage to now spill onto it. Only a few chords into their set at The Grey Eagle, Tigers Jaw ignites the audience and maintains the energy throughout the show.

Just moments before, the audience swayed to the crooning of Yowler and bopped to the rock of Looming. Though the room was only half full at best for the two opening bands, the venue was packed for the headliner.

The last time Tigers Jaw graced an Asheville stage was at UNC Asheville's own Alumni Hall in 2015. Though that night featured only band members Ben Walsh and Brianna Collins playing an acoustic set, The Grey Eagle show last Tuesday featured a full touring band, offering a higher energy show than the previous show three years ago.

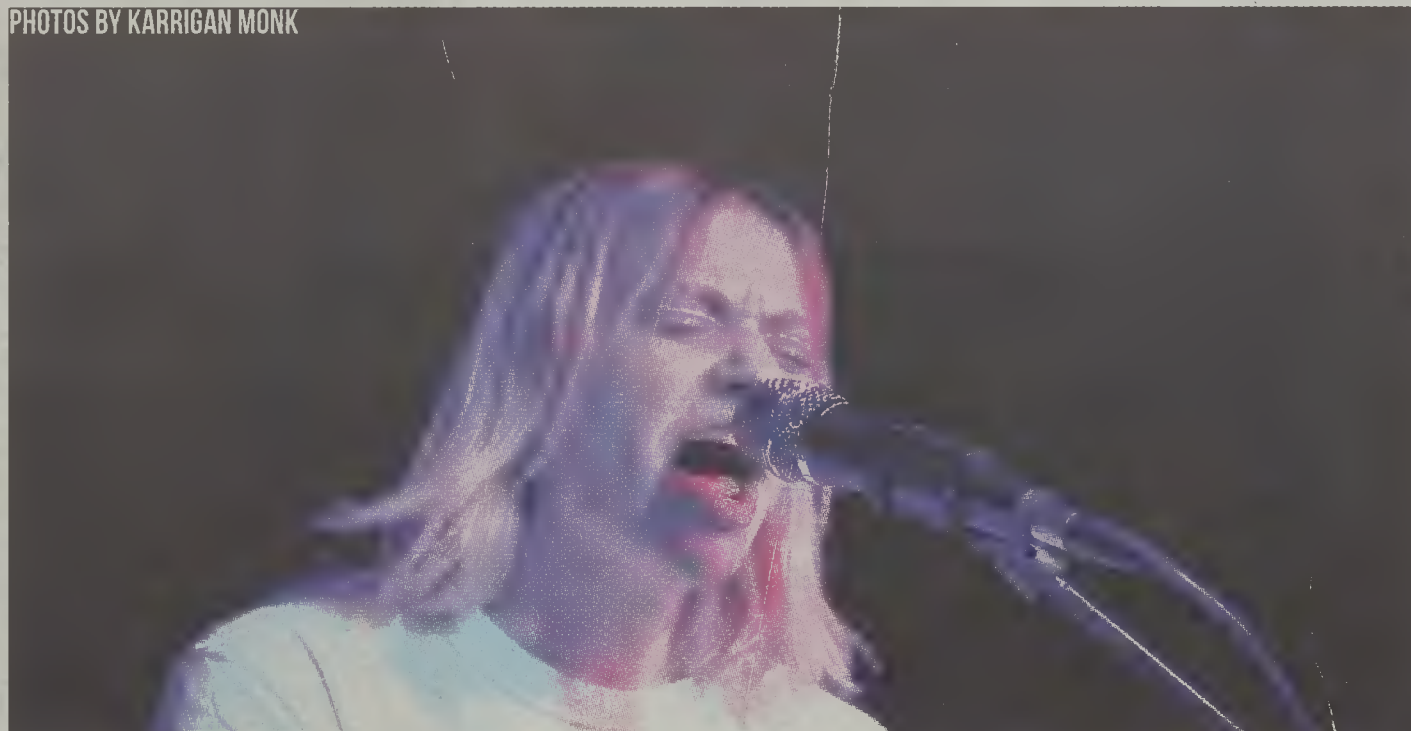
On tour in support of their latest album *Spin*, Tigers Jaw played a mix of old and new songs. Though *Spin* was released in May 2017, by the time the band got to Asheville their loyal audience had memorized every word, with the singing of the crowd often drowning out that of the actual band. For one song, the band took a step back from their mics, opting to play for the singing crowd and enjoy the moment.

Tigers Jaw opened their set with a new song, "Favorite." Immediately, their audience pressed further into the stage and shouted the words along with Walsh. Known for their emotionally raw lyrics, Tigers Jaw does not disappoint with their latest effort and "Favorite" is no different. With lines like, "Call me up to cut me open again" and "What's your favorite way to dull the pain? I haven't found a way to replace you," the duo that makes up Tigers Jaw is characterized by their vulnerability. Though often masked by hard



Ben Walsh and Brianna Collins are the two remaining band members behind the band's consistent sound.

PHOTOS BY KARRIGAN MONK



guitars and loud drums, their sensitivity remains a consistent chord throughout their discography, if one takes only a moment to look.

Though formed in 2005, the band has gone through many changes. Originally formed as a full band, several members left the project throughout its iteration. *Spin* marks the first time the remaining members have created an album written

and recorded solely as a two-piece band.

While the latest effort is by no means a departure from their original sound, the album introduces a clear view into what the band has become. With *Spin*, listeners become intimately close with Walsh and Collins, getting to know the band in a way they could not have before with the influence of other

artists on Tigers Jaw's music.

This time around, the two dedicated an entire month to recording. The effort paid off as, out of the five albums Tigers Jaw has produced, *Spin* is easily the tightest and most cohesive.

Though each member contributed different aspects of the album, it comes together seamlessly. Both in

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