

# Hitchcock plays set despite lost voice

## James Burrus Concert

As 500 people waited outside Raleigh's Rialto Theater Sunday at 10 p.m. to see Robyn Hitchcock and the Egyptians, Jo Jo Ex-Mariner, the support band, was just going through its sound check. R.E.M. guitarist Peter Buck was hanging out in the lobby sipping a Budweiser and Hitchcock was at Rex Hospital having his throat examined.

The concert that was advertised to start at 9:30 p.m. was already a half-hour behind schedule. The doors did not open until 10:15 p.m., when the theater received word from the hospital that Hitchcock was going to be able to perform, according to Ashley Chandler of Madhatter Productions.

At 10:45 p.m., however, Hitchcock came onstage and announced he would not be able to do his usual set.

Hitchcock told the audience he would try to come back in the fall, but people would not be able to get refunds. People who waited hours to get good seats to the general admission show expressed their displeasure

with boos and hisses. Hitchcock kept apologizing and saying there was nothing he could do. He kept his usual off-beat humor throughout, though, as he tried to deal with the impatient fans. "I could do mime," he said.

Hitchcock opted not to do mime, but he did agree to play a few acoustic numbers. "Just imagine I'm singing," he said. "I wasn't a very good singer, anyway."

With that Hitchcock strapped on an acoustic guitar and sang five songs — "Raymond Chandler Evening," "Bass," "Trash," "Another Bubble" and "Chinese Bones." While his singing started out lame and faded from there, his stories were still bizarre and humorous. Morris Windsor was the only Egyptian to play with Hitchcock. The other Egyptians and Buck were relegated to just hanging

out. After his set, the crowd gave Hitchcock a standing ovation, not necessarily for the quality of his performance but for his effort.

Hitchcock left the stage and within minutes the members of Jo Jo Ex-Mariner were onstage trying to keep people from leaving. "We rehearsed and were loud and different," a band member said. By the end of the band's set, however, only 30 or so people remained in the theater. Jo Jo Ex-Mariner suffered the most from this unfortunate situation. The band missed a great chance to increase its exposure by playing before a crowd of hundreds. The band kept its humor, though, and proclaimed Robyn Hitchcock had opened for them.

As Jo Jo played in the theater, Hitchcock and Buck greeted fans and signed autographs in the lobby. Signing everything from tour shirts and ticket stubs to a pack of Camel cigarettes and driver's licenses, Hitchcock displayed his witty, weird humor in the lobby as well as he did onstage. While sucking on throat lozenges, he

drew funny pictures and wrote amusing phrases, like "endorsed for posterity," alongside his autograph. For each person he tried to create something unique.

Contrary to what was announced Sunday night, refunds will be given.

"People couldn't get refunds last night because of all the confusion," Chandler said. "We're setting up a confirmed date for Hitchcock's return. As soon as we have that, we are going to let everyone know and they can have the option of either using their ticket stubs, which will be honored at the door, or getting a refund at a designated time and place."

"Most times when shows are not going to go off, the artist does not come out and announce that he can't play. Hitchcock has a strong loyalty to his audience and the situation is going to be made right."

Hitchcock's injury is, of course, regrettable, but he did go to great lengths to appease the audience. His return to the Rialto in the fall should be worth holding on to your ticket stub.

# Protests of the '70s centered on issues still relevant today

By MYRNA MILLER  
Staff Writer

## A Look Back

Problems with the Iran-contra affair, affirmative action, campus housing and parking seem like deja vu when taking a look back at UNC 15 years ago.

During the spring of 1973, America was still deeply involved in Vietnam, and protests continued on Franklin Street until troops pulled out.

Immediately after the war was resolved, University students were faced with the feminist movement.

"1973 is a good year to be a woman," according to a past Daily Tar Heel article. "It's exciting, and now you know there is support for the feminist movement."

Several feminist groups formed at UNC in 1973. Two of these were the National Organization for Women and University Women for Affirmative Action.

A Supreme Court decision in January, Roe vs. Wade, helped support the women's cause. The court ruled 7-2 in favor of prohibiting the states from interfering with a doctor's medical decision to perform an abortion during a woman's first three months of pregnancy.

University officials took another step to give women more equal treatment at UNC, proposing that women be allowed to apply for Morehead scholarships. Still, only men were considered for the award in 1973.

While the feminist movement was expanding on campus, a scandal grew to major proportion in the nation's capital. By August 1973, students were very concerned with Watergate. Numerous conflicting articles appeared in the DTH throughout the fall, many

in favor of Nixon, others blatantly downgrading him.

In September, Senator Sam Ervin, chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Activity, spoke in Carmichael Auditorium about how he believed Nixon had obstructed justice.

Students became more involved in the issue, and on Oct. 24, they held rallies in the Pit calling for Nixon's impeachment. Wilbur Hobby, state AFL-CIO president, and Daniel Pollit, a UNC law professor, spoke at these rallies.

Also, on Oct. 29 and Nov. 27, "impeachment buses" took students to Washington to help with the movement. In a DTH survey, 1,476 out of 1,704 students, faculty and staff polled said Nixon should resign or be removed from office.

The debate over Watergate continued throughout 1973, but by then the UNC campus had its own problems.

The housing shortage was terrible, with 549 tripled rooms. Living quarters had to be created out of study rooms and lounges in Ehringhaus and Winston dorms.

Campus parking was another problem. Students in 1973 combated the problem by purchasing bus passes for \$17.50 a semester or 10 cents a ride. Obviously, the problem has not yet been solved.

With the tail end of Vietnam, and the multiple shocks of Watergate, the feminist movement and no place to park, 1973 was a hectic year for UNC students.

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# 'Dancing for Life' to benefit Triangle-area AIDS victims

By CARA BONNETT  
Staff Writer

Triangle area dancers will unite to battle AIDS in a benefit performance entitled "North Carolina: Dancing for Life" on March 29.

The performance, which is sponsored by Artists for AIDS Support (AFAS), is the second benefit the group has presented. Proceeds from its first benefit concert on March 3 featuring Holly Near totaled approximately \$17,000.

According to Marjorie Scheer, AFAS coordinator and Durham choreographer, "North Carolina: Dancing for Life," like the Holly Near concert, has a three-fold purpose: to raise funds toward the purchase of a residence for people with AIDS; to draw attention to the need for AIDS education, support and prevention in the Triangle; and to offer the Triangle community an opportunity to come together and celebrate life through dance and music.

"We'd like to provide a chance for the dance community to come together and not feel isolated," said Linda Belans, publicist for the event. "There's a real sense of frustration... people saying, 'What can I do about AIDS?'"

"AIDS doesn't belong to anybody;

at some point we're all going to be touched by it. We need to deal with it before it overwhelms us," she said.

The Dancing for Life benefit will be highlighted by two premieres: Clay Taliaferro, guest artist-in-residence with Duke University, will premiere and perform in "Two" with Barbara Dickinson, current artist-in-residence in the Duke Dance program, and Carol Richard of the Chapel Hill-based Carolina Dancers will premiere "A Certain Length of Time" performed by the company.

"I made the piece an expression of my feelings about the loss of friends — my friends and friends of friends," said Richard.

"It's something very important to me. It's important to everyone, but to dancers in particular. There's not a dancer I know who hasn't lost someone through AIDS; we all know people who are ill and who have died. It's a natural thing, just because there are so many homosexual men who are dancers. This (performance) is something we can do about it," she said.

Other performers in the benefit will include: Chuck Davis and the African American Dance Ensemble, English Country Dancers (whose founder Carl Wittman died of AIDS two years ago) and New Performing Dance Company.

"North Carolina: Dancing for Life" will be performed at Page Auditorium on the Duke University West Campus at 8 p.m. tonight. Tickets are \$8 for the general public and \$6 for students.

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