

Triangle has something for every music lover

From Chapel Hill to Raleigh, all music tastes are covered

From staff reports

Because the music scene of Chapel Hill and the rest of the Triangle offers such a variety of styles, almost every music lover can find a place to listen to his or her favorite music.

Music in Chapel Hill begins with Cat's Cradle. In February a relocated, roomier Cradle reopened on Franklin Street, about a block from its original location. Five to six nights a week, the all-ages club hosts everything from reggae to blues to acoustic to rock 'n' roll. Local acts like Majosha, the Veldt and Eight or Nine Feet can be found performing here as well as national college radio or independent artists.

Some acts that have graced the Cat's Cradle stage in the past year include the Dead Milkmen and Indigo Girls. The Cradle does an excellent job providing local music fans with various types of music, both house-brand bands and the imported kind. Expect to see all kinds of people at any given show — from screaming middle-aged women to trendy high-schoolers.

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customers create their own image for Halloween with costumes, make up and mop heads and wigs, Carver said.

"We also have a United Postal Service pick-up that started about two years ago which allows students to ship stuff home," Carver said. "It gets the busiest in the fall and it usually lasts for months and months after."

According to Carver, service is the reason for the store's success.

"When people come in, I don't see them as a customer," he said. "I see them as an old buddy."

In Chapel Hill, it looks as if Sutton's, Jeff's and Huggins will have old buddies coming back for many years to come.

Other nightspots in Chapel Hill include La Terraza, located above Magdalena's Restaurant, and the Cave. Both places cater to local music, oftentimes blues, jazz or acoustic. The Cave, as well as the Hardback Cafe, has the added advantage of not forcing spectators to pay a cover charge. Tips for the band, however, are encouraged when a collection plate/hat is passed around during shows. Skylight Exchange and the Columbia Street Bakery also have regular evening folk, anti-folk or progressive folk shows.

The ArtsCenter in Carrboro holds an assortment of music shows. This past year the Feelies, as well as reggae giants the Mighty Diamonds, played at the Center, plus the musical "Beatlemania." The ArtsCenter also offers national artists like k.d. lang, Nanci Griffith and Arlo Guthrie. Students enjoy special discounts on ticket prices.

Other local clubs include the Brewery and the Rialto in Raleigh and Under the Street in Durham.

The Rialto is a spacious theater that offers concerts from big names like Robyn Hitchcock and the Egyptians, Edie Brickell and New Bohemians and Thomas Dolby. In addition, the theater provides an alternative to run-of-the-mill theaters by showing low-budget and cult film classics, and is the only theater in the area still showing "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," often accompanied by the live stage act.

The Brewery and Under the Street have had their share of national acts as well, like Mojo Nixon and Skid Roper, and Junior Walker and the All-Stars.

Country music fans have Raleigh's

Longbranch Saloon, a private club, if they get desperate for steel guitars. Beach music fans can hit The Embers' Lounge, also in Raleigh, and shag to live beach music all night long.

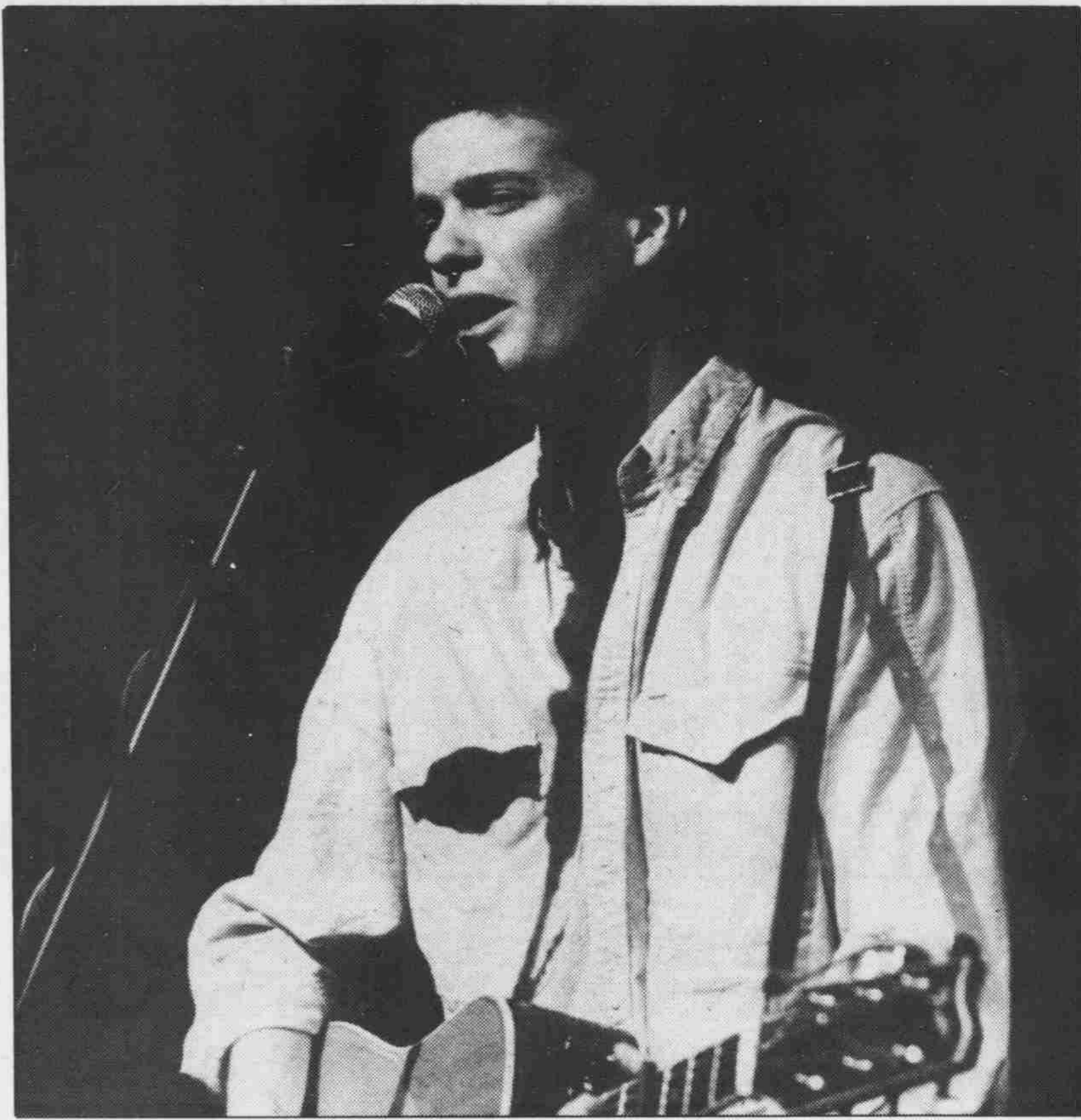
Classical music fans are content with the variety of music offered through UNC's own Department of Music, which holds concerts in Person Hall on the UNC campus.

Artists who can draw more people than the Rialto can perform in UNC's Memorial Hall or Duke's Cameron Indoor Stadium. Memorial Hall has hosted Living Colour and Bruce Hornsby and the Range, in addition to jazz favorites Bobby McFerrin and George Winston, while Elvis Costello and R.E.M. have played Cameron.

The musical giants play the Smith Center or N.C. State's Carter-Finley Stadium. The Smith Center has hosted such artists as R.E.M., INXS and Pink Floyd, while the larger Who and Rolling Stones tours will hit the outdoor venue offered by Carter-Finley.

Although the drinking age is 21, most of the music clubs in the area do allow people between 18 and 21 in so long as they wear wristbands or sign a pledge agreeing not to purchase alcohol. Cat's Cradle is especially strict about checking ID's — minors get nearly permanent blotches of ink pressed onto their hands to make themselves readily identifiable.

While progressive music seems to bear the brunt of the Triangle music scene, it certainly does not comprise the total sum. Jazz, country, blues, classic rock, and yes, even classical thrive in this area. If you know where to look.



UNC student Jamie Block performs at Columbia Street Bakery

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