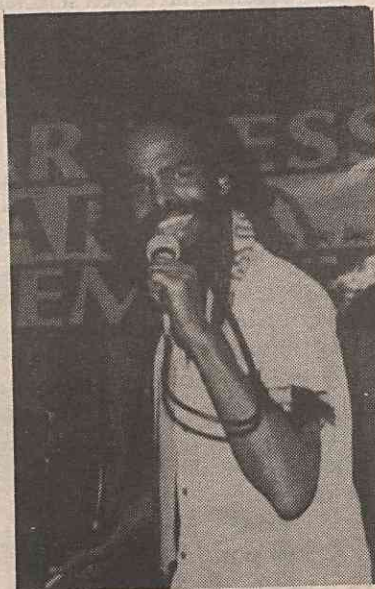


The A.A.E. Experience

By Jamie Marks

On Wednesday, November 6th, Louisburg College was introduced to Awareness Art Ensemble. A.A.E. is a very popular reggae band on the East coast. They're originally from Richmond, Virginia. They play many colleges, functions, and clubs while they're on tour. This was the first reggae experience for Louisburg and some students. The turnout was not as large as many expected, due to limited advertising. The chosen few that attended enjoyed the show immensely. The band played mostly originals and a couple of covers, including "Buffalo Soldier," a classic Bob Marley tune. I would like to thank the college, on behalf of the student body, for having A.A.E. play.



The Awareness Art Ensemble
Photo by Jamie Marks

GETTING THAT

RECORDS

By Ford Perry
Staff writer

This past month has been a busy one for music lovers. There have been releases by Metallica, Keith Richards, Fishbone, The Feelies, and David Sanborn. There have also been some disappointments by otherwise great acts like U2 and R.E.M. Then there are the others, Bon Jovi, Randy Newman, and the Escape Club. I'll give my personal opinion of some new releases and some concerts I attended. I'll try to be fair and I welcome reader comments, good and bad.

One of the great surprises of 1988 has been the first Keith Richards solo album, *Talk is Cheap*. This album has a huge Rolling Stones feel to it, as expected. It is a rough-edged, even sloppy album that is underproduced and very loose. That is why it is such a great album. It is fun to listen to and it shows why Keith Richards is one of the most enduring and talented musicians in rock history.

The new Metallica, . . . *And Justice For All*, is a heavy metal landmark. If I could have had this album when I was in eighth grade (my heavy metal prime), I would have been the happiest kid on earth. The shortest song on the double album is five minutes and twelve seconds, and its intensity is no less than any other epic on the album. Metallica is the daddy's of modern heavy metal, so if you are going to listen to metal, this is the band for you. For the people who don't listen to heavy metal and want to, . . . *And Justice For All* is the album to experiment with, and for the people who already like heavy metal, happy head banging!

Whoever said females couldn't play in good bands has been proven wrong by The Screaming Trees and Sonic Youth. Both groups feature great female bass players. The two bands are very different though. I saw the Screaming Trees with Firehose in Chapel Hill this month. The Trees were great. They have a sixties garage band-type sound that thrashes loud and hard. The Sonic Youth are more of a murky complicated band. Their new release, *Daydream Nation*, certainly lives up to the group's name. I love the album. It's very intense and often overindulges. It can beat itself into the ground at some points, but overall the album is a definite achievement that should only be ignored by top 40 lovers.

Close Up, the new release by jazz artist David Sanborn is a prime example of why compact discs were made; this guide simply is the best *sounding* CD I've heard in a long time. Sanborn is a great saxophonist who mixes pop and jazz sound perfectly on *Close Up*. This album is great to "cuddle up" to. It is relaxing, easy to listen to, and very entertaining. In all everything you could hope for in a jazz album. Even though I have a rock and roll heart I still need a break once in a while and *Close Up* is the perfect remedy.

They Might Be Giants is one of the most interesting bands around. They consist of a guitar player and an accordion player. They feature fun, catchy, sing-along tunes that are original and funny. *Lincoln* is their new album. It features such treasures as, "They'll need a crans," and "Purple Toupee." *Lincoln* is a must for the intelligent listener who doesn't mind being different and having fun.

The Feelies new release *Only Life* is a mellow, hypnotic album. It features easy-to-swallow rock music, with a Velvet Underground feel. It gets fast paced on some songs and isn't mellow in the strictest sense on some songs. Like most albums, this one you have to hear for yourself. I like it but it probably won't appeal to the masses. Great, huh?

There were a couple of disappointments in the last month. *Rattle and Hum* is the first. Don't get me wrong; U2 is one of my favorite groups but *Rattle and "Ho-Hum"* is not good U2. It's a safe album; it features "Helter Skelter," the most American Beatles song, "The Star Spangled Banner," and a couple of Bo Diddley influenced songs. It has a song with Bob Dylan and a song with B.B. King - how safe can you get? I loved U2 when they were different and original and knew where their place was. Come on guys, you can do better than this; you've already proven that.

The second disappointment is R.E.M.'s *Green*. I feel bad talking about this band because I almost worshipped them for two years. *Green* is repetitive, commercial, and not worth the vinyl it was printed on. R.E.M. was great when they were murky and dark. Wasn't it a joy not to be able to understand Michael Stipe's voice? Now it's clear as a button and terrible. They sound more like Bryan

Adams than R.E.M. If you are going to buy a R.E.M. album, buy *Chronic Town* or *Murmur* and you'll have one of the classic albums of the past 25 years. Leave *Green* on the shelf where it belongs.

Bon Jovi's new release is *New Jersey*. I have no comment on this commercial trash except to ask why it exists in the first place. They should be touring the malls with Tiffany.

The last album I will comment on is the best. Fishbone's *Truth and Soul* is the best album of 1988 by a landslide. I cannot say enough about this album; it is incredible. The album is a mixture of soul, funk, new wave, punk, and acoustic music that has no weak points. It opens with the rocker, "Freddie's Dead," that tells of a drug user that dies from his addiction and no one cares. If you are tired of hearing about drugs, fine; it's got a great beat and will get the dead moving in their grave. "Deep Inside" and "Subliminal Facism" are hard driving punkrockers that make even the hardest head bangers wonder what they've been missing. These guys are energetic, emotional, eclectic, intellectual, and just plain fun. *Truth and Soul* even has an acoustic tune, "Change" that is as moving or more than any top forty ballad, and it has meaning! Fishbone is the best band of 1988. They combine raw talent with energy and passion and cannot be compared to any group in rock history. Listen to this album closely a couple of times and the rest will be history. Go see them live and you will be hooked forever, you'll have the "Fishbone Feeling." Fishbone is red hot and is not cooling off. Ever.

My ranking of the concerts I attended this past month are as follows:

1. Fishbone-Wilmington, NC
2. Fishbone-Raleigh
3. Firehose/Screaming Trees-Chapel Hill
4. Fishbone-Greenville
5. Robert Plant-Chapel Hill
6. Prince-Greensboro
7. They Might Be Giants-Raleigh
8. Bob Dylan-Chapel Hill
9. Robert Cray/Evan Johns and the H-Bombs-Raleigh
10. The Moody Blues-Raleigh

MOVIE REVIEWS

by Susan Hendricks
Staff writer

THE ACCUSED* Starring Kelly McGillis and Jodie Foster
THE ACCUSED is a movie based on the true story of one woman's plight with gang rape. Jodie Foster acted very well as the uneducated rape victim. She had a great scene in the court trail.

Kelly McGillis played a very smart and concerned lawyer who also became a good friend to Foster's character in the end.

The movie itself was good even though they did actually show the rape scene.

PUNCHLINE* Starring Tom Hanks and Sally Field

A very funny movie. It shows Tom Hanks in a different view. He helps a woman become a stand-up comedian. Hanks shows more personal feelings than humor. Sally Field is pretty good as a comedienne and housewife. Hanks and Field do well together.

FRESH HORSES* Molly Ringwald and Andrew McCarthy

A bizarre love story but touching. Andrew McCarthy plays an engaged college student. Molly Ringwald is good as a poor country girl. This is a movie that you have to watch very closely. It is confusing at times. Whenever McCarthy and Ringwald get together it's always a success.

U2 RATTLE AND HUM*

U2 is excellent. A very colorful and artistic movie. If you like Christian or social music, you will like this movie. There are a lot of clips from their concerts. The band proves themselves well as actors. It is worth seeing.

