

Singer Cat Stevens has musical re-emergence

LYNDA-MARIE TAURASI
Staff Writer

He may now refer to himself as Yusuf Islam, a spiritual Muslim, but he will forever be known as Cat Stevens.

With the release of his album *The Very Best of Cat Stevens*, a feature on the *Almost Famous* soundtrack and a VH1 *Behind the Music* documentary, it seems Cat Stevens' music is making a comeback whether he likes it or not.

The Very Best of Cat Stevens covers hits all the way back to his early rise as a teen idol in

'67. Cloaked in velvet suits, the young Stevens delivered early Beatles-esque hits such as "Matthew and Son," which is featured on the new album.

Wanting to be taken more seriously, he re-entered the scene in 1970 as a long-haired, bearded folk-rock singer. He established himself as a conscientious, prolific songwriter until his break from the mainstream in 1978.

Not only will fans hear the time-honored, soul-searching classics ("Wild World," "Peace Train," "Moonshadow," "The

Wind") but also will they hear a previously unreleased track: "I've Got a Thing About Seeing My Grandson Grow Old."

The unreleased track also appears on a forthcoming box-set.

Although Stevens' disillusionment with the music industry caused him to drop-out of the scene, his fans will be more than thrilled to have his music re-emerge and speak to a new generation.

The man who avoided fame for so long is back.

Seniors display years of work at Sunday's art show

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Staff Writer

If, in the past several weeks, you happened to see a slightly frazzled student emerge from one of the studios or darkrooms of Gaddy-Hamrick, you can now be almost certain that she is a senior art student preparing for her senior art show. She may have looked a little tired;

she may have tried to sleep in the building that has of late become her second home.

But her many hours behind closed doors came to fruition on Sunday as the Senior Art Exhibition opened from 2-4 p.m.

The rooms and hallways of Gaddy-Hamrick, in addition to

ing, were filled with the works of five Meredith seniors. The photography of Melissa Barnes and Laura Conley was displayed as well as mixed media, sculpture and paintings of Amy Louise Mills Brown. Shelley Brown and Brigitte Ting presented their work in graphic design.

Lisa Pearce, professor of art, headed up the studio portion of the exhibit.

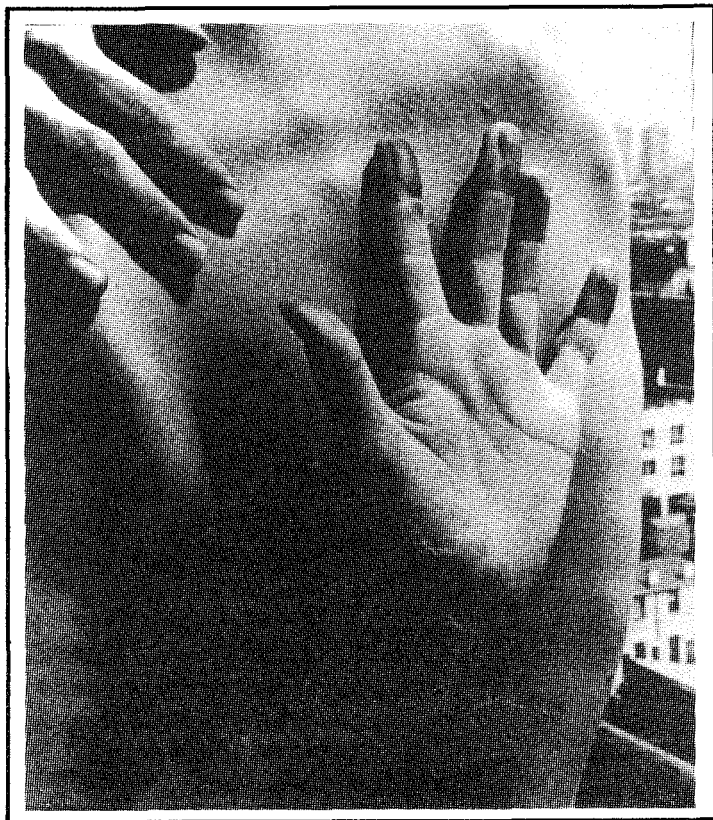
"This is the day that their career as an artist begins," said Pearce.

Galleries and museums from around the Triangle are invited to attend the exhibition every year, and it is through this exposure that many of these senior art majors make connections to boost them into successful art careers.

The display was a culmination of all the work that the five students had produced throughout their time at Meredith. The seniors pulled out their strongest pieces for the exhibition and displayed the artwork for viewing as well as buying.

"I really encourage students to come over and see and support the work," said Pearce.

And Meredith community members, as well as outside community members, can through Sunday, Nov. 19.



Laura Conley's *Back (Patrick)*, a gelatin silver print, is on display now during the Senior Art Exhibition.

Angels explodes into theaters

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"Good morning, Angels."
"Good morning, Charlie!"

The familiar opening lines of the 1970s hit television series charm audiences once again as Sony Pictures releases the film version of *Charlie's Angels*.

Cameron Diaz (*There's Something About Mary*), Lucy Liu (*Ally McBeal*) and Drew Barrymore (*Never Been Kissed*) are delightful as the newest detectives of the Charles Townsend Detective Agency.

The new Angels are more than just sexy as they add high-tech tools, high-performance vehicles and an array of new martial arts techniques to their repertoire.

Similar to the television show, they outwit and fight their way through tough obstacles to take on Charlie's newest crime-fighting assignment.

In this version of *Charlie's Angels*, Charlie gives the trio the task of tracking down kidnapped computer ace Eric Knox to keep his top-secret software out of potentially-serious hands.

With the assistance of Bosley, played by a charming Bill Murray (*Groundhog Day*), the Angels use their various crime fighting weapons, including a number of hilarious disguises, to save Knox and capture the bad guy.

I was very pleased to find that this film was quite different from the traditional action movie as it featured more than just fighting and "blow up" action sequences.

The Angels lost their guns from the television series, which made for more creative and amazingly acrobatic fight scenes. Dylan (Barrymore), Natalie (Diaz) and Alex (Liu) were instant heroes as they outsmarted every enemy that stood in the way of their solving the crime.

The Angels do most fighting independently; however, they join forces for the most thrilling fight scenes, which have really cool special effects. During high kicks, the Angels fly through the air in slow motion. And during back-alley chases, they speed through the

streets.

There was never a dull moment as Charlie's Angels provided enough comic relief to keep me interested and entertained throughout the whole movie. Each Angel was surprisingly funny and brought a refreshing sense of humor to the group.

Tom Green (of MTV's *The Tom Green Show*), the real-life husband of Barrymore, appeared as Chad, Dylan's annoying boyfriend. Green and Barrymore were a delightfully hilarious on-screen duo.

Diaz shines in a especially funny scene as her character gets the chance to appear on an episode of *Soul Train*. She stuns the crowd with her dance moves and eventually is cheered on by chants of "Go white girl!" But she proves her smarts when she's asked to identify a rare species of bird based on its call.

The 2000 version of *Charlie's Angels*, based on Aaron Spelling's (*Beverly Hills, 90210, Melrose Place*) circa late 1970s television show of the same name,

Like the show, the movie is cheesy, but the movie is a self-realized cheesy. It takes jabs at itself. (Case in point: During a scene on an airplane, a character, after seeing that the in-flight movie is *J.R. Hooker: The Movie*, says, "Just what we need--another movie based on an old T.V. show.")

But it is all these things that makes the movie so good. It's certainly not Academy-Award-winning material, but it's fun, it's fast and it's action-filled.

Matt LeBlanc of NBC's *Friends* also has a minor role--and just as in *Friends*, he plays an aspiring actor.

The soundtrack for *Charlie's Angels* is a perfect musical addition to the movie. It features numbers by Destiny's Child, The Vapors, Aerosmith and several others. The variety of music adds a lot of character to the movie, especially the fighting sequences.

Charlie's Angels the perfect film for a Saturday afternoon. Language and minor references to sexuality give the film its PG-13 rating.