

'Jungle Floor' a deep effort

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fit on Kravitz's "Circus" There are also shades of early Prince, James Brown, D'Angelo, Philadelphia International and early Motown throughout this interesting

piece.

Oh, did I mention Sly Stone? Yep, Hunt obviously likes Stone's "If You Want Me To Stay" It's all over "Priest Or Police." "Character" reminds me musically of B.B.

King's "The Thrill Is Gone." Neither of these songs is a direct copy, just homage to one of the richest musical eras ever.

It's hard to say who will be drawn to this CD. There's

enough here for everyone but maybe not enough to excite any particular buying group. I like it all and don't mind suggesting the work to anyone interested in good music - real good music.

Carolina artists on display at Hodges Taylor

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"Studio Interior with Tulips," a very large painting, painted in yellow and red with highlights of green seems to be inspired by the French painter Pierre Bonnard who favored interiors.

Alice Sebrell, originally from Charlotte, is program coordinator at Black Mountain College Museum & Arts

Center in Asheville. In her photographs, she seems to have great interest in animal imagery and surrealism. One of her simpler and more effective images is her photograph, "They Said the Animals were Clocks" where we see the profile of a camel and hanging industrial hooks.

Eric Olsen of Charlotte who graduated from the Art Insti-

tute of Chicago and East Carolina University is showing a series of pastel on paper nude figure studies. Most effective here is "Spinning Figure" in khaki, purple and crimson pastel where the artist has captured the spirit and energy of a body moving.

Hodges Taylor is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on

Saturdays from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. They are open on Mondays by appointment. Outside in the courtyard, the four Marc Maiorana sculptures are a delight to see and sit near anytime during the show's run. For additional information, call Hodges Taylor at (704) 334-3799.

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Little no more, Sammie set to reveal grown up act

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she sent a videotape of them to the television program "Showtime at the Apollo," which led to an audition for the group and a 1998 solo performance. Ultimately winning the show's finals, Sammie and his mother were contacted by Joyce Irby, an agent connected to Atlanta-based producer/songwriter Dallas Austin, who has worked with Monica and Another Bad

Creation.

Now, Sammie is all grown up and a new look.

"I just wrapped up my new album and it should be out in mid-July," he said. "I'm so glad that I still have fans that have been loyal to me all these years."

Even if they are a little surprised to see that he's not 12 years old.

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Destiny's Child win special award

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BANGKOK—R&B superstars Destiny's Child, who recently disbanded after a string of chart-topping hits, won a special achievement award for their contribution to international pop music at the MTV Asia Awards 2006 in Thailand's capital.

Former band member Kelly Rowland accepted the award on Saturday night on behalf of the Grammy-winning trio and thrilled some 4,600 fans at Bangkok's Siam Paragon with the first-ever live performance of her upcoming debut solo single, "Gotsta Go."

Rowland and her ex-bandmates, Beyonce Knowles and Michelle Williams, disbanded last year to pursue solo careers, but their MTV Asia Special Achievement in Music award was warranted for "their contribution to the music world and their immeasurable impact on pop culture," MTV Asia said in a statement on its Web site.

Canadian singer-songwriter Daniel Powter was among an array of Western

and Asian stars who took the stage in Bangkok. Powter showed off his piano-playing skills with a tender rendition of his worldwide smash ballad "Bad Day," which spent five weeks at No. 1 in the United States earlier this year.

East meets West was the theme for some performances. Thai hip-hoppers Thaitanium jammed with British pop heartthrob Simon Webbe, who won an award for Favorite Breakthrough Artist, to showcase his new single "No Worries."

American rockers Korn, who kicked off the awards ceremony with a scorching performance of their hit "Twisted Transistor," took the trophy for Favorite Video for that song.

Other top winners, determined by MTV viewers in Asia who voted through the Internet and cell phone text messages, included Green Day for Favorite Rock Act, Ricky Martin for Favorite Male and Kelly Clarkson for Favorite Female.

Asian winners, many of whom also performed at the show, were ranked by nationalities. Vicki Zhao was named Favorite Artist for China, while Twins were deemed Hong Kong's most popular act.

Other regional winners were Jal for India, Peterpan for Indonesia, Se7en for Korea, Mawi for Malaysia, Rivermaya for the Philippines, Taufik Batisah for Singapore, Wang Leehom for Taiwan and Tata Yong for Thailand.

The awards show, now in its fifth year after being launched in Singapore in 2002, was being broadcast to over 400 million households nationwide over the weekend, organizers said.

Last year's MTV Asia Awards, also held in Thailand, doubled as an international fundraising concert for relief work in Asian countries devastated by the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami disaster.

On the Net:
MTV Asia:
<http://www.mtv.com/>



FILE PHOTO

Uber girl group Destiny's Child is still winning awards despite the fact that the three singers have gone their separate ways.



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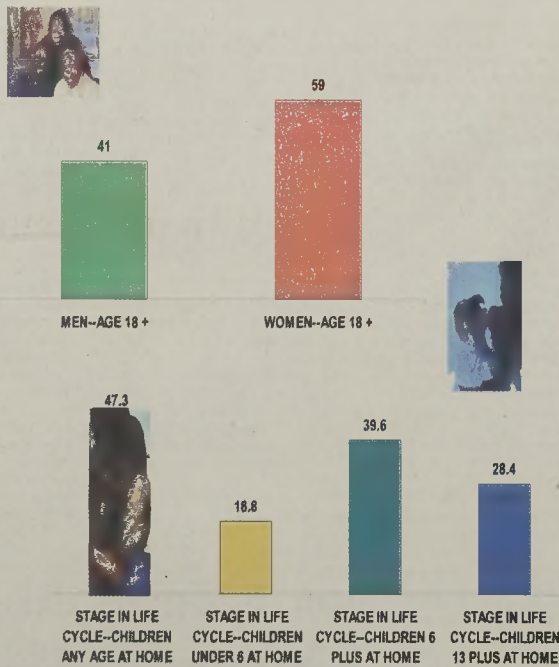
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