Local musician off to Europe to promote debut CD



Steve Angel

By Kathy Yanchus SPECIAL TO THE BEAVER

For songwriter Steve Angel, his music is a lot more personal these days.

Having just released his debut record, Hollywood, Angel's lyrics and musical influences are out there, in your face; he has bared his musical soul for all to hear and critique.

"It feels great to get my word out and have a bunch of people listening to it. It's what I have totally wanted to do all along," says Angel, as he prepares for another appearance with his cover band, M Soul at this weekend's Waterfront Festival and a promo tour of Europe next month.

'We'll be doing a few originals and a few covers. It's Sugar Ray meets Marvin Gaye and Otis Redding.

Soul and pop have heavily influenced Angel over the years and not surprisingly surfaced in Hollywood, excerpts from which were heard for the first time by fans last month at Holy Joe's in

The response was really great. There was a lot of energy in the place.

Angel chose the "intimate" venue for his debut

which was a long time in coming, but worth the

"It's funds for one, finding a producer who sees where you're trying to go, the right studio. It's all about chemistry. I could have hired all the greatest musicians, but it wouldn't have been a great record (without the other ingredients).

As a youngster and eventually a university student, Angel performed in jazz and concert bands, music competitions, coffeehouses, even the Halton Symphony Youth Orchestra. After touring Europe with a band, he returned to Toronto and began writing his own material with the intent on making his "communication with his audience more personal." That opportunity came last year when Angel began his collaboration with producer Brent Bodrug who previously worked with such Canadian musical talent as Alanis Morissette and Oscar Peterson.

If you listen to the CD carefully, you will hear musical influences from the likes of Elvis Costello, Lenny Kravitz, Tom Waits and the Beatles, all of whom inspired Angel.

Next month, Angel leaves on a promotional tour of such places as Slovania, Germany and Austria with the hopes of scheduling a perfor-

"The crowds there are amazing. The response to music is great, especially to American pop music. I've played there before. It's a whole different lifestyle; you don't start playing until 11 p.m. and finish at 4 a.m."

Tentative concert dates have also been scheduled for September in Buffalo and Los Angeles. Upcoming is another gig at Holy Joe's on June 25th and the debut CD release of Hollywood at The Reverb in Toronto, August 23rd, an event which will feature two other B Group Music acts as well as dj Joe Cahill of 97.7 Rock radio as

The eleven original tracks that comprise Hollywood are "the beginning of a new chapter" in Angel's life.

"I hope the album gets out there. It's a fun album. I wanted to get away from the 90's youth angst thing. I wanted to make the music happy again and try to get away from the serious. Music is what it is.'

Music should be in the heart, not the mind and this is his hope for Hollywood.

Catch M Soul at the Bronte Boardwalk stage at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

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Earthly Delights opens Saturday

Earthly Delights deep gardening, an interactive exhibit which explores the cultural constructs of the garden, opens Saturday Oakville Galleries Gairloch Gardens.

An opening reception will be held on June 24th at 3:30 p.m. preceeded by a discussion on Art and the Contemporary Garden between guest curator Su Ditta. writer Lorraine Johnson and artist David Rokeby at 2 p.m.

Complimentin Kim Adam's Bruegel-Bosch Bus, this exhibit explores how media artists have approached the complex social. political and psychological structures that Western culture has developed around the concept of the

Toronto new media artist David Rokeby premieres interactive piece that is a compilation of images from a surveillance camera installed in the garden in order to create a piece that reflects the construction and deconstructionof the garden over time.

Other participants include Rhonda Abrams' Lament of the Sugar Bushman, Joanne Bristol's Flower Theory: Legible/Edible Flowers, Mike MacDonald's Touched by the Tears of Butterfly, Shani Mootoo's Her **Sweetness Lingers** and Michele Waquant's The

Pond. Gairloch Gardens is located at 1306 Lakeshore Rd. East and is open between 1 5 p.m. and Tuesday

Sunday. Admission is free. For more information, call

844-4402.



that can be lifted like a piece of carpet. You may notice that raccoons, skunks or birds have dug up the lawn to feed on the grubs. Use a spade to turn a piece of grass at the edge of a brown area to check if grubs are there. Grubs are milky white with a brown

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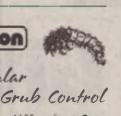


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