

Energized crowd delighted with songs and signatures

By Kym Funnell
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

The high energy and vitality that is so popular on their albums reverberated through Coronation Park on Friday night as Moist put on a fantastic show for the energized crowd.

Fans of the popular Montreal-based five-piece group came from far and wide to see them perform some of their classics, such as *Tangerine*, *Gasoline*, *Leave It Alone*. Saving the best for last, of course, *Push* wrapped up the show.

Ignoring the damp grounds from a previous rainfall, the audience showed no inhibitions as they danced, rocked and moshed their way through the night. Bravery was in abundance as people attempted body surfing, and a few succeeded.

The five parts of Moist are David Usher on vocals, Mark Makoway on guitar, Jeff Pearce on bass, Paul Wilcox on drums, and Kevin Young on keyboards.

These five guys have developed a distinctive sound that is all their own, making it obvious how they managed to rocket from near obscurity to a certified four times platinum in Canada.

"A lot of what our shows are based around is that dynamic play of intensity where you can take it down to a whisper, then you can feel the tension

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building up and then the song explodes and the crowd comes along with you on that ride," said Makoway.

Living up to those sentiments, the crowd at the Oakville Waterfront Festival held on tight for that ride as they followed the intense musical journey Moist took them on, absorbed by every second of it.

Moist took the crowd one step further as an hour after the show, they thrilled fans by coming back outside to sign autographs and talk. It looked doubtful at first, but Oakville gave Moist a great reception and they appreciated the genuine fans that waited around.

"From the very beginning, before we were even signed, when record companies weren't so interested in us, we saw that the audience was understanding what was going on, there was some sort of connection between us and them," said Usher. "And as long as that's happening, then things will be okay with us."

If Friday was any indication to how the fans are reacting across the country, then Moist will be around for years to come.

Printmaking art exhibition

A non-thematic show of recent printmaking work, *Out of Print*, showcases the explorations and experimentation of nine emerging artists at The Gallery from July 10th to 29th.

The opening reception will take place on July 15th from 3 to 6 p.m.

The art work on display is both an end and a beginning in that it represents the culmination of work done over the past year as well as the starting point for many of these artists' professional careers.

Each contributing artist is either enrolled in or a recent graduate of the Art and Art History program at Sheridan College and the University of Toronto, and each has expanded the definition of printmaking.

The artists are: Nicola Betts, Erica Brown, Sarah Butryn, Patrice Horak, Allison Jermyn, Lauri Kallis, Kathryn Kaniewska, Colleen Nicholson and Siam Vandebroek.

The Gallery in Sheridan College is open weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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Elvis' swiveling hips pleases adoring fans

By Carol Baldwin
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Concert Review

Elvis impersonators - ho-hum, boring! Right?

"Not necessarily," I mused before deciding to venture down to Bronte during the Waterfront Festival to see award-winning tribute artist Stephen Kabakos.

And I obviously wasn't the only Presley music fan who was willing to give Kabakos a chance to strut his stuff. The Boardwalk Stage in Bronte was surrounded by anticipating fans; and they were not disappointed.

Kabakos, a handsome young man in his early 20s, maybe didn't swivel his hips in quite the same way as the king of rock 'n' roll, nor did he beat on a guitar hanging around his neck, but he sure could gyrate to the beat of his background band's '50s/'60s music, and his voice resounded in an Elvis pitch that was almost uncanny, especially during the ballads.

He also had his share of groupies, swooning at his feet, presenting him with flowers and begging for a kiss, which he was more than willing to give in return for their adoration.

And even though a costume change into an army uniform got a few squeals from the young adoring females in the crowd, his all-leather pants, vest and jacket elicited howls and whistles.

But Kabakos took it all in his stride, flashing that crooked Presley grin and tossing his head to tousle the tall comb of hair that

every Elvis fan recognizes until it lightly touched his forehead.

Kabakos' repertoire included songs like *Heartbreak Hotel* from Presley's early rock 'n' roll days to his *Blue Hawaii* movie days and on to the *My Way* days of his final live concerts.

But I have to admit to being disappointed that the young tribute singer didn't choose to include my all-time Elvis favourite *Are You Lonesome Tonight* or my companion's favourite *Don't*. However, he did appease me somewhat with his sensual version of *I Can't Help Falling in Love with You* (my second favourite 'King' classic).

Kabakos' impression of Elvis certainly made a lasting impression on the throng at Bronte's Boardwalk Stage on Friday night as he was enthusiastically applauded to perform an encore, after wiping his brow and promising to talk to enthusiastic fans off-stage.

This talented young tribute artist will be returning to Oakville on August 14th and 15th. So, he suggested, for those who need another "Elvis fix," he will be appearing at 8 p.m. both nights at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts.

Tickets are \$30 and are available by visiting or calling the Oakville Centre box office at 130 Navy St., 815-2021.

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