

Movie Review

Video profile 50s' rock n' roll guitar hero

By DAWN WOOD
Herald Special

HAIL! HAIL! ROCK N' ROLL
Theatre Hail! Hail! Rock n' Roll chronicles the career of legendary guitarist Chuck Berry from his humble beginnings as a commercial painter come weekend guitarist to his overwhelming performance at St. Louis' prestigious Fox Theatre.

This biography on film puts Berry's contribution to the music industry into perspective. His story is told in comments by some of his biggest fans, naming Keith Richards, Bo Diddley, Little Richard, and Eric Clapton as a few.

Technically, Berry is credited with a double-picking style of guitar chord playing. He is also an innovator of the combination song writer-player, and one of the few guitar musicians that writes music in piano keys.

Many of Berry's classics (Johnny B. Good, Maybelline, Oh Carol) are played throughout the film, with commentary on the form offered by both Berry and the other featured artists.

For the most part the comments are a celebration of Berry as the idol of many rock n' roll artists of today.

The main event is the return of Berry to the Fox, a place he

recalls when as a young boy he was denied admittance because of his race.

He returns there as a giant with giant names backing him up. In this concert he leads, sharing the stage with Keith Richards, Eric Clapton, Linda Ronstadt, and Julien Lennon to name a few.

The other focus in the biography is the man himself. Berry is seen to approach his talent as a business. The 50's issues of payola, subculture and bad contracts are rekindled and Berry comes across as having a chip on his shoulder as a result of all the knocks he was given.

He is somewhat embittered and less enthusiastic about playing music than the others. In fact, Berry would much rather be driving around town in one of his many Cadillacs (Berry's preoccupation).

Hail! Hail! Rock n' Roll is an

entertaining film for anyone who enjoys early rock music and the artists involved.

Many of today's teens are featured and pay tribute to their roots. The enthusiast can borrow this video from the Georgetown library.

Toronto offers many artistic delights

By JOHN SOMMER
Herald Special

There are many people who hate Toronto, but I am not one of them. Big cities anywhere in the world are exciting places, and nowhere else but in cities is there wealth enough for the maintenance of great museums, first class theatres, concert hall, ballet companies, movie houses for all tastes, and, yes, large sport facilities.

I seldom write about events in Toronto, because I am sure that most of my readers prefer to read about events in our own town here. However, it is possible, that some of you might want to venture a bit further afield during the festive season, to give the turn of the year that special gloss that will be remembered by all involved for a long, long time.

For this reason let me mention the Tchaikovsky ballet "The Nutcracker", an all-time Christmas favorite, currently being performed at the O'Keefe Centre until Jan. 5th. And these is "Beauty and the Beast", a brand new animated film created by the Walt Disney Studios, that is running in 12 Toronto and region movie houses. For somewhat older people, who want their movies to be challenging, there is the triumphant, "Black Robe", a great movie by Bruce Beresford, that deserves an Oscar. Only slightly less challenging is the movie "Truly, Madly, Deeply", a wonderful romantic story about loss and renewal, wonderfully acted and directed. I haven't seen Stephen Spielberg's film "Hook" yet, but I was told that it is an eye full. Costing more than a cool \$70 million, it should be.

At the Royal Ontario Museum I found an exhibition that delighted me a great deal.

One of the best American commercial artists, the painter Haddon Sundblom, started in 1931 to paint Santas for the yearly Coca-Cola Christmas ad campaigns. He created the jolly, fat elf with the splendid white beard and the very red costume, the very colors of the Coca-Cola logo.



Ideas and The Arts by John Sommer

He and many other fine American artists painted images that became extremely popular between 1930 and 1960, when most advertising art switched over to photography.

Quite a few of the original paintings, by Sundblom, and others from the collection of the Coca-Cola Company, are exhibited at the ROM until Jan. 5, 1992. They are corny, but they are also warmly engaging and superlatively painted.

The best paintings by Haddon Sundblom can compete with the paintings by the Dutch painter Frans Hals. They share the same dashing and almost shameless love of rich color and the good life.

Equally important, and a kind of homage to Toronto, is another exhibition at the Royal Ontario Museum. This one is called "Picture Toronto - 20 Years of Photography from the Archives of the Toronto Sun", and it will be at the ROM until Jan. 19, 1992.

This exhibition is of prime importance for everybody who wields a camera. Most camera buffs are only mildly aware of the ruthless potency of their instrument. They click away at sun sets and forest glades instead of pointing their cameras at the human species. The ROM exhibition is chalk full of impolite candid camera works, instead of the kind of photographs that grab you when you spot them on the front page of the Toronto Sun.

You laugh and you cry. There is Pierre Trudeau, pursing his lips to blow out the candles on his birth-

day cake; there is the Duchess of York in full evening regalia and a very startled look on her face, as if somebody had stepped on her dress; there are Nancy and Brian and Mila and Ronny embracing and holding on to each other for dear life; there's a Shriner and a police officer dancing together in the street;

On and on it goes. And there are the disasters that happen when a lot of people live and work very closely together: the fires and explosions and rail-and-road accidents. Why would people want to live in a city like Toronto? This exhibition tells you why. There is never a dull moment in a place that large. We humans are curious and inquisitive, and a lot of us would rather die but miss the action. Do not miss "Picture Toronto" under any circumstances.

Last but not least, "Aspects of Love", a musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, directed by the great Robin Phillips, has opened to huge acclaim at the Elgin Theatre. Of this I will report to you next week.

Give shopping a rest. Go out and do something out of the ordinary instead. And have a blessed Christmas Holiday while doing it.

Say: "I saw it in The Herald"

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2nd Smash Week

Hook
Daily at 2:00 p.m.
Evenings at 7:00 & 9:30 p.m.
FAMILY

CINEMA 3 NOW PLAYING

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THE CORPORATION OF THE
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown), Ontario L7G 5G2
873-2600

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
WARD 3 / WESLEYAN STREET / MAIN STREET

General Committee for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to examine and discuss a proposed amendment to Zoning By-law 57-91.

The proposed rezoning involves lands described as Part of Lot 3, Registered Plan 51, and Part Lot 19, Concession B, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown). The property's municipal address is 12 Wesleyan Street, Georgetown. The purpose of the rezoning application is to zone the property to a General Commercial Special - "C2-1" Zone in order to permit two additional residential units in the existing building.

Further information is available in the Planning Department.
ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME.

Time: 7:00 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 6, 1992
Location: Council Chamber
Halton Hills Civic Centre
1 Halton Hills Drive
Halton Hills (Georgetown)

File No: D14/EUTENIER AD No. 149

THE CORPORATION OF THE
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive - P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown), Ontario L7G 5G2
873-2600

NOTICE

Notice of intention to stop up, close and convey a portion of the unopened road allowance between Lots 27 and 28, Concession 2, Town of Halton Hills.

The Council or a Committee of Council will hear any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected by the By-law and who applies to be heard at its regular meeting, to be held in the Council Chambers at the Civic Centre located at 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown, the 13th day of January, 1992, at the hour of 7:00 p.m.

This notice was first published on the 11th day of December 1991.

Janet Lunn Stewart
Clerk for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills

AD NO. 1468