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- Top 10 80's Albums**
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- My Top Ten Most Listened to Songs on my iPod**
- Top 10 White Stripes Songs**
- My Favorite Modern Artists,, Blind Pilot**
- Top 10 Van Morrison Albums.. rockANTroll**
- Top 10 Rock Bands that Have a Little Twist to Them (click this title to read about the groups).**
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The BULL in the China Club ! (click on title to read more).



Submitted by **zenANT** on November 11, 2005 - 11:47pm.

zenANT's blog login

Last Thursday I went to the China Club to see the annual BATTLE OF THE BANDS hosted by Merrill Lynch for employees of Merrill or any customer of the brokerage firm who had an employee in a BAND. I went expecting to be disappointed, and came away honestly amazed at the professional level of most of the bands, especially some of the individuals who captivated the audience. As the night wore on my memory and eyes became more and more unforgiving, but I'll give it a shot anyway, it's something Duanne Allman would have done.

The night started mellow, and was jump started by the petite, but powerfully voiced TRINA TAYLOR. Despite some technical glitches she persevered and did a great job, especially on the Pearl Jam cover of WHERE,OH WHERE CAN MY BABY BE? She got the night going and it just picked up from there.(click title or read more).

Next up was the irascible and quite effective TAKE A MULLIGAN with Glenn Mulligan and Brian Cumberland and some dude named Cheech who came on later and helped them out on the percussion. Let me state it simply. Anybody who starts off with 2 of the real King's (Bob Dylan) songs is a stud in my book. First of all Dylan isn't always easy to do, and especially 2 classics like Desolation Row and Shelter from the Storm. But he did them and did them great. Mr. Zimmerman would be proud. Glenn played guitar with the ease of a young Dylan, and the look of an athletic Dave Matthews. He really set the town for the evening and his versions of COCONUTS and GIN AND JUICE, really turned the crown on, but his clean version of the SUPER ROCK PANTHEON Beatle song A DAY IN THE LIFE was different, yet superb. It takes a set of rocks to play one of the greatest songs in rock history, but he did it smooth and strong, and he deserves mass attention. I'd like to buy that dude a Black and Tan one night.

Next up was the tight cover band named STOCKS, BONDS, and NOTES. Once again any group that starts with such a great group like THE ALLMAN BROTHERS has to be well applauded. These guys were tight and they brought the crowd to their feet with their covers of ROADHOUSE BLUES, ONE WAY OUT, and HARD TO HANDLE, but my favorite was the heart pumping, bluesy TROUBLE NO MORE. I can hear GREGG ALLMAN moaning in his deep southern, blues drawl.. "Those cats can sure play."

The night was now ignited and as time ticked away and the wine and beer began to take its desired effect, the music got more intense and more instinctual. Bam! WE'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE IT by Twisted Sister cranks out and the crowd is in rock and roll heaven. DRAKKAR and the NOIR are silly good and they know it. They pump us up with this head banger and take us down a darker road (NOIR?) and the crowd is loving it. I slip outside for my first of many PARLIAMENTS and miss the rest of their set, but I can hear their pounding rhythms out into 45th street. Wicked.

I head back inside and I'm greeted with the smooth sounds of GROOVE BREW with 3 fellow Ridgewoodians fronting the band. They're about half way through the Joe Walsh classic of FUNK 49, when I realize that these guys are something special. Mario Manna was outstanding on BASS as his pounding rhythms kept the crowd and their lead singer AMY BOURQUE smoothly segueing from phrase to phrase. The band effortlessly broke into LOW RIDER, a WAR tune that you normally don't hear, and now I was totally hooked.

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Top 10 U2 Albums... ClixANT Poll

1. **THE JOSHUA TREE**
2. **ALL THAT YOU CAN'T LEAVE BEHIND**
3. **ACHTUNG BABY**
4. **THE UNFORGETTABLE FIRE**
5. **WAR**
6. **OCTOBER**
7. **BOY**
8. **HOW TO DISMANTLE AN ATOMIC BOMB**
9. **RATTLE AND HUM**

Top U2 Album
vote on this list
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MARK TELLING's guitar was so good. A mixture between Carlos Santana and Jimmy Page oozed out and kept the tunes tight and moving with no mistakes or flaws, allowing the rest of the band to do their thing and capitalize on each song.

Then the magic of the night happened. They pulled out the old JEFFERSON AIRPLANE tune SOMEBODY TO LOVE and Ms.Borque nailed it the way Grace Slick would have back at the old Fillmore West. Powerful... Sultry... Evocative... Forceful is how the song was belted out and along with the super-tight band the group took us to a place that we all liked being. It was so 60's. It could have been Haight-Asbury 1966, without the LSD.

Then they finished off with Neil Young's incredible anthem of Rocking in the Free World and all was well with World for this brief little period. So Cool! So Happening!

Paddy's GARAGE followed and the stage still sizzled. Pat Boyle, the barefooted lead singer kept it going as he broke out with THE WHO standard I CAN'T EXPLAIN and just kept going from there. I split after I CAN'T EXPLAIN, but I got reports about the last groups.

Next up was CSNR, Cumberland, Sears, Norce, and Roberts and they covered such great songs as BERTHA, PETER GUN/PINK CADILLAC duo, and also Springsteen's BADLANDS. But I have heard many reports back from the front that CSNR'S best was their version of ROSALITA. Fast, furious, and hard ROSALITA must have had that joint a jumpin and Frank Norce must have had those dudes cooking.

Last up was a dance/funk group Phil in the Blanks. They got everybody up and moving with such classics as SUPER FREAK, I FEEL GOOD, SEX MACHINE, and GIVE UP THE FUNK, but I heard and I would have really liked to have heard them do SLY's THANK YOU FALLETIN ME BE MICE ELF AGAIN. If you can't dance to that song you have some serious problems brother.

Thanks again to Dave Diaz and Brian Abdo for the invite and I can't wait to head back next year for the Battle of the Bands and hope that anybody who has even a desire to play Rock and Roll came away from this of new hope and possibilities.

Sorry if I left anyone out, or misspelled names, or put the wrong songs to the wrong group, but this is only my night job. Ha!

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 Peace and Calm
 ZENANT

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Top 10 EAGLES Albums.. ClixANT Poll

1. Hotel California 1976
2. Eagles 1972
3. Eagles Live 1980
4. On the Border 1974
5. Desperado 1973
6. One of These Nights 1975
7. The Long Run

Posted by zenANT
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Poll

Best Balloon in the Thanksgiving Day Parade !:

- Bart Simpson
- Sonic the Hedgehog
- Tommy from Rugrats
- Woody Woodpecker
- SpongeBob Squarepants
- Snoopy

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