

U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE DECLARES DECEMBERCHILD A SUCCESS!!!



The Marquis in front of the CA Center for the Arts, Escondido



U.S. Marine Corps Reserve/ Toys for Tots gave Tom this award for the Decemberchild Benefit.



Superior Olive on the huge Center Theatre stage at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido



Carlos Olmeda



Cathryn Beeks Ordeal

Bryan Lanser



Bryan Lanser

Bryan Lanser was the drummer for all three bands at the 2005 Decemberchild Benefit Concert in Santa Cruz. The Carl Wakeland Trio, Superior Olive, and Lisa Leuschner all had the pleasure of utilizing Bryan's highly creative and skilled approach to the drums.

At one time Bryan worked as a drum technician in a recording studio, where he met many high profile musicians, including drummer Neil Peart of RUSH.

Bryan Lanser on Neil Peart: "I did meet him, way back when at the Annex doing Jeff Berlin's solo album. He is a fairly quiet guy, and the thing that impressed me is that they changed the drum heads after each song that they tracked, and the wear marks were unbelievable, literally the size of a quarter, which means the guy is always playing in exactly the same spot on the toms. Very impressive, although the producer, Ronny Montrose, complained a lot that he rushed, which you can actually hear on the album. The song has him splitting the drum part between drummer Steve Smith, who is perfectly steady, and then Neil comes in and the tempo accelerates during the song....I actually don't dig Neil's playing, I'm much more into what Stewart Copeland or Simon Phillips is doing."

Bryan & Tom Jam at AES in New York City

At the AES Convention in New York City, Tom Savell bumped into fellow musician and drummer Bryan Lanser at the Muse Research booth. Muse Research makes the Receptor "hardware VST plug-in player", which is a fancy way of saying that it does a great job of running software that makes it behave like different musical instruments, such as synthesizers, drum machines, and guitar effects processors. Bryan had the idea to jam with Tom on Receptor at the booth, so he went and got a guitar from another booth and plugged it into Receptor. He dialed up some guitar effects processors and let Tom loose on



*Empire State Building,
New York City, 2005*

the guitar. While Tom was playing, Bryan brought up a drum machine on the same unit and started playing along, using a keyboard to play the drum parts. A crowd began to gather and watch as they jammed through Tom's song "Farewell to the Illusion". Tom was amazed, "I can't believe that box sounds so good and is versatile enough to be a guitar effects processor and a drum machine, and it can do both at the same time!" And Bryan said "For me, the jam was one of the highlights of the show." To learn more about Receptor, visit www.museresearch.com on the internet.



Receptor, from Muse Research

Still Fumin' News

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DECEMBERCHILD ESCONDIDO



The Decemberchild Birthday Cake

On Friday, Dec 2nd at the CA Center for the Arts in Escondido, the Decemberchild Benefit Concert went off in elegant fashion. Held in the beautiful Center Theatre, the audience heard performances from Mani Alvarez (keep reading this issue to learn more about Mani), Carlos Olmeda, The Cathryn Beeks Ordeal (whom you read about in the last issue of SFN), and of course Superior Olive.

The U.S. Marine Corps reserve was on hand collecting toys for their Toys for Tots program. The

highlight of the evening was when they presented Tom Savell and Still Fumin' Records with an award for organizing the benefit concert. The Marine Corps Reserve also declared the toy drive a success after their large collection barrel was overfilled with many fine toys! Thanks to everybody who donated.

Carlos Olmeda, a late addition to the concert, impressed everybody with his unique voice and his sincere (and sometimes humorous) songwriting style. His enthusiasm for music and the charity is contagious. He was accompanied by San Diego area percussionist/songwriter Jeff Berkley.

Cathryn Beeks Ordeal played next, wooing the audience with Cathryn's natural charisma and the melodic textures woven by her ensemble.

Superior Olive closed out the show, using 2 drummers; Ed "Shred" Faulkner and Keith Graves, to create a powerful rhythm section in the manner of the Doobie Brothers or the Allman Brothers. Longtime friend and musician Dennis Jackson joined the band to perform his song "I'm Not Dreamin'" (of a White Christmas). During the song, a special guest from the North Pole came out to pay his birthday respects to the Decemberchildren and show off his new surfboard!



Cathryn Beeks,

Photo courtesy of Idynamite Media



Mani Alvarez provided the music for the reception at Decemberchild Escondido.



Jacob, Tom & Travis raffle off the guitar & other prizes



Jeff Berkley with Carlos Olmeda

Decemberchild Escondido Continued



Tom, Joel & drummer Ed Faulkner



Tom Savell



Santa with his sweet new custom Hamon shape



Jacob Save & Carlos Olmeda



Keith Graves & Will Leuschner



Dennis Jackson



DECEMBERCHILD SANTA CRUZ

Eight days after the Escondido concert, the Decemberchild benefit returned to the Kuumbwa Jazz Center, the site of last year's concert. The raffle was a success, as every kid in the audience won a brand new toy car. The Carl Wakeland Trio started the show with their mind-expanding jazz performances. Next, Carl's 10-year old son Chris Wakeland joined Superior Olive on drums for a few songs before Bryan Lanser took over the skins. Lisa Leuschner finished the show, her voice shining as always.



Superior Olive with Chris Wakeland on Drums



The Carl Wakeland Trio



Handing out the grand prize guitar to the winner!



Lisa Leuschner & band with Tom on Violin



Lisa Leuschner



Superior Olive





Mani Alvarez

Attendees of the Decemberchild benefit concert in Escondido this year were privileged to hear



Mani Alvarez

Mani Alvarez perform during the lobby reception. Mani has a devoted following in San Diego and a long history with First Night Escondido, entertaining either solo or with his group for the past nine years, transfixing his audience with his abilities as a guitarist and his skill as a Latin Jazz artist.

Five Years ago, Mani had to undergo surgery on his throat. As a result, Mani was unable to sing until recently. But now at the age of 60, Mani has released a new CD and he sees this as a new beginning. Not only that, but Mani has started going to college. Last year Mani enrolled at Southwestern College and he is now in his second year of study for a degree in Music. His objective is to teach music, especially the music he loves. Mani has played locally and all over the United States.

Trio Los Panchos & The Requinto

by Manuel F. Alvarez

When Trio Los Panchos was formed, a trend began in the music world. For it was the invention of the Requinto that launched a musical trend that is now and will forever be considered by people all over the world as one of the most romantic sounds that ever came from a guitar.

Around 1943, a man named Alfredo Bojalil Gil, founder of a world famous trio, invented a guitar that is now known as the "Requinto". This type of guitar is smaller than a standard classical guitar and it is tuned one and a half notes higher than the standard guitar, projecting a high pitch sound. When played with two standard classical guitars and three voices singing in harmony, the Requinto completes the sound known as the trios.

Trio Los Panchos got the idea for their name from Francisco L. Madero and Pancho Villa, and also from the little rooster character that Walt Disney created, "Pancho Pistolas". In 1954, Farid Sarah, who became the representative of the famous trio, was the booking agent and chief accountant of 20th Century Fox in Cairo.

He signed a contract with Alfredo Gil and Los Panchos to tour the world. They became known in such places as Jerusalem, Greece, Cairo, Spain, and Japan, where they made many appearances.

They went on to appear in about 50 movies and recorded over 2000 songs and approximately 400 million records and still selling. Many artists today are recording their music, but only a few trios are left that have that unique sound. The other interpreters of their music are singing songs with a more modern sound, including the Mariachis, who have a unique sound of their own.

I believe that. one of the reasons that young people today are not continuing this trend is that first of all, there are no schools that teach this type of music and second, the original trios are now in their 70's and 80's and are dying. I personally believe that someone should start a school for teaching the Requinto to try to continue the trend that Alfredo Gil started, so that this beautiful type of music will never die out.



Farid Sarah passing the original Requinto Guitar to Mani



Santa Cruz Music Archives

Santa Cruz guitar service wizard Rick McKee (AKA "Ukelele Dick") has an unbelievably huge collection of Music Records, Tapes, Cd's posters and memorabilia- all from the local Santa Cruz area. He recently put up his collection, called the Santa Cruz Music Archives, for display at The Attic, a cafe/nightclub located in downtown Santa Cruz. Among the items on display are Still Fumin's own Fetal Pigs In Brine.

The debut CD released in 2003 was noticeable enough to receive mention in the Santa Cruz periodical, Good Times. The article describes Fetal Pigs in Brine as "a local band with an almost memorable moniker". Also among the collection is the previous (Fall/Winter 2005) issue of Still Fumin' News.

Rick McKee is a longtime Santa Cruz guitar technician. Pretty much all of the top musicians in Santa Cruz County bring their instrument to Rick for fixing, tune-ups or upgrades. A few years ago he took up playing the Ukelele, after his wife Katie bought him one. He now has an extensive collection of Ukeleles and has released albums under the names "Ukelele Dick" and "Dick Dujour". *The Santa Cruz Music Archives Collection is on display from Dec. 1-31, The Attic, Art Gallery and Tea House Café, 931 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA. For more info, call 460-1800.*



The "Santa Cruz Music Archives" exhibit



Fetal Pigs in Brine among the exhibit



Can you find the last issue of S.F. News in this display?

Niemann Capital Management/ Legacy Capital Group Winter Party

Thanks to Aly and all the folks at Niemann and Legacy for throwing a great party. The food at the beautiful Hollins House restaurant at the Pasatiempo golf resort was excellent. Superior Olive entertained with an acoustic dinner set before the DJ and dancing took over!



Valley Christmas Project Burglary!! Jacob, Tom & Creative Labs help save the day!

Santa Cruz County residents were disgusted to learn that burglars had stolen charity gifts and money from Valley Churches United Missions, a local charity organization. The Decemberchild concert in Santa Cruz benefitted the Valley Christmas Project, a program of the Valley Churches United Missions. The burglary happened Sunday night, December 11, just one day after the concert. Earlier on Sunday, an army of Motorcyclists drove donated toys to the Valley Churches office.

There was an immediate outpouring of support from the community. Donations large and small poured in to replace the stolen gifts. One man offered to sleep at the office as a security guard.

On Friday, Dec 16, Tom Savell & Jacob Save delivered \$600 in proceeds from Decemberchild, MP3 players donated from Creative Labs, Inc, and a shiny red wagon. Annette Marcum, founder of the Valley Christmas Project, was overjoyed with the response.

Classifieds (Add \$3 Shipping & Handling on all orders)

Music & Video



Superior Olive, "It's All In The Mind." \$8



Superior Olive, "Farewell to the Illusion". \$8



Superior Olive's "Max Random: Never Let Go." \$8



Superior Olive's latest album "Ziggurat", featuring Aynsley Dunbar. Packaged inside full-size accompanying comic book." \$15



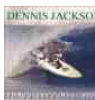
"Fetal Pigs In Brine"
Punk/Alternative. \$8



Fetal Pigs In Brine video, "Live at Capitola Theatre" VHS \$12



"Father Of Satan"
Dark Metal \$8



Dennis Jackson. "I'm not Dreamin' of a White Christmas" CD single \$3

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