



## Living the rock and roll lifestyle

by **RICHARD FLOHIL**

Toronto Airport, at 11 in the morning, is almost deserted. In the arrivals area, waiting along with the ladies from the rent-a-car companies, are three girls—their men are coming home from work.

The men are *Alex Lifeson*, *Geddy Lee*, and *Neil Peart*, their work is rock and roll, and soon American Airlines will deliver them from Columbus, Ohio, safe and tired and weary from six weeks on the road.

*Lifeson*, *Lee*, and *Peart* are the members of a band called *Rush*. In the last six weeks they've been to New York and New Jersey, California, and an endless string of states and cities. Among them St. Louis, Houston, Dallas, Los Angeles, and dozens more.

Through the barrier windows, the girls watch as the three members of the band, their road manager, and three roadies, gather in solemn conclave with customs officials. Check lists are checked, clipboards are consulted. Eventually the musicians are free to leave, and resplendent in velvet jackets and patched jeans, long hair, and stacked-heel boots, they enter the real world, unencumbered by nosy customs men asking silly questions.

The roadies are left, filling in  
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*Richard Flohil has been editor of The Canadian Composer for four years, and still enjoys the exuberant energy of rock.*