After 20 years, Rush gets a rush performing

By David Denby

Most Art Garfunkel cliches are true—Art Garfunkel is wise, soft-spoken, and painfully sensitive. Some aren't—Art Garfunkel doesn't seem to have changed much since 1970, when he and Paul Simon recorded "The Sound Of Silence." Many of his fans seemed to have been with him for life.

As a solo artist, Garfunkel has enjoyed more success than Simon. "My life, my time," a 1975 Top Ten hit, set a new standard for his one-man shows. Yet it is Simon who is the public face of Greenwich Village and the folk-rock moment of the 1960s. At 50, Garfunkel seems eerily undiminished. Is he the fading star or the tough old screw-up? Garfunkel is neither. He is a survivor, a man of resilience and tenacity who's managed to keep his business and his public image intact while adding to his personal life a new kind of happiness —the kind that comes from the open road; the kind that comes from the open spaces of the West.

In a recent interview, Garfunkel said he was thinking about his next album, perhaps one that would feature country music. "I'm really looking forward to it," he said. "It's going to be a real change of pace." And then he added, "I don't know if I'll ever do another album."

Garfunkel's latest album, "The Late Show," was released in 1993. It was his first studio album in nearly 10 years. "I'm really looking forward to it," he said. "I don't know if I'll ever do another album." And then he added, "I don't know if I'll ever do another album."