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SPIRIT OF RUSH

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Late
SPRING 2002

NO. 61
Late
SPRING 2002



VAPOR
TRAILS

The Spirit of E d i t o r i a l

LIFE IS A POWER THAT REMAINS

Hello and welcome to issue # 61 of Spirit. Much excitement abounds this time out with the imminent release of the new Rush CD "Vapor Trails" 68 minutes of pure adrenaline driven ROCK!! The return of the POWER TRIO of old I kid you not. The above lyric of Neil's sums up just how positive a catharsis of an experience this must have been for our three favourite sons. Very uplifting in music and mood indeed. We here at Spirit were lucky enough to receive an advance copy from the record company (thanks Neil) to whet our appetites and we were not disappointed at all. You will find a couple of reviews later in the magazine from a couple of long term readers whose names you will know well. You can judge the 13 tracks for yourself when "Vapor Trails" is released on 13th May. Please send in your own thoughts and comments for inclusion in the next issue of Spirit which will be with you in the middle of June.

The band embark on a North American tour at the end of June to promote the album (see news for full list of dates) Lets all keep our fingers crossed that it turns out to be a "World Tour" and we get to see them perform in Europe once again before they call it a day. The tour is again an "Evening With" affair. If your planning a trip over the pond to attend any shows why not give Spirit reader Simon Lucas a call on - 01454-314481 His company specialises in North American flights and he may be able to help you.

Much else has been happening in the world of Rush. The news pages that begin opposite are just about the longest that we have ever run. Plenty there for you to be spending your hard earned on.

With all this excitement over the new album running rife, tickets for this years convention are selling well. 2112 are going to play two 90 minute sets and they have been listening to your requests, check out Grahams letter in Signals for the details. So the place to be on

Saturday 31st August is the "Limelight Club" in Crewe from 12 Noon until 1am the following month. Please use the enclosed order form to purchase your tickets direct from us or use one of the following methods if it's easier for you.
TO ORDER ONLINE - www.ticketweb.co.uk 24
HOUR CREDIT CARD HOT LINE - 08 700 600 100.

This year promises to surpass ALL others, we have many great prizes lined up already for the raffle. We also intend to get as much new tour merchandise as we possibly can to offer you on the day.

If you have access to the web check out www.totalrock.com for Rush fan Badger's show at 9 pm U.K. time on Saturday evenings. Sky digital channel 885. He always plays Rush as well as an excellent selection of all things Rock and Prog. He should have an interview with Geddy on soon as well.

Next issue we have an exclusive interview with Geddy which the record company were good enough to arrange for us, I'm sure it will be an interesting read so ya all come back now ya hear. Until later.....

Mick

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R U S H N E W S

Rush Announce Details of New Album

Rush has announced details of their eagerly awaited new album, **VAPOR TRAILS**. The 13-track collection, produced by Rush with engineer Paul Northfield (Marilyn Manson, Hole), is set for release on May 14, 2002.

VAPOR TRAILS sees the legendary power trio - Geddy Lee, Alex Lifeson, and Neil Peart - redefining their intensely individualistic music, blending their famously complex dynamics with driving melodic hooks and a passionate, personal lyrical approach. Tracks like the kinetic "How It Is," the emotive "Sweet Miracle," and the propulsive album-opening "One Little Victory" are angular, atmospheric and altogether extraordinary. With the visionary new **VAPOR TRAILS**, Rush has taken a bold step forward, making it clear that one of rock 'n' roll's all-time great bands are more than just back, they're better than ever.

The album will be heralded by the single, "One Little Victory," slated to ship to rock radio outlets nationwide on March 29. The band is currently finalizing plans for a major North American tour. Tentatively set to kick off in late June, the trek will mark Rush's first live performances since July 1997. The tour's first leg will be announced shortly.

VAPOR TRAILS is Rush's 17th studio recording, and their first all-new collection in over 5 years. The Canadian trio's 22 albums have virtually all been certified CRIA platinum-or-better, with cumulative worldwide sales of over 35 million. The band were inducted into the Juno Awards Hall of Fame in 1994, received the esteemed Order of Canada in 1997 and were given their own star on the Canadian Walk of Fame in 1999.

Anthem/Universal Music

Rush Announces Summer 2002 Tour of North America!

Rush has announced the itinerary for the summer segment of their highly anticipated 2002 tour of North America! The concert series kicks off on June 28th in Hartford, Connecticut and marks Rush's first live performance since July

1997. Rush's extensive touring schedule will continue into the fall, with additional dates to be announced. Tickets will go on sale beginning April 20th (see later pages for tour dates listing).



Rush's return to the road follows the May 14th release of their eagerly awaited new album, **VAPOR TRAILS**, their first all-new studio collection in over five years. The album's first single, *One Little Victory*, has been instantly and enthusiastically embraced by radio outlets and fans across the country. The drum pounding single already holds the title of the #1 most-added track at all three rock formats!

**Atlantic Records
Newsletter**

A Message from Geddy - 14/4/2002

Greetings and salutations, I thought it was time to check in here and deliver an update of recent goings on for all of you.

As most RUSH fans may now know we have indeed and at long last finished our latest project Vapor Trails. This concludes the single longest recording session any of us have ever been involved in.

Why did it take so long you may ask? Tough question.

Well, all I can say is that after all the personal difficulties, individual musical experiments and resultant soul searching that has gone down in the world of RUSH in the last 6 years, we needed a profound amount of time to reach a state of interaction with each other that would enable us to produce something we felt was fresh and had the kind of passionate energy worthy of signing our names to. In simple... it took

RUSH ON TOUR

NORTH AMERICA, SUMMER 2002

JUNE

28	Hartford, CT	ctnow.com Meadows Music Centre
29	Scranton, PA	Montage Mountain Amphitheatre

JULY

1	Charlotte, NC	Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre
3	Virginia Beach, VA	Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre
4	Raleigh, NC	Alltel Pavilion
6	Saratoga Springs, NY	Saratoga Performing Arts Center
7	Buffalo, NY	Darien Lake Performing Arts Center
9	Washington, DC	Nissan Pavilion
11	Holmdel, NJ	PNC Bank Arts Center
12	Boston, MA	Tweeter Center
14	Philadelphia, PA	Tweeter Center
15	Wantagh, NY	Jones Beach Amphitheatre
17	Toronto, ON	Molson Amphitheatre
19	Milwaukee, WI	Marcus Amphitheater
20	Chicago, IL	Tweeter Center

AUGUST

1	Kansas City, KS	Sandstone Amphitheatre
2	St. Louis, MO	UMB Bank Pavilion
4	Cincinnati, OH	Riverbend Music Center
6	Pittsburgh, PA	Post-Gazette Pavilion
8	Columbus, OH	Polaris Amphitheater
9	Indianapolis, IN	Verizon Wireless Music Center
11	Detroit, MI	DTE Energy Music Theatre
14	Nashville, TN	AmSouth Amphitheatre
16	Houston, TX	Woodlands Pavilion
17	San Antonio, TX	Verizon Wireless Amphitheater
19	Dallas, TX	Reunion Arena
21	Albuquerque, NM	Journal Pavilion
23	Salt Lake City	
24	Englewood, CO	

Additional cities to be announced



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us a while to "get it goin' on" !

There is also the theory that the longer you spend on a project, the harder it becomes to finish. What this means, in application, is that you have become so intimate with the material that the details stop being details, and become as important to you as any of the more fundamental parts of the song. This is commonly referred to as "loss of objectivity". But most musicians simply justify this by saying "God is in the details".

There is another thing that happens to me when I'm making a record which makes it tough to finish. That is the fact that sometimes I have such a complete image in my head of what each song should sound like, that it becomes very difficult for me to settle for anything less. So you push and push, and try to make reality match this particular "vision" of the song and all the while you are just slowly driving yourself nuts by degrees, because you start to realize that what you are trying to accomplish is almost impossible and what you are really after may not be the best thing for the song anyway... Just simply YOUR version of the song. And when the other guys in the band feel the same way, that's when you need a producer. Or a therapist !! Or better still, a good glass of wine!!

This is commonly referred to as "loss of perspective". (see- Working at Perfekt)

Add a few technical glitches along the way and the fact that there is about 68 minutes of music, making this c.d. by far the longest RUSH collection we have ever produced, and you have a project that took over a year to create. But after all is said and done, I think it turned out (as the Brits like to say) "a bit of awlright". We, of course, hope you agree.

In any event that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

In other developments, I'm happy and thankful to report that My Favourite Headache continues to roll along making new friends with a slow, steady pace. It is a piece of work that I remain very proud of and I look forward for a time that I can continue that avenue of expression, and my collaboration with Ben Mink and perhaps even one day "take it on the road".

Speaking of the road, most of you may now be aware of the fact that we will soon be embarking on our first tour since 1997. We are in the middle of planning this out as we speak, so I can't really tell you much about what to expect yet, other than the fact that, once again, we are planning a rather long show and we hope to play some older songs that you haven't heard in a while (if ever) as well as a bunch of new ones.

We can't go everywhere, of course, but we'll give it a shot and I hope that we will indeed meet somewhere "out there" close to where you live. Until then, I guess that's it for now.

Cheers and thanks for your continuing interest and support!

Geddy

Geddy & Alex Radio Interviews

Both Alex and Geddy called into several radio stations recently in NJ, Austin. So far, here is what has been posted on the web:

Subject: Geddy Interview On Mark and Brian - NJ Radio Show

1. Rush will tour for three or four months in North America and then possibly head to Europe and South America in the Fall.
2. Geddy talked about the role of producers working with Rush.
3. Apparently, this was a difficult album to make. The band got together, didn't like what they were writing, took a month off, and then got back together. When they got back together, things really started happening.

Alex interview on KLBJ in Austin.

Not much new info, but confirmed that the tour is "An Evening with". Also, he says they are "aware" of <http://www.rushpetition.com> He said they are dropping some older songs they've played a lot on tour and adding some songs they haven't played before. He didn't give any examples but did mention that they thought about touring with Tool as an opening band, but then decided that there was too much material to do. It will be an evening with Rush and about 3 hours. He said that

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he pulled out all of his old guitars for the album. He owns about 52 guitars.

Alex also talked a bit about Neil's tragedies. He says Neil still has his highs and his lows, but is doing fine in general.

Mike Portnoy Writes Liner Notes of Japanese Version of New Rush CD

'I am honored to have been asked to write the liner notes for the Japanese version of their long-awaited, upcoming CD "Vapor Trails", so I have been listening to this since early last week....

The new CD is excellent and it's great to have them back! If only they would take out an opener (cough*US*cough) on this tour.....' (see next issue for Mike's liner notes on Vapor Trails.)

MP

Rush's 'Vapor Trails' A Tribute To Drummer's Fortitude

Rush's new album, Vapor Trails, is due May 14, marking the return of the classic rock veterans. Rush hasn't released a studio album since 1996's Test For Echo, due in part to the personal problems suffered by drummer Neil Peart.

Peart's wife and his daughter died within a year, and it took some time to recover. Peart's bandmates bassist Geddy Lee and guitarist Alex Lifeson told us that Rush could have disbanded if not for the drummer's fortitude.

As Lee explained, "Well I think Neil's recovery was obviously the key to our still being here. Had he not been able to somehow find his spirit again and find a positive outlook after the things that had happened to him in his life, there would be no more Rush. So, fortunately for him, he was able to find a desire to make music again."

Peart has since remarried, and has pieced his life back together. Peart's first wife, Jackie, died in 1998 after a battle with cancer, while their only child, 19-year-old Selena, was killed in a car crash in 1997.

Rush plans on hitting the road for a North American tour in late June. Lifeson told us the band is meetings this week to discuss itinerary and production.

**LaunchDaily.com 2002
Rock 101.1 fm**

Rush's Return Is Personal For Drummer Peart

Musician overcame personal hardships before writing Vapor Trails.

Ernest Hemingway once described courage as "grace under pressure." Rush drummer Neil Peart liked the phrase so much that he used it as the title of the band's 1984 album. Now, having experienced devastating family tragedy and a subsequent rebirth, Peart has become the living definition of courage.

In 1997, the drummer's 19-year-old daughter died in a car accident. The following year, his wife Jackie passed away from cancer. At that point, Rush had just released their third multi-disc live album, Different Stages, and the band took a extended hiatus to allow Peart time to heal.

Now, five years after their last studio record, Test for Echo, the power trio have completed their 17th album Vapor Trails. The disc was produced by Rush singer/bassist Geddy Lee, guitarist Alex Lifeson and Peart and engineered by Paul Northfield. With Northfield's help, Rush have created their most insistent and organic record in years.

Vapor Trails is loaded with Rush trademarks — Lee's deft bass playing and high, nasal vocals; Lifeson's crisp, ringing guitars; and Peart's extraordinarily precise drumming. But the band's interest in adapting to the times is notable.

The first single, "One Little Victory," owes more to the new breed of alternative-metal than to the prog rockers of yesteryear. The song starts with marching drums and aggressively churning guitars before shifting into a melodic, modern anthem colored with layered vocals and an undercurrent of wailing guitars. The lyrics of the chorus, "Celebrate the moment as it turns into one more/ Another chance at victory, another chance to score," sum up the flavor of the record.

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Instead of dwelling on past tragedy, lyricist Peart is determined to reflect on what he has learned, embrace the present and prepare for the future. Songs like the road tune "Ghost Rider," which seems to be about the yearlong motorcycle road trip he made around North America to regain his sanity, is about as close as he comes to grief. "Carry all those phantoms through bitter wind and stormy skies/Show my beauty, but there is no beast for a ghost rider."

Elsewhere, Peart reflects about the way life ebbs and flows between elation and depression, but he never feels sorry for himself. On "How It Is," he writes, "There's a little trap that sometimes trips up everyone when we're tired of our own company/ Sometimes we're the last to see beyond the day's frustrations/ That's how it is, how it's going to be."

Peart's recovery was sped up after he fell in love again and married his second wife in 2000. He chronicles the experience on "Sweet Miracle": "I wasn't walking on water, I was standing on a reef when the tide came in/ Swept beneath surface, lost without a trace, no hope at all/ Oh, sweet miracle, love, sweet miracle of life."

Musically, Vapor Trails is less complex and progressive than Test for Echo, which overflowed with acrobatic playing and eye-popping rhythm and tempo changes. It's probably the most organic disc the band has recorded since 1991's Roll the Bones. Even Peart overlooks his trademark drum gymnastics in favor of stark, steady beats.

Jon Wiederhorn
MTV News

Rush Announces Tour, Peart Shapes Up

Rush has announced summer tour dates in support of its forthcoming album, Vapor Trails. The road stint starts June 28 at the Meadows Music Center in Hartford, Connecticut, and runs through August 21 at the Journal Pavilion in Albuquerque, New Mexico. More tour dates will be announced at a later time.

Vapor Trails, due out May 14, features the return of the band and drummer Neil Peart. Peart's wife and daughter died in the late '90s, leading the group to take a four-year hiatus. When Peart was ready to return to Rush, he had to reacquaint

himself with his drum kit after the long break.

Given Peart's circumstances, bassist Geddy Lee and guitarist Alex Lifeson led the charge on Vapor Trails. Lifeson told about how Peart worked to get back up to speed.

"For Neil, he hadn't played much in the four years, and he was a guy who practiced every single day for at least an hour. So, for him, it was a little bit of a job to get back into shape, but he worked very hard at it, and I think it was something that he really relished. It felt good to get really physical with his kit, and as he was getting material from Geddy and me he became very excited about his arrangements--drum arrangements--and within a few months we were in very good shape."

Although Peart was inactive during the band's hiatus, Lee and Lifeson kept busy. "Well, Geddy had just come off doing his solo record, so he was in top form, actually both vocally and playing-wise on the bass guitar," said Lifeson.

"I have a studio at home. I play all the time, so I was feeling pretty good. I was working on a production project with a band, so I was playing and in pretty good shape."

LAUNCH

Neil's "Ghost Rider"

Neil Peart's new book titled 'Ghost Rider' is scheduled for release in April 2002, as a "first run" in bookstores in Canada. (As was/is "Merely Players".) Short and sweet (just over 400 pages), Ghost Rider costs \$24.95.

In this new book, Neil recounts his travels by motorcycle across North America, and also his healing after the death of his wife and daughter.

Product Details

- Paperback: 406 pages
- Publisher: Pottersfield Pr; ISBN: 1895900506; (June 1, 2002)
- Amazon.com Sales Rank: 1,789

Alex's Appearance in a 1970's Movie?

Canadian director/ producer Allan King filmed a short movie about teens in

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Canada in 1971/72 titled Come On Children. Someone stumbled upon this website recently and after viewing this it appears almost certain it is Alex in the movie playing guitar. The song they are playing sounds very much like Run Willie Run which Rush performed in bars in the early 70's (see Visions). This is the first we have heard of this and it has never been mentioned in interviews or anywhere else that we are aware of. Please view this and let us know what you think!

Here is the link to Allan King's films (scroll down to> Come On Children).

<http://www.film.queensu.ca/King/directfilms.html>

Or go directly here for the Quicktime video:

<http://www.film.queensu.ca/King/Movies/childrenSor.html>

The website describes the film as: "A film in which several young people are taken out of Toronto and put on a farm together. The film was an experiment to see how they fared away from adults "always telling them what to do". The camera crew followed them around as they got to know each other. The crew filmed them drinking, talking, fighting, doing drugs and even yelling at the camera. The film ends with everyone leaving the farm, to go back to the real world. While the style is Direct Cinema, the film begins with a text explanation of what is happening in the film."

Alex's performance is confirmed by the Internet Movie Database:

<http://us.imdb.com/Name?Lifeson,+Alex>

RushCon II

The Face Up to Hunger Foundation, a Toronto based charitable group, is proud to announce RushCon II: Citizens of the World, the 2nd annual fancelation of the Canadian progressive-rock band Rush.

Since the mid 1970s, Rush has garnered more than 20 gold and platinum albums and the devotion of millions of fans worldwide. From early bombastic epics such as "2112", to classic FM staples "Tom Sawyer", and "The Spirit of Radio", to Grammy-nominated instrumentals and experiments in reggae and African rhythms, Rush have continued to pack

concert halls with their unique blend of accomplished musicianship and humanistic lyrical themes.

The first North American Rush convention, RushCon, held in Toronto in May 2001, drew hundreds of fans from around the continent and overseas, as well as the attention of media in Canada and the United States. Attendees enjoyed three days of camaraderie with fellow fans, heard presentations by guest speakers such as former Rush producer Terry Brown, and participated in Rush-themed contests and events, of which the climax was a tribute-band concert. A memorabilia auction raised \$4,000.00 for the Toronto Daily Bread Food Bank.

The Face Up to Hunger Foundation is just a bunch of Rush fans bringing a fun idea to life while giving back to the community," explains Phred Wyrdd, president of the foundation and manager of its annual Rush convention. Our aim is to celebrate Rush fandom, while giving the majority of the profits from RushCon to the Daily Bread Food Bank," she adds. "We really appreciate the fans' dedication to RushCon. At last year's convention, we had people coming in from Wales, Japan and Brazil. It's become so much bigger than the little gathering of fans we planned in 1999."

Following the success of last year's inaugural festivities, RushCon II promises to be even bigger. This year's convention, RushCon II, Citizen's of the World, will be held July 12-14 in Toronto. The theme "Citizens of the World" recognizes the international flavour of the gathering, as well as the commitment of both the organizers and attendees to benefit the community. The charity auction and tribute concert will make their return, while the first-ever "Bastille Day Walking Tour" of Toronto landmarks connected to the band promises to make RushCon II the ultimate Rush weekend for fans. Other scheduled events include Rush Jeopardy, based on the TV game show, and Rush Karaoke for those who want to take the spotlight.

Most events will take place at the Opera House in downtown Toronto (www.theoperahousetoronto.com). The official hotel of RushCon II, offering special rates for attendees, is the Toronto Colony Hotel (800- 387-8687, or

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visit (www.toronto-colony.com)
Admission costs \$30.00 (\$19 US funds) in advance and \$35 at the door. Tickets are available at all Canadian Ticketmaster locations or at www.ticketmaster.ca, and can be purchased directly from the convention organizers at www.rushcon.org. RushCon is an all ages event, except some functions at which alcohol will be served.

The Face Up to Hunger Foundation was established in 2000 by Rush fans in Canada and the United States with the goal of raising money and awareness of North America's growing problem of poverty and homelessness. A portion of RushCon II admissions and the entire proceeds from the memorabilia auction will go directly to helping those in need through the Toronto Daily Bread Food Bank.

For more information, contact:
Phred Wyrdd, RushCon Manager, Face Up To Hunger Foundation
Collingwood, Ontario, Canada 705-446-2481

Rush News Mailing List

Classic Tribute to Rush!!

No "Invisible Symphony", but finally a REAL classical tribute to Rush! Set for release May 14th, be sure to pick up Exit Stage Right - A String Quartet Tribute to Rush wherever CD's are sold.



The album covers the nearly entire Exit Stage Left album from a classical chamber quartet approach; the album's cover includes a nod to the ESL as well, with a curtain drawn back to expose a violin.

A tribute by real Rush fans, the album was arranged, produced, mixed, and mastered by Todd Mark Rubenstein, who also co-handles the album's cello and bass duties. In the liner notes, Todd thanks (among others) "Neil Peart, Geddy Lee & Alex Lifeson for a lifetime of musical genius and the gift of great

songs with brilliant performances that will be an inspiration to musicians of all genres for generations to come", and dedicates the album to his 10 year old niece who is following in her uncles' musical footsteps with the words "May this recording be an inspiration to your continuing pursuit of music through your already brilliant ability to play the violin and may it be an inspiration to others as 'Rush' has been to me."

You can pick up Exit Stage Right the same day as you pick up Rush's Vapor Trails (May 14th), or you can order it online. If you can't wait that long go to www.thetributeto.com to order it. For additional information, email CMH Records/Vitamin Records at info@cmhrecords.com.

Exit Stage Right Tracklist:

1. The Spirit of Radio
2. Red Barchetta
3. YYZ
4. A Passage To Bangkok
5. Closer To The Heart
6. Beneath, Between, Behind
7. Jacob's Ladder
8. Broom's Bane
9. The Trees
10. Xanadu
11. Freewill
12. Tom Sawyer

Eric Power Windows Mailing List

Italian Rush Petition

The following is a transcript of a petition currently being raised in Italy for the band to come over and play there:

To: Atlantic Records Corporation,
Rush, one of the most acclaimed rock bands in the world (22 consecutive gold records and 14 platinum discs), is going to release a new record, their first studio album since 1996. A world tour will follow, eagerly awaited by fans worldwide. UNFORTUNATELY, Rush tour will not include Italy, as usual: Italian Rush fans willing to see their musical heroes on stage will be forced to travel to other (lucky) European Countries, like I did to Germany on 1992.

The reason why Rush avoid Italy is unknown: let's try to explain it.
1) Security Italy, the cradle of art and culture, has always hosted great musical events, apart from a dark period (1975-1979), in which it was excluded from live rock circuit, since urban clashes were common in

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venues hosting rock concerts (Led Zeppelin, Frank Zappa etc.). Starting from the 80's, the most important artists have come back and regularly perform here: for instance, summer 2002 will see Supertramp, Roger Waters, Santana and many more live on Italian stages.

Dream Theater, a Rush-inspired metal/progressive band, is coming next week in Italy for a tour, attended, amongst others, by many Rush orphans (the news of some Rush covers in their setlist has boosted ticket sales).

2) Successful event

Another reason might be the forecast number of attendees to a Rush gig: the band may fear to face a small audience. If this estimate is based on the Rush records sold in Italy, please be informed that they are among the top sellers in their musical genre, although unsupported by promotion. If it is based on venues dimension or acoustics, I take the chance to remember that our climate allows to perform live concerts in open air large venues such as stadiums during an extended summer (april to october), and Rush tour rumours refer to May 2002.

3) Logistics

Since Italy's geographical position, it may be hard to plan a tour in that state, whose most populated towns (Rome and Naples) are almost 2000 km south of Paris. We know that Rush members have spent several periods of holiday in Italy, enjoying our food and our country: the tour is worth the effort!

Why not set a test date (at Milan) and feel the enthusiastic support only Italian fans can provide?

THIS PETITION IS ADDRESSED TO RUSH FANS WORLDWIDE AS WELL AS TO ATLANTIC/ANTHEM RECORDS CO. AND RUSH MANAGEMENT:

PLEASE LET ALEX, GEDDY AND NEIL PERFORM IN ITALY!!

ATCO: PLEASE CONTACT OUR LOCAL PROMOTER FOR THIS HAPPENING:

Barley Arts

<http://www.barleyarts.com/>

mail address:

claudio.trotta@barleyarts.com

MILANO CONCERTI

<http://www.milanoconcerti.it/>

mail address:

fabienne@milanoconcerti.it

FANS: JOIN THE OFFICIAL RUSH COMMUNITY TO COMMENT ON THIS

http://atlantic-records.com/rush/community_artistcommunity.jhtml#

LEAVE YOUR COMMENTS ON GEDDY LEE'S WEBSITE GUESTBOOK:

http://www.geddylee.net/cgi-bin/dcguest/dcguest.cgi?action=add_form

Thank You!

Tiles Perform Bastille Day

Check out Tiles performing "Bastille Day" on July 14th, 2001 at Ytsejam.com's Ytsecon 2001. This recording marks the first time Tiles has played a cover song in front of a live audience.

Here's the link to the file:

<http://www.checkerboards.net/bastilleday.mp3>

DEAD SET ON RUSH

The long overdue debut album from Deadsy will finally see the light of day in mid-May. Titled, 'Commencement', it will be issued on Immortal, long associated with Korn, and the 14 tracks include 'The Keys To Gramercy Park' (featuring Korn's Jonathan Davis, and already a TotalRock fave), and a cover of 'Tom Sawyer', originally on the Rush album 'Moving Pictures'.

Total Rock

RUSH ANNOUNCES 2002 TOUR OF NORTH AMERICA "VAPOR TRAILS" ON TRACK FOR MAY 14TH

Anthem/Atlantic recording group Rush has announced the itinerary for the summer segment of their highly anticipated 2002 tour of North America. When the concert series kicks off on June 28th in Hartford, Connecticut, it will mark Rush's first live performance since July 1997. Rush's extensive touring schedule will continue into the fall, with additional dates to be announced. Tickets will go on sale beginning April 20th. (SEE ITINERARY BELOW)

"VAPOR TRAILS" is Rush's 17th studio recording. All of the Canadian trio's 22 albums have been certified RIAA gold-or-better, with cumulative worldwide sales of over 35 million. Their most recent Anthem/Atlantic releases are 1996's gold-certified "TEST FOR ECHO," followed by 1998's gold-certified multi-disc live set, "DIFFERENT STAGES."

Rush Hoax Triggers Frenzy

By Paul Cantin
Senior Reporter, JAM! Showbiz

The webmaster of a Rush fan site got an idea of just how hotly fans are anticipating the Canadian rock legends' long-in-the-making new studio album.

The Rush Interactive Network fan website (www.r-u-s-h.com) received a posting on its message board Tuesday night from someone claiming to have a pre-release copy of Rush's upcoming album, and planned to post a sample of the new album online.

Over the next four hours, the site's servers were inundated with up to several thousand fans trying to download the file, causing the server to malfunction. By 9 p.m. central time, the site's operators had to take the site down.

There was only one problem, though. No leaked music was ever posted, and it appears no advance copy of the album was ever available. The entire episode was a hoax.

The merest hint of a leak of the new Rush album triggered "a feeding frenzy for several hours that brought our dedicated server to its knees," the site's administrator R.G. Terrez told JAM! Music.

The reports also said artist Hugh Syme, whose work adorned some of Rush's classic early covers ("A Farewell To Kings," "Moving Pictures," etc.) is providing artwork for the new disc.

Rush Album Surfaces Online

By PAUL CANTIN
Senior Reporter, JAM! Showbiz

Rush's forthcoming album "Vapor Trails" isn't due in stores until mid-May, but the hotly anticipated disc apparently leaked out via the Internet briefly this week.

A U.S.-based website entitled "Rush Vapor Trails Information Page" had the full 13-song album posted as high-quality MP3 downloads, some time between Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. But by Wednesday afternoon, a message at the site explained that the songs had been taken down "at the request of Rush's management."

"This website will no longer host any copyrighted audio, lyrics or artwork," the site said in a message, once the song-links had disappeared from the page. I will, however, still keep it updated with all the latest Rush news as it is released. And just to set the record straight, I did not leek (sic) the album; I downloaded it off the Internet."

Messages to the person who maintains the site went unanswered yesterday. Rush's label, Anthem Records, did not immediately return calls. Earlier this week, several sites posted brief excerpts of selected songs from the album, and last month, mere rumours of a downloadable version of the album caused such a surge in traffic to the Rush Tri-Net website that it forced the site's administrators to take the page temporarily offline (that leak turned out to be a hoax).

Since Rush's last release, 1996's "Test For Echo," the posting and downloading of leaked advance albums has become a common feature of the modern music scene, much to the chagrin of record companies and artists, who face potential loss of revenue and loss of control over the distribution of their work. While some artists have taken a laissez-faire attitude toward sharing of leaked albums, Rush singer Geddy Lee can't be counted among them.

"I hate it. I think it is evil. I think it is theft," Lee told JAM! Music in November 2000, when asked about the file-sharing system Napster. "It is unethical behaviour. I am ashamed at the way people have tried to justify it and rationalize it by saying what they do in the privacy of their own home, with no one looking, is fine.

"Someone should ask me first if I want my song posted there. That is what it is all about to me, doing it without the artist's permission. An artist who is happy with it, by all means, give it away. "Whether I believe in giving away my music or not is not someone else's decision to make. It is my decision to make, and that is what I object to vehemently."

Album Release Information:

Artist: Rush

Album Title: Vapor Trails

Release Date: May 14, 2002 (US & Canada)

May 10, 2002 (Europe)

May 15, 2002 (Japan)

Tracklisting

1. "One Little Victory" 5:07
2. "Peaceable Kingdom" 5:22
3. "Ghost Rider" 5:39
4. "Ceiling Unlimited" 5:26
5. "The Stars Look Down" 4:28
6. "How It Is" 4:03
7. "Vapor Trail" 4:55
8. "Out Of The Cradle" 5:03
9. "Earthshine" 5:33
10. "Sweet Miracle" 3:40
11. "Nocturne" 4:49
12. "Freeze (Part IV of "Fear")" 6:16
13. "Secret Touch" 6:33

Total running time: 66:54



All 'Trails' Lead To Rush Tour

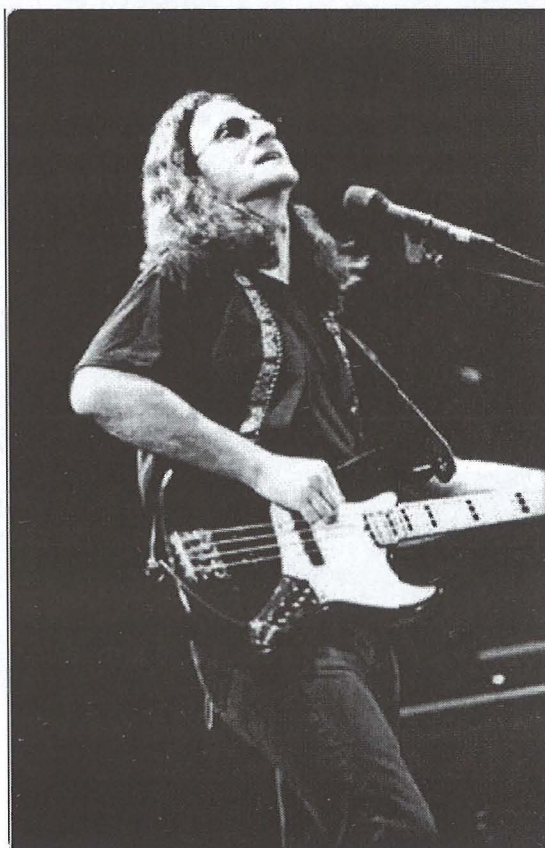
Canadian power trio Rush will kick off its first tour in five years June 28 in Hartford, Conn. The 27 confirmed stops are the first in the band's planned extensive tour in support of its latest Atlantic album, "Vapor Trails," due May 14. First single "One Little Victory" thundered to a No. 22 debut on Billboard's Mainstream Rock Tracks chart last week.

The tour is billed as "An Evening With Rush," and will not feature an opening act. Dates are expected to stretch into the fall and offer in the neighborhood of 30 songs each night. Tickets for the confirmed shows are set to go on sale beginning Saturday (April 20).

Songs from "Vapor Trails" should lend themselves exceedingly well to a live setting, as the set finds Rush eschewing synthesizers and complicated production in favor of melodically inventive, straight-ahead hard rock. "Ceiling Unlimited," "Peacable Kingdom," and "Nocture" sport standout riffs from guitarist Alex Lifeson, while "Earthshine" and "One Little Victory" seem primed for anthem status in concert.

The new album is the follow-up to 1996's "Test for Echo," which hit No. 5 on The Billboard 200 and has sold just shy of 470,000 copies in the U.S. to date, according to SoundScan. The title track vaulted to No. 1 on Mainstream Rock Tracks, while "Half the World" reached No. 6 on the same tally.

Barry A. Jeckell & Jonathan Cohen, N.Y.
For Billboard.com



Vapor Trails Reviews....

Perfect timing? Oh yes! After one of the worst days at work in living memory (!) I open up the front door and find an anonymous looking jiffy bag. Hmm, not expecting any packages....could it be?....is it?.....OH YES! Seconds later it's in the CD player....

Perfect timing? Oh no. A week before Mick's deadline and it happens to be the busiest, most hectic week you could imagine – in the middle of an intensive writing/rehearsal schedule for Jump and absolutely snowed under in my day job. So instead of the extensive heavily researched critique I intended (and no doubt some of my fellow writers have provided) what you've got here is a quick first impression garnered from the initial "YES! It's the new RUSH album!!!" through the hi-fi and a week's worth of forty minute blasts in the car!

So what of "Vapor Trails"? As with every piece of recorded Rush I've listened to since I first heard "2112" aeons ago....it's a grower. My first reaction was, yeah this is cool, kind of a natural progression from T4E....but as the days have gone by I'm more and more convinced that what we have here is a classic, another of those defining Rush albums such as "Roll the Bones", "Moving Pictures" and, of course, "2112".

Highlights? You've probably all heard "One Little Victory" by now and you'll understand it's the perfect album opener – driving and uncompromising from the moment guest guitarist Dick Dale kicks in (!!!) "Ceiling Unlimited", "Out of the Cradle" and the title track itself all stand out for me, but as I mentioned earlier, every listen brings out new highs and if you ask me my favourite tracks in a few weeks time I'm sure I'll give you a completely different list.

As you'd expect, the standard of musicianship is as high as ever, but it has to be said that Geddy's playing is AWESOME throughout – always driving and imaginative but never intrusive.

The thing that stands out above all else however is the thing we all hoped – after all the trials and tribulations of recent years here's a bunch of guys who are obviously having fun again doing what they do best; the whole album simply explodes with energy and enthusiasm.

....they're going to have to sort out how to spell "Vapour" though.

Andy Faulkner

When you are young, people older than you say "don't be in a rush to grow up: the times soon flies when you get older". I ignored that little piece of advice when I was young, and now I'm old and indeed the years are going by way too quickly for my liking.

For instance, I find it inconceivable to think that Vapor Trails is the first Rush studio album in six years. In that time I've met my wife, married her, we've had a son (who's now nearly four), bought a house, I've changed jobs twice and been to five Rush Conventions. It is even more inconceivable to think Rush hasn't toured the UK in almost a decade: I remember the RTB shows as if they were yesterday.

Of course as you get older your tastes change. I have to admit I approached Vapor Trails with some trepidation. Would Rush still “do it” for me? Would they still blow me away? The weight of expectation was MASSIVE.

The first time I played Vapor Trails I really didn’t like it at all. How foolish of me not to remember that the best albums, the ones you eventually fall in love with, require an investment of your time: “room for you and I to grow” you might say. Having now spun the disc ten times I can honestly say: it’s a grower. Right now I think it is brave, stunning, utterly different from anything else out there. As I always say, ask me again in six months time: you can’t honestly review a Rush album until it has gotten well and truly under your skin.

The most important thing for you to know about Vapor Trails is that it rocks like a ba\$tard. This is by some way the heaviest album Rush has released since the mid-1970s. Alex is absolutely on fire at times: wait til you hear his sledgehammer riffing on Peaceable Kingdom, Earthshine, Nocturne and Freeze. There are virtually no keyboards on Vapor Trails – probably less than on any album since 2112.

But its not just Alex who grinds away on this album. Some of Geddy’s bass work is genuinely spleen rupturing. As a rule Neil continues as he did on t4e – not at all flash, economical, steady but with just enough sexy fills to let you know he’s still there (the exception being on Freeze, possibly his most impressive studio moment in a decade).

The most shocking thing about this album is that there is barely a guitar solo in sight. No, I’m not joking. Alex fills the spaces where the solo should be with shades, effects, even Indian sitars (you’ll see what I mean when you hear it) – but I count just one conventional solo across these 13 songs.

Although at times ferociously heavy, its not all sturm and drang. Indeed some songs, the aforementioned Peaceable Kingdom being the most obvious example, are schizophrenic in their styles: PK starts like Led Zeppelin – all rumbling power riffing and Bonhamesque drums – before melting into a chorus as beautiful as anything they’ve done: as serene as Resist or Ghost of A Chance. Another example is Ghost Rider – beautiful harmonies from Geddy matched to atonal riffing from Alex.

Perhaps here more than ever before you can imagine what Geddy and Alex have been listening to in their downtime. Second song Ceiling Unlimited comes over all new wave – Geddy’s bass work recalling New Order’s Peter Hook: like if the Strokes were doing a cover version of t4e’s Dog Years. How It Is, the most pure pop thing the band has ever committed to vinyl, is all Californian shimmer – bringing to mind Dada, Gin Blossoms, Crowded House. Earthshine is of the ilk of doom merchants Tool and the powerful riffing of Soundgarden (particularly Blow Up The Outside World era), whilst Sweet Miracle wouldn’t be out of place on a Pearl Jam LP (a band Geddy publicly admires).

My personal favourite after ten plays is Secret Touch, which lights the touch paper on side two. Big crunchy riffs from Alex, Geddy sending goose pimples up my arms with his gently crooned line “the way out is the way in”, and then – four minutes in – the killer bridge: where Rush do Primus, Machine Head, Tool and Rush again before the improvised outro at the end of the song. This one will kick your ass live.

Many Rush fans have been gagging to hear Freeze – Part IV of the Fear trilogy. Trust me, you will be satiated! The core of the song is all angular riffing, time changes all over the place – not unlike Vital Signs. Truly progressive, truly rock – this is the sort of thing Rush has been promising to do (but haven't done) since Moving Pictures.

And, yes, there's a big rock anthem: Vapor Trails' Spirit of Radio, Tom Sawyer, Dreamline track is opener "One Little Victory". Already all over American radio, it's a surefire summer FM hit.

Of course, Vapor Trails is permanently on my stereo at present. Each time I listen to it I gain a new perspective. Each spin throws up a nuance. I think I'm addicted.

When you first listen to Vapor Trails, don't worry if it doesn't blow you away immediately. I know I'm preaching to the converted here but spend some time with it, get to know it – and you'll be amply rewarded.

On this evidence, Rush still reign supreme. We might harp on about Dream Theater (and I know I am as guilty of this as anyone), but Vapor Trails is in a different league. Simple, effective, shatteringly original and diverse rock – utterly relevant in 2002.

The press and general record going public'll probably ignore it. But for those of us "in the know", this is something a little special: and some reward for our patience.

Start saying your prayers that Geddy, Alex and Neil decide to bring these songs to our shores this time round.

Andrew Field

With such a very long wait between albums, the level of anticipation of this was/is higher than ever. Also considering Neil's well known tragedies and his coming through these and settling down again, the curiosity as to what his lyrics would or would not reveal makes this almost a unique album.

I had heard so much - it's "heavy", there's "not much keyboards", "at least two tracks are about 8 minutes long" on the grapevine - it sounded really good. So it was with excitement and trepidation I heard it for the very first time.

The opening track (1st North American single) to radio is "One Little Victory" I pressed play and promptly fell over backwards. Jeez - The drums - what a start (and how appropriate, Neil opening the whole thing) the professor is back! Pretenders to his throne can give up now or bow to the master. Coming on a bit like Motorhead's "Overkill" with a thundering bass line (actually line's as there are a number of time changes) and a guitar with an almost Eastern European - this thing ROCKS!! Over 5 minutes of HEAVY ROCK bass/guitar/drums, time changes and false endings - Did I say this rocks like a mother? And is Ged trying out for the Sound Of Music or what? "High on a hill stood a lonely goathead".

Lyrically it seems uplifting - achieving ones goals, getting to where you need to be despite the obstacles many of us go through in life "one's little victories". So the album continues, guitar/bass/drums, heavy riffs with mellower moments interspersed throughout - a great deal of light and shade. Sometimes musically and lyrically foreboding - songs like "Earthshine" and "Freeze" (Part 4 of Fear) hubba, hubba - "Dark streets and shadows, not prepared to run away... or to fight". Yet at the same time hopeful - "How It Is" or "Sweet Miracle". Both of these songs are thoughtful and bittersweet.

"How It Is" seems particularly reflective, "Such a cloudy day."..however "feel the day has possibilities" - then urging us to "See how it is and how it ought to be". "Sweet Miracle" is probably the most personal song on the album. From tragedy finding happiness (it's a subject touched on before by Neil but not as effectively) and the chorus "sweet miracle of life" is sung by Ged so beautifully with much emotion and power.

I could rave on and on (I normally do!) but I am still finding nuggets of gold within this album - the speeding up in "Ceiling Unlimited"; the work and writing of the holy trinity being truly remarkable; Neil showing off in "Peaceable Kingdom"; the chorus of "Secret Touch" and Alex's distinctive guitar work..... and so much more.

Can I just say "I love this"? For me it's the strongest album since "Roll The Bones" [AMEN TO THAT TOM! MICK]. In concert, the band could perform this whole album and it would be amazing, although I expect that we will only get 6 or 7 of them. Lyrically there is much going on (not quite as personal as some thought it might be though) with very strong chorus's to boot. This for me is a return to the bands roots - an old fashioned rock album made with modern 21st century sensibilities. There is a touch of "Tool" in there and dare I say it "Nu-Metal" but without the excesses of trying to sound cool. Did I say that this disc ROCKS?

Rush are back with a vengeance for the new millennium. As to the earlier rumours of - "It's Heavy" - Yup! "There's not much keyboards" - Yup! "8 minute long tracks" Nearly! What can one say but "ENJOY" It's superb! Thank god that they are back.

Tom "Madjock" Cornell



Signals

Hi Mick,

I just visited www.play.com and they are offering Vapor Trails @ £8.99 - including delivery. I don't know if anyone else might like to know. [THANKS FOR THE INFO MIKE, SOUNDS LIKE A BARGAIN TO US. MICK.]

Cheers,

Mike Rowberry
email

Hi Mick,

We are happy to work on a two set format and already have some ideas for additions to the set. This will include some more recent material and, assuming Rush live up to their promise of a May 14th release date, will also include something off the new album. Your readers are more than welcome to put their suggestions to us about songs they want to hear. Having seen the poll we will be including The Camera Eye at the convention. The next set of gigs are at the following venues;

19 April, The Office - South Shields
23 May, Trilliums - Newcastle
24 May, Rock Garden - Durham

We are looking to add to those gigs before the convention in August and will keep you posted. For those Spirit of Rush readers who came along to the gigs in Halifax and Crewe thanks very much for your support. Both nights went very well, thanks in large part to the response of the audience. It has convinced us that there is a real interest in Rush and that hopefully, with the release of the new album, we will see that interest increase at our gigs and at the convention in August.

For anyone who wishes to contact the band please email me at, canucks01@btopenworld.com

GRAHAM CLARKE
2112

High Mick (not always),

Thanks for another great edition of S.O.R. It is very good news to hear about the DVD release of the Live Rush videos. I will be on the look out for them when they appear. I have been after a

Signals

copy of Exit Stage Left for years and will be well pleased if I can get it on DVD. I played my Show Of Hands Video to death. I'm really hoping like all of us that because of the re-release of the live material, there is going to be a bigger tour than recent Rush tours.

On to the subject of the new Dream Theater album. Firstly I would like to say that it was worth the wait. I had a real hard time trying to get hold of the album - the record shops in my part of the country are a joke. If its not top 50 then forget it. I managed to get hold of a copy via mail order from an ad in Classic Rock.

Anyway high points on the album for me are the following tracks. The glass prison. This one sounds very much like Metallica at the start to me. Blind Faith - again a very good track, one of my favourites from the album. I also think the Great Debate is a good one too, which really shows the versatility of the band very well. Disc 2 is very good again.... very diverse The Test That Stumped Them All, being a favourite of mine.

On the subject of the live show at Hammersmith, here are my thought's.... I had not heard any of the new material before the show which I was quite unhappy about (see my note above about record shops). My first impression was that the sound could have been better. [THE SOUND WAS PERFECT IN THE FRONT STALLS, IT ALL DEPENDS WHERE YOUR SITUATED AT HAMMY 'O'. MICK]

On the opening song I could not hear the vocals at all - it sounded like the volume of the rest of the band was way too high. I noted that James Labrie was signalling to his sound engineer throughout the evening..... he did not seem happy at all. The set was very good from a music point of view - the set was well laid out with a good selection of material from their recordings. I was impressed with Lines in The Sand..... that always comes over very well live. Also Pull Me Under and the material from Scenes.

When the sound did come together it was very good indeed. I was very impressed with the

cover of the last part of 2112. Well done lads.
[GRAND FINALE WAS A PEACH TO HEAR.
MICK]

I was at the show last time they played
Hammersmith which was a fantastic show and I
have to say that I thought they were better last
time round but not by much. [NEVER! THIS
TIME WAS BETTER. MICK]

On the Subject of Sound quality at gigs. I have
been going to live concerts for about 15 years
now and have seen most of the worlds top
professional rock bands live at one time. My
point is that in my experience, a little less
volume pays big dividends with sound quality.
Rush/Pink Floyd Genesis seem to have it about
right. Dream Theater are a great live band, no
question, but I think it would work well for them
if they turned it down a bit - but not too much. [I
COULD NOT AGREE WITH YOU MORE PAT,
SOME BANDS PLAY WAY LOUDER THAN IS
NEEDED. MICK]

All the best to everyone. Here's to a great New
Rush Album. Regards,

**Patrick
Folkestone**

To Mick and the team,

Reading the Editorial in this Spring Edition I
certainly am interested in going to the States,
(hope the £ to the \$US improves though!), and
am busy saving the Air Miles and working out
what to put in the "Dear Wife and Children"
letter when the dates are announced. (I'll send
the SAE asap too). [LIKE LOADS OF OTHER
READERS, WE SHOULD HAVE SOME
PARTY AFTER THE FIRST SHOW IF THEY
ALL GO OVER. MICK.]

By way of an offer, I would be happy to offer a
lift to any Rush lunatics from the
Chesterfield/Sheffield/Nottingham area to
LHR/LGW/MAN/BHX airports, (no axes/nylon
garottes please!). [NICE OF ANDY, HIS
CONTACT DETAILS ARE BELOW. MICK.]

And now for something potentially controversial
and I trust debatable..... I really enjoy reading
the 'zine when it comes out -indeed I feel sorry
for Geddy having to answer zillions of similar
Q's on MFH, (shows the professionalism of the
guy that he answered all of them with aplomb!)

However!!, I'd like to read about Rush and not
about Dream Theater/Spocks Beard/some
guitar technician from a band-that's-influenced-
by-Rush etc.

OK, maybe I'm in the minority of opinion
here,(and as a democratic subscriber I'll accept
that's the way it's to be if the majority think it's
really tickety-boo), but I'd like to query why the
'zine incorporates this material. [WHAT DO
THE REST OF OUR READERS THINK?
MICK.]

There's nothing worst than a critic without a
proposal of their own.....and mine is to:

- 1) repeat interviews from the
Devonian/Jurassic periods in SoR's
history, (which many of us may not
have),-after all the BBC does it!, or
- 2) put in transcribed music/guitar clinics
and the like so us noodlers can have a
go on the geetar, or [ARE YOU
OFFERING ANDY? MICK.]
- 3) slim down the 'zine because we ain't
got the material [WE DID THIS
ALREADY. MICK.]

Essentially I'm asking to keep it Rush-relevant
and Rush-topical! Over to the you and the
readership!?

Best wishes,

**Andy Ball
email**



RUSH

INTERVIEW WITH ALEX LIFESON ON 92 CITI-FM (Winnipeg) AIRED ON March 25, 2002

NOTES: The interviewer was (as listed on the website) CITI-FM's Gordo Fry. The interview was actually a replay of an interview done (by phone) with Alex after "Different Stages" came out (as the transcript below will show), but before Geddy got involved with "My Favourite Headache." This broadcast went from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. CST (7:30 – 8:00 p.m. EST). The segment is called "The Buzz."

GORDO FRY: Welcome to The Buzz...(sponsors)...my name is Gordo and tonight it's the best of The Buzz with Rush. And we'll be speaking with the group's guitar player Alex Lifeson.

ALEX LIFESON: (pre-recorded...not part of interview) Hi, this is Alex Lifeson of Rush on CITI-FM.

[They played "Closer to the Heart" (live)]

GF: 92 CITI-FM, that's Rush, with "Closer to the Heart" on the best of The Buzz. We'll be back to speak with Alex Lifeson from Rush, right after these.

GF: Welcome back to The Buzz. (sponsors) Tonight it's Rush on the best of The Buzz. And, on the telephone with us, we have the group's guitar player Alex Lifeson, who tells us about the early days of Rush.

AL: Well, we were doing something that was a dream come true. Ya' know, touring and recording records was, just the ultimate. So uh, ya' know, those early times were...were times of paying dues really. We...we worked a lot, we played a lot. We opened a lot of shows. Ya' know, we did some club dates. We worked like mad. We played 250-280 shows a year. But, uh, looking back on it, it was a wonderful, wonderful experience.

GF: Well, during the early days of Rush, you guys seemed to have found your success uh, not only in Canada, but, in some areas of the United States. Whereabouts did Rush make their mark first-off?

AL: Yeah, well, I mean, we had some local success in southern Ontario, and in Toronto playing the clubs. But, um, it, it really didn't start to take off until we started touring America. And that wasn't overnight either. That, that was, that was a solid six years of hard work before we really established a name for ourselves.

GF: Alex, one of the things is, the early Rush albums seem to be very raw, uh, I guess, very hard. What album, do you think, established Rush, and the Rush sound?

AL: I think by the time we did "2112" we'd sort of locked ourselves into what was more identifiable as a Rush sound. Our first uh, first few records were really leading up to that sort of thing. And we did a lot of experimenting. On "Caress of Steel," for example, we did the whole "Fountain of Lamneth," which, which took up a whole *side*. And that was really the pre-cursor to getting into something, uh, like "2112." That was our testing (room? ground?) for "2112." But I think we kind of established a sound for ourselves at that point.

[They started to play "2112," (live), but *cut* it right before Geddy said "And the meek shall inherit the earth" !!]

GF: 92 CITI-FM, that's Rush, with "2112" on the best of The Buzz. We're talking with Alex Lifeson, the group's guitar player. And, one of the main things that you can say about Rush, not only does the music sound great, but they're one of those bands that get inside your head with the lyrics. Uh, how important are the lyrics, Alex?

AL: The lyrics are *very* important. I mean, that's...really become a signature of Rush. We've uh, certainly in the way Neil wrote, writes, he – now more so than in the past – he writes as an observer of things around him. Uh, and it's not a trivial thing that, that he's written about over the years. So I think it gives some meat to the bones for, uh, for the listener, and certainly for Rush fans. It's very very important.

GF: The latest Rush album is, uh, "Different Stages," which came out in 1998, uhh, live album. Uh, tell us about that.

AL: Well, we spent a lot of time on this record. Um, trying to get what we felt was the Rush sound. Or at least what our live, uh, representation is. It's difficult for us because we're on the stage, so we've never heard ourselves. But, uh, I think we've managed to capture the energy and the performing, uh, that goes with a Rush show. We're really quite happy with it. I think it sounds very good. There's a, a clarity to it, and yet there's still lots of power, and you feel like you're in the arena and you feel like your right there sitting beside somebody. And, in all those ways it's a very successful mix.

[They played "Limelight" (live)]

GF: 92 CITI-FM. Rush, with the live version of "Limelight" from "Different Stages," their latest release, from 1998. Uh, Rush has not toured since 1997. As a matter of fact, the final time they toured together, July 4, 1997, the final date. And the reason they have not toured is because of a pair of devastating tragedies that, uh, has occurred in Neil Peart's – the drummer in the band's – life. Uh, in August of '97 he lost his daughter to a car accident. And almost a year later his wife to cancer. So the band right now, according to Geddy Lee, is in a state of open-endedness. I don't know what he meant by that. But we do have Alex Lifeson on the telephone, the guitar player in the band, on tonight's best of The Buzz. And, let me ask you this...what is the status of Rush at this point?

AL: We're...just in a bit of a holding pattern and, uh, waiting for Neil to get his strength back and, and make a decision on where *he* wants to go. So, for the time being the live record will buy us a little bit of time, and som-, at some point in the near future we'll sit down and talk about the future of the band. But it's just a little premature to, to speculate on it.

GF: Alex, we have a question here that a lot of Winnipeggers, uh, have been asking in the last 16 or 17 years. And that's pretty well the last time Rush played in Winnipeg, it was the "Signals" tour. Uh, how come Rush haven't played Winnipeg since then?

AL: It, it's uh, it's unfortunate, because we've *wanted* to come back to Winnipeg, um... On a number of tours the plan was to come back through Winnipeg, and, do more of a cross-Canada tour. But, uh, the interest didn't seem to be there. And it's tough to bring a big show into a, an area where uh, you don't have that kind of support. Um, it really doesn't work for anyone. So, unfortunately, we haven't been back in a while.

[They played "Subdivisions" (from "Signals," not live)]

GF: 92 CITI-FM, "Subdivisions," Rush, on the best of The Buzz. (sponsors)

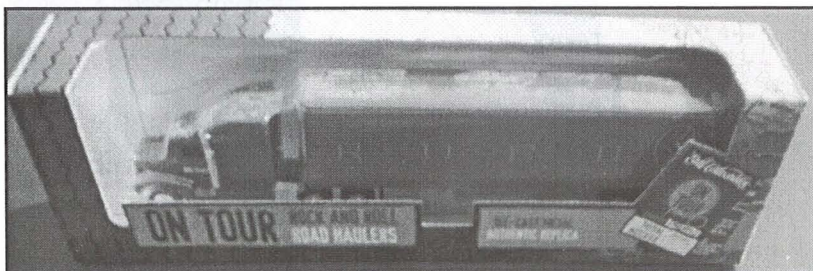
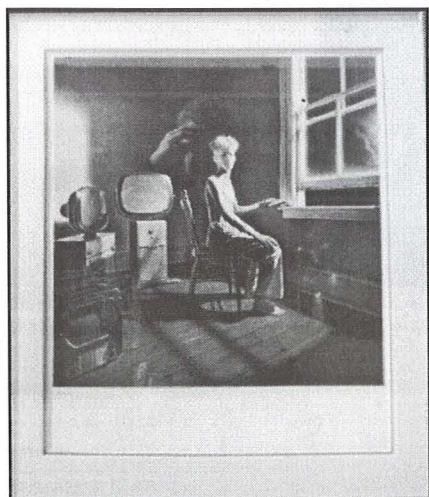
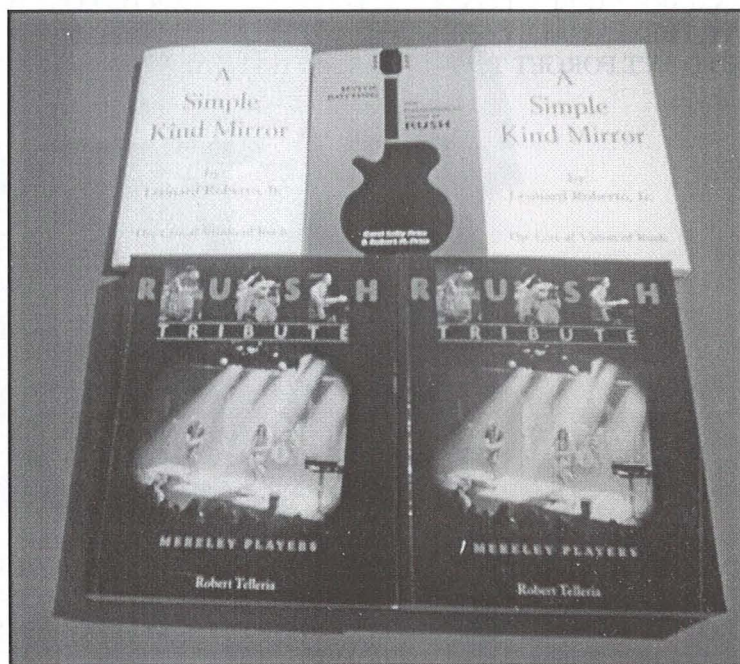
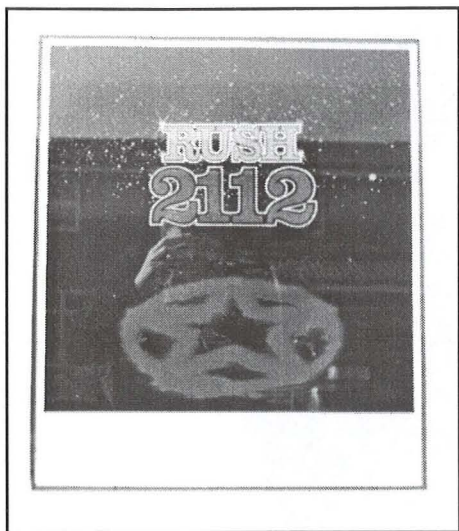
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CONVENTION PRIZES!!!

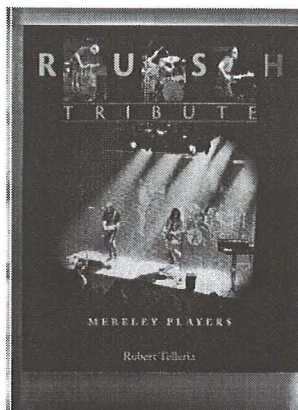
PICTURED BELOW ARE SEVERAL ITEMS WE HAVE ALREADY PROCURED TO USE AS RAFFLE PRIZES AT THIS YEARS CONVENTION AT THE LIMELIGHT CLUB IN CREWE ON SAT 31ST AUG.

WE HAVE A LIMITED EDITION DIE CAST METAL TOUR TRUCK AND VARIOUS BOOKS - WITH MORE TO FOLLOW. ALSO 2 LIMITED EDITION LITHOGRAPHS OF THE ALBUM COVERS OF 2112 AND POWER WINDOWS AUTOGRAPHED BY NEIL, ALEX & GEDDY AND FRAMED 24"X 36" READY TO BE HUNG.

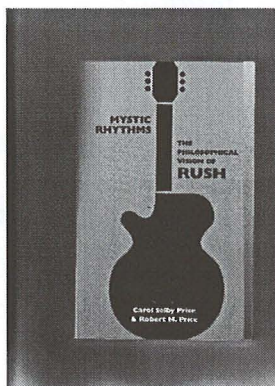
MANY MORE SPECIAL ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR.SEE NEXT ISSUE FOR DETAILS.



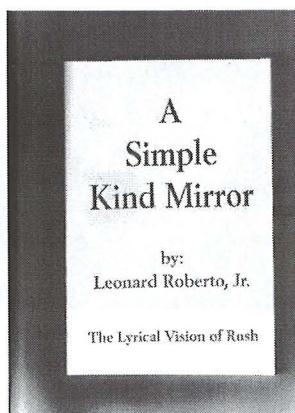
RUSH BOOKS.....



"MERELY PLAYERS" IS AVAILABLE BY MAIL ORDER FROM THE "HELTER SKELTER" BOOKSHOP IN DENMARK STREET, LONDON FOR ONLY £17-99 PLUS POSTAGE AND PACKING. GIVE THEM A CALL ON 020-7836-1151. FAX 020-7240-9880. WWW.SKELTER.DEMON.CO.UK AND DON'T FORGET TO TELL THEM THAT THE SPIRIT OF RUSH SENT YOU.

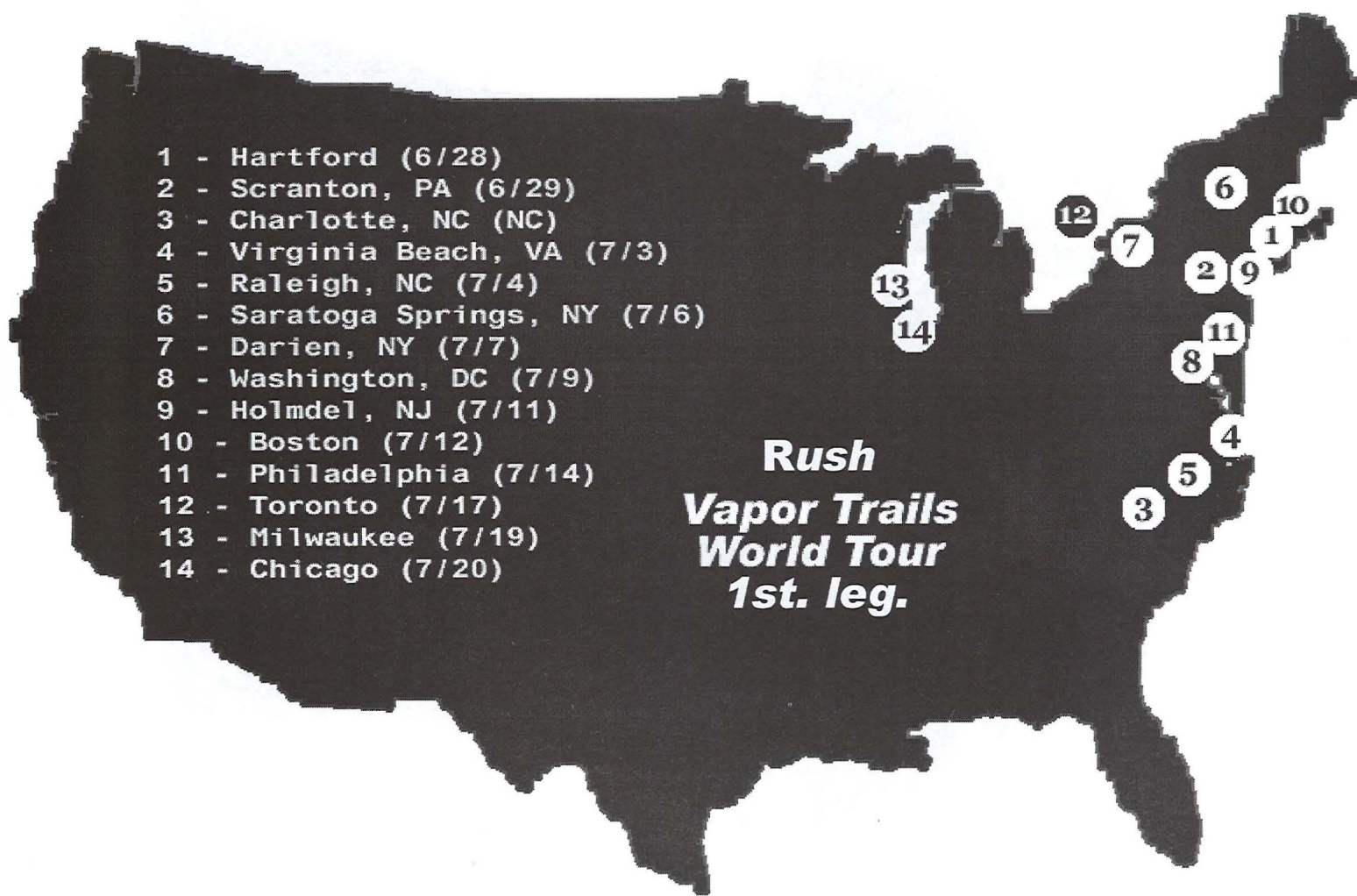


"MYSTIC RHYTHMS" IS AVAILABLE BY MAIL ORDER FROM THE "HELTER SKELTER" BOOKSHOP IN DENMARK STREET, LONDON FOR ONLY £13-99 PLUS POST/PACKING. CONTACT THEM ON 020-7836-1151. FAX 020-7240-9880. WWW.SKELTER.DEMON.CO.UK PLEASE LET THEM KNOW THAT THE SPIRIT OF RUSH PUT YOU IN THE PICTURE.

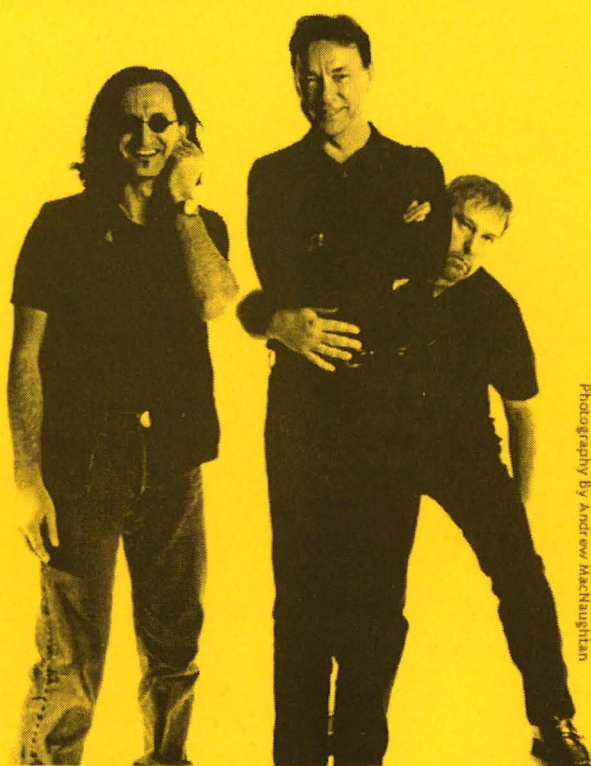


"A SIMPLE KIND MIRROR" IS AVAILABLE FOR \$9-99 PLUS POST & PACKING FROM WWW.AMAZON.COM AND MANY OTHER NORTH AMERICAN ONLINE BOOK SELLERS.



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- A black silhouette map of the United States is shown. Numbered circles (1-14) are placed on the map to indicate tour locations. The numbers are distributed as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. Locations 1 through 11 are concentrated in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, while locations 12, 13, and 14 are in the Great Lakes region. The tour dates for each location are listed in a separate block to the left of the map.
- 1 - Hartford (6/28)
 - 2 - Scranton, PA (6/29)
 - 3 - Charlotte, NC (NC)
 - 4 - Virginia Beach, VA (7/3)
 - 5 - Raleigh, NC (7/4)
 - 6 - Saratoga Springs, NY (7/6)
 - 7 - Darien, NY (7/7)
 - 8 - Washington, DC (7/9)
 - 9 - Holmdel, NJ (7/11)
 - 10 - Boston (7/12)
 - 11 - Philadelphia (7/14)
 - 12 - Toronto (7/17)
 - 13 - Milwaukee (7/19)
 - 14 - Chicago (7/20)

Rush
Vapor Trails
World Tour
1st. leg.



Photography by Andrew MacNaughtan

HAVER HOTO TIRI92

SPIRIT OF RUSH

18.0N
Late
SPRING 2002

NO. 61
Late
SPRING 2002



VAPOR
TRAILS