

PULSE BRIEF

Joan Baez to visit Eugene

Baez, who became popular in the 1960s and has continued to make music ever since, is appearing at the venue for the first time in eight years.

However, Oregon Festival of American Music Executive Director Jim Ralph said tickets for the Baez show were gone instantaneously.

"She is a legend," Ralph said. "We put out two advertisements for the show and it completely sold out."

Baez first appeared at the Newport Folk Festival in 1959, and she went on to release her first album, "Joan Baez," a year later. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, she combined her music-making with political activism by participating in events and singing about current issues. She co-founded the Institute For the Study of Nonviolence in Carmel Valley, Calif., released her first Spanish album in honor of Chilean residents living under the rule of Augusto Pinochet, and marched with the Irish



Courtesy

Legendary folk artist Joan Baez will appear at The Shedd Concert Hall on March 3.

Peace People in North Ireland during a period of violence.

She continued her activism in the 1980s by promoting the nuclear freeze movement and condemning California's Proposition 6, which would have prevented openly gay teachers from working in public schools. Her music intertwines soft ballads, bluesy beats, lullabies, country influences and ethnic folk.

During her career, Baez has released more than 60 domestic and international albums and performed worldwide. Her most recent release, "Dark Chords On a Big Guitar," came out in 2003.

Ralph said Baez is known for her talent and perseverance.

"She has a phenomenal voice," he said. "She not only captured the spirit of the 1960s folk music age, she's also just a brilliant musician. She's continued to make rock-solid music."

The Shedd Concert Hall is located at 868 High St.

- Natasha Chilingierian

The Sonics give music fans taste of original punk sounds

The first two albums by the Sonics remain popular among garage-rock and punk music aficionados

By Ryan Nyburg
Senior Pulse Reporter

It's hard to remember a time when

one could turn on Top 40 radio expecting to hear something good. It seems like such a waste of what used to be a vital medium. Dominated by a few large companies and using play lists that reflect

FORGOTTEN ALBUMS

national preferences rather than the tastes of a region, radio no longer seems interested in catering to individuals. The herd dominates. If you don't like what's popular, you can shell out \$15 for an album or maybe catch a show at some local dive.

But those local dives are all closing

Turn to **SONICS**, page 11

The Jungle helps Eugene club scene by being 'new and fresh'

The owner of The Jungle says having areas that separate the underage and 21-and-over customers helps the bar to bring in crowds

By Ryan Nyburg
Senior Pulse Reporter

The decor in The Jungle certainly tries to fit the name. Eugene's newest night spot is filled to the brim with fake palm trees, ferns and even a small waterfall. Everything is bathed in ultra-violet light, casting an eerie glow over the scattered tables and mock vegetation.

The stage has a dance floor that can't help but be packed. When there is no room left for dancers, customers dance in any open space they can find. Even the flames of small candles strewn about the bar move with the beat of the music, flickering from the change in air pressure caused by pounding bass drums of the band onstage.

But this is just one of the venue's many faces over the years. Until last November, the club was known as the Annex, a popular underage venue. But while the club pulled in the crowds, it wasn't enough.

"We did well, but we were just making money from the charge at the door," said Alexandra Sianis, the club's manager. "We tried to get a liquor license, but it took some time."

When the club finally did become licensed to sell alcohol, other problems arose.

"The Annex had become strongly branded as an underage club," The Jungle owner Doug Renner said. "We put up flyers and advertisements, but nobody seemed to realize that we now served alcohol."

So the owners and managers of the club decided to make a change. In November of last year they closed the club and began remodeling. Filling what was once an empty space with tropical paraphernalia, an expanded stage and a revamped sound system, the owners brought the club back as The Jungle at the beginning of the new year. According to Renner, the change has been a successful one.

"We've had about 700 people a night every Friday and Saturday since we reopened," Renner said. "I think we're showing people in Eugene something new, giving them a place that's clean, safe and comfortable."

The owners believe one of the reasons for the popularity is the venue hasn't been completely closed off to minors since reopening. On select nights it allows anyone 18 and older to enter, while splitting the club up so that alcohol is only available to the 21-and-over crowd.

Sianis believes the success also had to do with the Eugene club scene as a whole.

"This town needed something new and fresh," said Sianis.



Lauren Wimer Photographer

The Jungle has undergone extensive remodeling, including the addition of an expanded stage and a revamped sound system.

"Timing-wise, we've been incredibly successful."

According to the club's employees, the success of The Jungle boils down to atmosphere.

"It's just a great place to hang out," bartender Jamie, who prefers to go by one name, said. "The music, the people; it's just a great environment. Of all the dance clubs I've been to in Eugene, it's the best."

The Jungle is located at 23 West Sixth Ave.

Contact the senior Pulse reporter at ryannyburg@dailyemerald.com.

Best Meal for a Deal, 2nd Place, Best Omelette, 2nd Place, Best Breakfast, 2nd Place, Best Vegetarian Fare, 2nd Place, Register-Guard, 1987, Best Breakfast, In Town Magazine, 1985, Best Breakfast, Oregon Daily Emerald, 1995, 9 a.m., Comic News, Best Dinner, Eugene Weekly, 1996, One of 101 Cool Things, Register-Guard, 1998, Best Dinner, Best Place to Take Visitors, Best Place, Best Breakfast, 1st Place, Best Sunday Lunch, 2nd Place, Best Lunch Under \$10, Best Family Dining, 2nd Place, Eugene Weekly, Best Dinner Under \$12, 1st Place, Eugene Weekly, \$8, 1st Place, Best Breakfast, 2nd Place, Best Soup, 3rd Place, Eugene Weekly, 2000, Best Breakfast, Best of Teen, Register-Guard, Below, 2001, Best Breakfast, 2nd Place, Best Vegan Eats, Eugene Weekly, Best Soup, 2nd Place, Eugene Weekly, Best Coffee, Eugene Weekly, Best Breakfast, Eugene Weekly, 2003.

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