

Dan Band brings laughs, 'girl' songs

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"Total Eclipse of the Heart," "No Scrubs," "Shoop" and "Genie in a Bottle" used to bring back memories of growing up in the '80s and '90s. Now, after seeing The Dan Band, they conjure up images of a man dressed as an auto mechanic, and his two friends wearing business suits, pole dancing and rubbing their nipples.

They recently performed at the Roseland Theater in Portland and, I must say, it was quite an experience. I'm not usually a fan of cover bands, but the Dan Band is more than that: They're a comedy cover band. Their gimmick is singing songs by popular female artists with their own twist. It's not only funny; it works and makes for a highly entertaining evening.

The Dan Band is fronted by former *Stomp* cast member Dan Finnerty. He received notoriety in Los Angeles for singing "girl" songs in karaoke bars and, unbeknownst to him, formed a band in the process.

"I had no intention of forming

a band when I moved to L.A.," Finnerty said in an after-concert interview with *The Clackamas Print*. "[...] I sang 'I Am Woman' drunk at karaoke, and I opened for my friend's band, and this booker for The Viper Room came up and was like, 'If you add a few songs to your set, I'll book you at The Viper Room,' and I was like, 'Okay.' He was, like, 'Do you have a flyer?' and I was all, 'For what?' and he goes, 'When's your next show?' and I was all, 'Fuckin' never!'"

"I'm really an actor. This whole thing started to promote my lame acting career," Finnerty continued. "A couple years ago, we did a pilot for ABC, and it was a sit-com ... there was a lot of 'sit' and no 'com.'"

It's worked well for him. Since then, he's been in two movies (*Starsky and Hutch*, *Old School*), filmed a concert special on the Bravo network and performed on daytime and nighttime television talk shows. He's also working with Tenacious D's Kyle Gass on a film entitled *Parental Guidance Suggested*.

"It's like a porno musical," Finnerty said when describing the film.



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Finnerty belts out another classic pop-tune originally performed by a female artist at The Dan Band's Feb. 22 show at the Roseland Theater. Portland was one of their last stops on their West Coast Tour.



Finnerty freak dances behind his back-up singers during their cover of TLC's "No Scrubs." This was one of the many humorous, homo-erotic moments that took place during the show.

"[The Bravo special] was supposed to come out on DVD, but

there was all these problems ... so we're just gonna re-shoot it," Finnerty said. "That was a really slick special, and this one we're gonna re-shoot at a women's prison ... it'll be this show, but at a women's prison."

Some of their crowd-favorite songs they performed included an F-bomb-riddled version of "Total Eclipse of the Heart" by Bonnie Tyler, a rendition of Christina Aguilera's "Genie in a Bottle" that changed the song's meaning to be about mutual masturbation and their staple encore song "You Oughta Know" by Alanis Morissette, which was just as

full of piss and vinegar as the original albeit, more sexual than the original ... if that's even possible.

Besides their songs, the other highlights of the show were the onstage antics between Finnerty and his backup singers. Finnerty, using his sharp wit, was constantly goofing on the people in the audience. His backup guys engaged in dry-humping, pole dancing, jumping through hula hoops during a Britney Spears pair, and one of them wore a pair of an audience member's panties on his head.

"Basically, the band was a giant mistake," Finnerty concluded.

"This whole thing started to promote my lame acting career."

Dan Finnerty
The Dan Band



LEFT: The Dan Band appears from behind a white curtain to a crowd of cheering Portlanders, singing a medley of En Vogue's "Free Your Mind" and Helen Reddy's "I Am Woman."

ABOVE: Back-up singer John Kozeluh shares a touching moment with the other back-up singer, Gene Reed, by placing a Dan Band sticker on his bare chest and then rubbing his nipple.

RIGHT: Gene Reed pole dances while singing the back-up vocals for Eryka Badu's "Tyrone."

