

Dave Day ‘sounds the bell’ on new album

The phrase “sound the bell” often means whatever everyone has collectively gathered for is about to begin — anticipation indeed.

Guitarist Dave Day’s (Mercy featuring Lynda Morrison) third solo album, “Sound the Bell,” announces that his guitar has some jamming to do. The title track literally commences the whole thing off. And does so brilliantly. It’s an up-tempo rocker that informs the listener that this is serious business. It effectively lives up to its name.

“Sound the Bell” is a blues album that touches various blues sub-genres. Chicago, delta, country, swamp, rhythm & blues and blues-rock variations are all combined to make a collective blues-gumbo that marinates more with repeated spins. Regardless of the style, Day’s guitar comes out distinctly in control.

The songs are mostly covers, with three original pieces that showcase what Dave Day does so well. Regardless of the sub-genre, every track adds something to the whole, while throughout Day’s guitar gets the blues out.



JOHNNY VINYL
Comment



Photo courtesy D. Wilson

Dave Day recently released his third album, “Sound the Bell.”

When you’re covering musical legends the likes of Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters and Lynyrd Skynyrd, the task is two-fold. You have to honor the original while simultaneously injecting enough originality to justify manipulating the past.

Three of the covers are not only

standout tracks on the album, but seminal arrangements of songs that exist in multiple cultural vernaculars.

One of those is “Crossroads,” an acoustic-based reading of Robert Johnson’s signature song about a dialogue with the devil. Day focuses on the space intersecting

Johnson’s original with Eric Clapton’s serious mid-1970s update — providing a totally refreshing take on the 80-year-old track.

Amazingly, Day firmly puts his stamp on the oft-covered standard. What’s even more amazing, Day said it was the last song to make the cut for inclusion. A great way to close an eclectic collection of blues tunes almost didn’t make it!

Day gets ample vocal assistance from Mercy bandmate Lynda Morrison on the Tom Jones/Jools Holland track “Life’s Too Short.” The original is a barrelhouse piano boogie about a dysfunctional relationship. Here, Day transforms it into a rhythm and blues scorcher that screams for attention.

A third notable cover is Lynyrd Skynyrd’s “Simple Man.” For many, this track reminds people of the pre-crash Skynyrd. It’s also a song that everyone on the planet can relate to — heeding your mama’s words.

“Simple Man” is often performed and recorded by other artists. However, most who cover

the song don’t stray far from the original. Dave Day’s homage to Ronnie Van Zant and gang starts out that way, a slow-burn blues groove. That’s up to the 5:44 mark — from there, the solo that ensues it simply magical. Some Skynyrd fans believe it’s sacrilegious to mess with the pre-crash catalogue. After hearing the incendiary solo that ends the track, there will be far more converts than complainants.

The songs are mostly covers, with three original pieces that showcase what Dave Day does so well.

Blues, unlike many other genres of popular music, is more than merely a sound or a style. Blues is real. Blues is life. Blues is universal. Dave Day’s “Sound the Bell” is a very eclectic collection that proves all three.

“Sound The Bell” is available on iTunes, CD Baby and Day’s website. Also, a guitar instructor, Day gives lessons in person, via Skype and FaceTime. For more information, visit www.daveday-guitar.com.

Johnny Vinyl is a music connoisseur. His column, *Ride the Vibe*, focuses on entertainment. Contact him via tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com

BRIEFLY

Dakota Brown Band plays in the Irrigon Marina Park

IRRIGON — Alternative soul, pop and rock is featured in the upcoming Music in the Parks concert.

The Dakota Brown Band, featuring Dakota Brown, Luke Basile, Frazer Wambeke, Tim Coronado and Chris Newbury, will take the stage Monday at 7 p.m. at Irrigon Marina Park. The event is free. Concessions are available for purchase from Judy’s Chuck Wagon.



Contributed photo

In June of 2011, the Dakota Brown Band recorded and released an EP titled “Find Your Way.” A full-length studio release is in the works with three-time Grammy nominated producer Brook Floyd. Also, the band filmed a music video in Hawaii for its single “How Far We Can Go.”

People are invited to bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the music. The concert series, which runs through Aug. 22, alternates each Monday between Boardman and Irrigon marina parks.

For more information, call Tami Sherer at 541-571-0844 or Renee Couchman at 922-1560. For more about the band, visit www.dakotabrownband.com.

Planes On Paper fly into town for Wednesdays in the Park

PENDLETON — Described as Central Washington’s hauntingly beautiful songcrafters, Planes On Paper will perform during the upcoming Wednesdays in the Park.

The free event is Wednesday, Aug. 10 from 6-8 p.m. at Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Available for purchase from Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co. will be pizza, beer and wine, and Delicious Dogs will offer hot dogs.



Photo by Melissa Fenno

Planes On Paper describes themselves as an acoustic songwriting and harmony duo, joined on happy occasion by some of their musical friends. For the Pendleton performance, Navid Eliot and Jen Borst will be joined by Sam Watts (lead singer/songwriter for Ghosts I’ve Met) on drums and Kent Ueland (frontman of The Holy Broke and Terrible Buttons) on bass.

Wednesdays in the Park is in its second season. Presented by Pendleton Parks & Recreation and Sounds Like Entertainment, the all-ages concert series is each Wednesday though Aug. 24. People are invited to bring a chair or blanket and enjoy the evening.

For more information, visit www.pendletonparksandrec.com or search Facebook for “Wednesdays in the Park.” For more about the group, visit www.planesonpaper.com.

Library hosts ‘Lord of the Rings’ marathon

PENDLETON — All things Tolkien are planned during a teen gathering at the Pendleton Public Library.

The “Lord of the Rings” Marathon is Monday beginning at 11 a.m. at the library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. There is no admission charge.

Teenagers are invited to bring blankets, pillows and kick back for a long, yet awesome day. Pizza is provided.

For more information, call 541-966-0380 or visit www.pendletonlibrary.weebly.com.

Festivals

Umatilla County Fair

•Aug. 6; 6:30 p.m., parade
•Aug. 9-13; 9 a.m.-5:25 p.m. Orchard Ave., Hermiston
www.co.umatilla.or.us/fair
www.farmcityprodeco.com
\$10/adults, \$8/seniors, \$6/ages 6-12, free/under 6. Season passes available. Also, Farm-City Pro Rodeo performances are Wednesday-Saturday at 7:45 p.m. \$17/general admission (includes fair entry); Wednesday only, children 12 and under are \$5. \$25/Davis Amusement carnival wristbands (if purchased by Aug. 8) or \$30 — does not include fair admission.

Bronze, Blues & Brews

•Friday, Aug. 12; 6-10 p.m.
•Saturday, Aug. 13; noon-10 p.m.
•Joseph
www.bronzebluesbrews.com
\$30/advance, \$35/gate, free/10 and under. Features headliner Sugar Ray Rayford, as well as Brandon Santini, Franco Paletta and more. Free barbecue for Friday night ticket holders. Beer and wine available for purchase.

Morrow County Fair

•Aug. 17-20; 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
•74473 Highway 74, Heppner
www.morrowcountyoregon.com/country-fair
\$4/adults, \$2/ages 6-12. Season passes available. Tillamook Ice Cream Social, Murray’s Wine & Micro-Brew Tasting and Dr. Solar’s Medicine Show. Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo is Aug. 19-20 at 7 p.m.; Morrow County Rodeo is Sunday, Aug. 21 at 1:15 p.m. (rodeo tickets separate).

Milton-Freewater Rocks!

•Aug. 19-20; 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Aug. 21; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
•Yantis Park, Milton-Freewater
www.facebook.com/miltonfree-waterrocks
Free admission. Craft/vendor booths, food court, kid zone, beer/wine garden, live entertainment, quilt show, pretty baby contest, sip & paint, parade, Izzy the Camel, Rotary barbecue, salmon bake & corn roast, firemen’s water fight and Harvest Art Show (Central Middle School).

•Arts Portal Gallery, 508 N. Main St., Milton-Freewater
www.facebook.com/ArtsPortal-Gallery
Free. Exhibit features artwork of Carley Rae Hippauf (including landscapes in oils and pastels) and others.

Art & Museums

The Little Big Show

•Aug. 5-31; business hours
•Downtown Baker City
www.visitbakercity.com
Free. More than 160 regional artists present works for \$40 each in eight galleries. Show runs through August.

Charlene Liu

•Monday-Fridays; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts, 48004 St Andrews Road, Mission
www.crowshadow.org
Free. Liu’s exhibit is held in conjunction with the Portland 2016 Biennial of Contemporary Art presented by Disjecta Contemporary Art Center. Her work combines digital and analog processes. Runs through Sept. 16.

Peter Rock: Spells

•Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

WHAT TO DO

Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.

www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Exhibit features a collaborative effort between author Peter Rock (www.peterrockproject.com) and five photographers. Runs through Aug. 27.

The Map is Not the Territory

•Monday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

•Tamástlikt Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.
www.tamastlikt.org
\$10/adults, \$9/senior citizens, \$6/youths, free/5 and under or \$25/family of four. The exhibit takes a look at relationships and commonalities in Palestinian, American Indian and Irish experiences of invasion, occupation, and colonization. Runs through Aug. 10.

“All American Barbecue”

•Saturday & Sundays; noon-5 p.m.
•Arts Portal Gallery, 508 N. Main St., Milton-Freewater
www.facebook.com/ArtsPortal-Gallery
Free. Exhibit features artwork of Carley Rae Hippauf (including landscapes in oils and pastels) and others.

First Draft Writers’ Series

•Thursday, Aug. 18; 7 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.

www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Features Oregon’s Poet Laureate, Elizabeth Woody, who has published three books of poetry. She received an American Book Award in 1990, and the discretionary William Stafford Memorial Award for Poetry and was a finalist for the Oregon Book Awards in 1995. Also, short open mic readings from the audience.

“Circuit Chautauquas: Educating Dayton and America”

•Wednesday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Dayton Historic Depot, 222 E. Commercial St., Dayton, WA
www.daytonhistoricdepot.org
Admission by donation. Exhibit explores the history of traveling shows and assemblies popular in the late 19th and early 20th century. Runs through early November.

Music

Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater

•Saturday, Aug. 6; 7 p.m.
•Wesley Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.
Free. BJ the DJ spins tunes of the Carpenters.

Brass Fire

•Saturday, Aug. 6; 7-10 p.m. No cover
•Red Lion, 304 S.E. Nye Ave., Pendleton

Full Zoo

•Saturday, Aug. 6; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Umatilla County Fair Main Stage

•A Thousand Horses

•Tuesday, Aug. 9; 9 p.m.

The Bellamy Brothers

•Wednesday, Aug. 10; 9 p.m.

Brothers Osborne

•Thursday, Aug. 11; 9 p.m.

Montez De Durango, Tormenta De Durango, Domador De La Sierra

•Friday, Aug. 12; 8 p.m.

Creedence Clearwater Revisited

•Saturday, Aug. 13; 9 p.m.

•Umatilla County Fairgrounds, Hermiston

www.co.umatilla.or.us/fair
Free/general admission with fair tickets, \$12/reserved seats, must buy fair tickets also. (541-567-6121).

Brass Fire

•Thursday, Aug. 11; 5:30-7 p.m.

•Wallowa County Courthouse gazebo, 101 S. River St., Enterprise

Boogie at the Balch

•Friday, Aug. 12; 7-9 p.m.

•Historic Balch Hotel, 40 S. Heinrich St., Dufur

No cover. Outdoor summer concert series features McDougall, whose music carries on the tradition of oral history and folklore.

Hanna Jane Kile

•Friday, Aug. 12; Saturday, Aug. 13; 8 p.m. No cover

•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Jezebel’s Mother

•Sunday, Aug. 14; 5-7 p.m.

•Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St.

Free. The popular Tri-Cities steel drum band kicks off Heppner’s monthly Music in the Park series. Food available for purchase.

Jamie Nasario

•Monday, Aug. 15; 7 p.m.

•Boardman Marina Park

Free. Music in the Parks series, which alternates weekly between Boardman and Irrigon marina parks. Food available for purchase.

Imperial Twang

•Wednesday, Aug. 17; 6-8 p.m.

•Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton

Free. As part of Wednesdays in the Park series. Features food vendors and a beer/wine garden.

Night life

Farm-City Parade Kickoff

•Saturday, Aug. 6; 4 p.m.

•Nookies/Hermiston Brewing Co., 125 N. First St., Hermiston

www.facebook.com/events/1087565817975181
No cover. Best seats in town for Umatilla County Fair parade. Live music with Shanks Pony and The Wasteland Kings.

DJ music

•Saturday, 8 p.m.

•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

DJ music

•Saturday, July 2; 9 p.m. No cover

•Sub Zero Restaurant & Lounge, 100 W. Highway 730, Irrigon

Whiskey Wednesday Game Night

•Wednesdays; 3-7 p.m.

MOVIE REVIEW

Antiheroes prove no antidote for ‘Suicide Squad’

By JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

The superhero movie is at a strange crossroads. It generally either takes itself too seriously (“Man of Steel,” “Batman v Superman”) or delights in not caring a bit (“Deadpool”). The choice, dear moviegoer, is yours. Do you prefer your costumed heroes to brood or to break bad?

Right now, good is out; self-proclaimed “edginess” is in; and a cape might get you turned away from the nightclub.

Riding the trend is David Ayer’s day-glo superhero circus “Suicide Squad,” a gleefully nihilistic, abysmally messy romp that delights in upending the genre’s conventions and tries desperately to, like, totally blow your mind with its outre freak show.

It’s less of a movie than a long trailer that doesn’t provoke as much as it thinks it does. It’s stitched together by an endless jukebox of everything from “House of the Rising Sun” to K7’s “Come Baby Come,” a soundtrack gimmick taken straight from “Guardians of the Galaxy” (which more successfully gave the superhero movie new moves). It’s employed three times before the opening credits have even finished rolling, an early cue to the filmmaking talent at work.

Despite the train wreck of “Batman v Superman” (the last DC Comics challenge to Marvel’s dominance), excitement is high for “Suicide Squad” thanks to a marketing campaign that rivals the presidential ones and the promise of some punk in the poppy, PG-13

“Suicide Squad”

★ ★ ☆ ☆

PG-13, 123 minutes

realm of the superhero movie. But the nastiness of “Suicide Squad” is superficial, merely fetishized gestures of ultra-violence that will impress few beyond 13-year-old boys. (Sorry, that’s unkind to 13-year-old boys.) Based on the comic created by John Ostrander, the film is a cartoonish yet grim “Magnificent Seven” in which a desperate government — for the moment without the services of Superman or Batman — turns to a handful of villains, locked away in prison cells, to combat a yet greater supervillain running amok.

The film, as a whole, is missing the humor and spryness that was promised. Its best laughs are unintentional and the charisma of Will Smith and Margo Robbie are drowned out in Ayer’s turgid tale.

In “Suicide Squad,” Ayer questions whether a killer can be a hero and vice versa, even equating psychopaths with elite soldiers. He would like to vanquish the triumphant superhero and reorder the comic universe for more complicated times. But the only thing he may have killed is the comic-book adaptation.

Watching “Suicide Squad” (which will nevertheless make hundreds of millions) is to see the superhero movie reaching rock bottom, sunk by moral rot and hollow bombast. Down, down and away!

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.