

McCarthyizm

www.mccarthyizm.com

CONTACT:
MCCARTHYIZM
223 Stevenson Blvd.
Amherst, NY 14226
TELEPHONE
(716) 574-7399
e-mail
contact@mccarthyizm.com

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“Literate, provocative, original...” The Buffalo News

“A fine Buffalo - based group with a harder edge and catchy hooks...” The Cleveland Scene

“Thoughtful engaging rock that is as articulate as it is catchy...” Renegade (Industry Edition)

Inducted into the
Buffalo Music Hall
Of Fame
October 2009

Born in the days before alternative was a marketing term, McCarthyizm soon became a band known for blending 60's garage and 80's underground rock with strong melodies and intelligent lyrics. Add some raucous rhythm and a tasty measure of Celtic flavoring and you've got a cocktail with a punch that delivers one helluva good time, all the time.

Buffalo based McCarthyizm has traveled throughout the northeast, playing to converts in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, New York City, Boston, Los Angeles and Toronto. They've shared the stage with bands like the Goo Goo Dolls, Eddie Money, 10,000 Maniacs, The Smithereens, John Waite, Lou Graham along with Canadian favorites like Crash Test Dummies, Jason Plumb, Spirit of the West, Hawksley Workman, The Glengarry Bhoys and The Lowest of the Low.

McCarthyizm has also earned several Buffalo Music Awards over the years including, Top Original Rock Band, and Top Recording. But that's all stuff for the resume. What matters is the song. The bands song craft has been there from the beginning. So, the McCarthyizm gang saved their pennies and returned their empties and have been able to release several critically acclaimed recordings including *Pretty Naked* (1993), *Vesuvio* (1995), *Eterniday* (1998) and *Pair O'Docs* (2001).

Check it out for yourself. Put on that McCarthyizm disc and turn it up. Better yet, catch'em live.



Joe McCarthy - Lead Vocals
Paul Ceppaglia - Guitar
Dave Mucha - Bass
Joe Suplicki - Drums
Helen Butler - Violin

McCarthyizm, Waite deliver a resounding international mix

By SEAMUS GALLIVAN

Buffalo News Contributing Reviewer

8/19/2005

Bill Wippert/Buffalo News

John Waite headlines Thursday at the Square. Another photo on Picture Page C8.



With the 19th season of the Thursday at the Square series drawing closer to an end, it's hard to dispute the event being not only the jewel of summer socializing in downtown Buffalo, but also a great showcase of the underrated music scene.

Even on a supposed light night, there had to be at least 10,000 people there, from dudes double-fisting to moms dancing with their munchkins. And onstage, the local favorites went toe-to-toe with an international chart-topper.

McCarthyizm brought its A-game, kicking the night off with a 90-minute set of pensive pop rock with a half-lit Celtic swagger. Vocalist-guitarist Joe McCarthy, lead guitarist Paul Ceppaglia, bassist Dave Mucha and drummer Joe Suplicki are tight as a rope and have a firm grasp on their sound.

"Pair O'Docs," the charged-up title track from the band's last album, got a brassy boost from tenor sax man Jim Runfola and trumpet hound Jim Bohm. Fiddle filly Helen Butler and the poster boy for South Buffalo punks, David Moore of Jackdaw on uilleann pipes (and also accordion), brought out the Emerald Isle vibe of "Victor's Morning."

All four aided a fist-pumpin' "Not Go Home" that left the stage hot enough to short a few circuits and steal the show.

Headliner John Waite and his sharp band (Jimmy Leahey, guitar; Sean Michael Ray, five-string bass; Billy Wilkes, drums) were barely off the plane when they took the stage for a slightly shorter set. The England native's solo single "Change" and an earlier cut from his late '70s breakout band the Babys, "Back On My Feet," were out-of-the-gate speaker-shakers that firmly stated, "We don't need no stinkin' sound check!"

The band was dialed-in, and Waite commanded the upper register with the tremendous, deep-into-the-chest power that made him a great rock 'n' roll frontman. They ignored major sound problems to finish "The Hard Way," the title track from his latest album, with a bang.

As well as Waite's voice carried the rockers and the band ripped, their soothing country soul rendition of Bob Dylan's "Girl from the North Country" was a perfect encore. Still, McCarthyizm's set was solid enough to hand them an upset underdog victory.

At least that's the way I remember it best.

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CD Review - "Pair O'Docs"

By, Bob Silvestri

One of Buffalo's best all time bands McCarthyizm has released it's fourth CD titled "Pair O'Docs" that again proves just how talented these guys are. The seven song CD kicks off with the glorious guitar riff of "All Night", a rocker in the vein of the Tragically Hip. "The Great Escape" has a country-alternative sound with a guitar sound right out of the Byrds/REM catalog. The rollicking drums and bass on this one add just the right backup sound. "Into Forever" sounds like the James Gang doing "Magic Carpet Ride". The title track "Pair O'Docs" is a straight out rocker from the Cheap Trick school of power pop and has a guitar riff reminiscent of some caped crusader show.

The band Joe McCarthy (guitar/vocals), Paul Ceppaglia (guitars), Dave Mucha (bass), Joe Suplicki (drums) and Helen Butler (violin) revel in the

Beatlesque sound on "Reveal My Sin" this is my favorite track on the CD.

"Walk In The Woods" is another rocker with more scorching guitars and melodic hooks.

The last cut "Mt. St. Michel" features Michael Meldrum from the Buffalo Song project with some tasty mandolin playing. Others lending support recording, mixing and mastering are Armand Petri (known for his work with the Goo Goo Dolls and more), Alan Deusell and David St. Onge.

I often complain about the brevity of CD's (like this one). But I guess that only makes for stronger CD's (again like this one) with less filler on them. This is a great effort from McCarthyizm. Well Done.

