

STREET SCENE

Brothers Creeggan take a break to play together



CHRISTINA FUOCO

That hasn't stopped their need to play clubs. Two members of the band are returning to small venues to promote their side projects.

BNL bassist Jim Creeggan and his brother Andy Creeggan, the band's former keyboardist, are performing Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Magic Bag in Ferndale in support of its aptly titled album "The Brothers Creeggan" and "The Brothers Creeggan II."

Opening for the brothers is Kevin Hearn, BNL's keyboardist, and his band Thin Buckle.

"We're sort of in between touring and (recording) an album with the Ladies. It's nice to go out and put it (the music) out there. We've always sold Brothers Creeggan CDs at Barenaked Ladies shows and we've had a mail-order service through my mom. That's how it survived," Jim Creeggan said with a laugh.

Prior to this tour, The Brothers Creeggan released albums and had a few "odd gigs here and there."

The Toronto-born brothers began playing music together in high school as the Backdoor Bands performing songs by bands ranging from Elvis to the Weather Report. They soon moved on to experimental jazz with Tuna Strait.

In 1987, they formed an a cappella quartet called The Synthotics and won the National Rising Star talent contest at the Canadian National Exhibition beating out some fellow Canadian teenagers named Alanis Morissette, who was then 13.

Several projects followed including a stint with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

The brothers got together to record classical, jazz, Latin, ragtime and pop music as The Brothers Creeggan "mainly, I think because there's just a better thing that needed to be explored to the fullest. It's there, and we just wanted to give it the full potential," Jim Creeggan said.

"Most of it is centered around tunes on the two instruments — double bass and piano, and then, on the recordings, we build stuff around that. We explore the duo

possibilities, whereas the Barenaked Ladies have more of a band set up where it's five individuals doing what comes out of that combo."

They recorded their first album, "The Brothers Creeggan" (Reprise) from 1993 to 1994 dipping into Jim Creeggan's experiences traveling in Belize and Guatemala. For example, the "Creeggan Song" tells the story of Creeggan's meeting with a Belizean "tour guide" and other "clown friends to Andy Creeggan's jazzy piano. The musically frenetic "Takin' Out the Garbage" talks about cleaning and things that are granted, it also shares BNL's trademark sense of humor, "Never felt so keen when I use Mr. Clean."

In February 1995 Andy Creeggan left the Barenaked Ladies but continued his work with The Brothers Creeggan to study composition at McGill University in Montreal.

"He sort of wanted to explore his own sort of personal stuff and music all tied into one," Jim Creeggan explained.

"He's fooling around trying new things. I was the earliest one to join the band. He had never really got to try university and he's sort of doing that right now."

He took time out from his studies to record "The Brothers Creeggan II," "Two songs — 'Suite for Sarah' and 'Squiggly Lines' — were recorded as part of a collection of lullabies they were writing. The Latin-like 'Cows, Chickens and Peas' continues the theme of Andy Creeggan's fascination with farm animals.

It seems like whenever the brothers have free time, they're

working on music. Andy Creeggan took the surplus of his material and released "Andiwork." Jim Creeggan played bass on four songs on Sarah McLachlan's latest album "Surfacing," and on one tune on Mervyn Cadell's debut album "Angel Food for Thought."

The brothers accompanied Jane Siberry on "My Mother is Not the White Dove" on the "Honor the Earth" tribute CD.

Jim Creeggan explained that at the Magic Bag he and his brother will perform a few BNL songs including "Spider in My Room" from its 1996 album "Born on a Pirate Ship" (Reprise).

As for the Barenaked Ladies, singer/guitarist Ed Robertson and singer Steven Page are working on new songs, some of which the band debuted at The Palace show.

"I love them so that's great," he said laughing.

The Brothers Creeggan and Hearn aren't the only ones working outside BNL. Besides his own album, Hearn has been recording with the Rheostatics. Drummer Tyler Stewart has been playing around Toronto in a band called Arsed with a former publicist for BNL and fellow Toronto musicians.

"It's kind of like the Cars meets Oasis, or Oasis meets .38 Special," Stewart said giggling.

Side projects, he explains, make BNL "looser."

"I learn how to make the music more fun," Stewart said. "The Ladies are pretty fun. It doesn't look like we're that serious, but we take the music very seriously. That's very unusual to admit, but it's true. I learn a certain sense of lightness when I

play with anyone else. We play with a different energy. The last tour was 21 months long and it was tiring. It's good to step out and do something different."

The Brothers Creeggan and Thin Buckle perform 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Magic Bag, 2290 Woodward Ave. in Ferndale. Tickets are \$10 in advance for the 18 and older show. Call (248) 544-3030 or visit <http://www.magicbag.com> for more information. The Brothers Creeggan's website is <http://www.musivest.com> / Artists / C / Creeggan.

• Detroit Red Wing and WKRC-FM DJ Darren McCarty has been nominated for an ESPY Award for his game-winning goal against Philadelphia in the NHL Finals last season. Fans can vote for McCarty two ways — by calling (800) 976-ESPY or by visiting the unofficial McCarty website at <http://www.darrenmccarty.com> beginning Thursday, Jan. 15. The ESPY Awards, which represent the convergence of the sports and entertainment communities, were created by ESPN in 1993 and are given for Excellence in Sports Performance in more than 30 categories. The show will be aired live at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, from Radio City Music Hall in New York.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco write her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36261 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at cfuoco@aol.com, or leave a message at (734) 953-2045, ext. 2130. Christina Fuoco reports on pop music during the K-Rock report Fridays at 6 p.m. with Millen.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

General Cinemas Bargain Matinee Daily 11:35 (Two Late Shows Daily) Canton 6 Ford Rd. 11 West of I-75 911-1900 Advance same-day tickets available • Desires VIP restrictions Friday thru Thursday CITY BOOKS NOW ON SALE AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) WAG THE DOG (R) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) TITANIC (PG-13) SCREEN 2 (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Showcase Theatres Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-5449 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily *Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun. GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) WAG THE DOG (R) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) POSTMAN (R) MR. MAGOO (PG) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Star Theatres The World's Best Seats Bargain Matinee Daily 11:00 AM Show Starts 11:00 AM No Advance Tickets Available *No Desires VIP Restrictions *No Desires No First Engagement Star 1000 1114 Erie 32295 John & Road 810-585-2070 No one under 18 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP WAG THE DOG (R) NP THE BOILER (R) NP GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) POSTMAN (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) TITANIC (PG-13) MR. MAGOO (PG) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) FLURBER (PG) AMATASA (C) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinee Daily 11:00 AM Show Starts 11:00 AM Same day advance tickets available No No V.I.P. tickets accepted United Artists Theatre Bargain Matinee Daily 11:00 AM Valley Parkway 313-595-4790 ALL TIMES FOR FRIDAY MONDAY SHOWS (FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY) FORESTORM (R) NY TITANIC (PG-13) NY JACKIE BROWN (R) NY MOUSEHUNT (PG) NY DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (R) NY HOME ALONE 3 (PG) NY EYE'S BEYOND (R) ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	SCREEN 2 (R) HOME ALONE 3 (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	MPX THEATRES \$1.00 Ford Tel 51.50 313-561-7200 11:00 AM After 6 pm, 11:50 Ample Parking - Total Center Free Hold on Drive & Popcorn Free Call Theatre for Showtimes AIR FORCE ONE (R) THE LITTLE MERMAID (G) ALIEN: THE RESURRECTION (R) BEAN (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES
North Town Centre Novi Rd. South of I-96 344-0077 Advance same-day tickets available • Desires VIP restrictions • Desires NO FIRST ENGAGEMENTS CITY BOOKS NOW ON SALE TITANIC (PG-13) HOME ALONE 3 (PG) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) JACKIE BROWN (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) FLURBER (PG) POSTMAN (R) TITANIC (PG-13) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Showcase Theatres Telegraph & Lake Rd. W. Side of Telegraph 810-332-0241 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily *Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun. THE BOILER (R) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Star Southfield 200 Barclay Circle 833-2440 No one under 18 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) NP WAG THE DOG (R) NP THE BOILER (R) NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) NP JACKIE BROWN (R) TITANIC (PG-13) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) AMATASA (C) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	United Artists Theatres Inside Oakland Mall 810-585-7041 FORESTORM (R) NY AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) NY MR. MAGOO (PG) NY SCREEN 2 (R) NY ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Waterford Cinema II 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 & Wilmans Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (810) 666-7990 12:15 (THU) SHOWS DAILY FORESTORM (R) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) WAG THE DOG (R) TITANIC (PG-13) FLURBER (PG) MOUSEHUNT (PG) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) JACKIE BROWN (R) THE POSTMAN (R) SCREEN 2 (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) TITANIC (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Yves & Mastercard Accepted
Kings Theatre Orchard Lake Rd. at Oak Lake Rd. 642-1900 All Seats \$1.50 before 6 pm 12:30 After 6 pm FREE PARKING BURGER KING LOT Family Matinee FR. SAT. SUN. AIR FORCE ONE (R) THE RAMBLER (PG-13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	One Yards Warren & Wayne Rds 313-423-7700 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. JACKIE BROWN (R) MR. MAGOO (PG) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) THE POSTMAN (R) FLURBER (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496 248-333-3348 No one under 18 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP FORESTORM (R) NP THE BOILER (R) NP WAG THE DOG (R) NP JACKIE BROWN (R) NP AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (R) MR. MAGOO (PG) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) TITANIC (PG-13) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) MOUSEHUNT (PG) AMATASA (C) FLURBER (PG) HOME ALONE 3 (PG) FLURBER (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	United Artists Theatres 2800 West of Middlebelt 810-788-4572 TITANIC (PG-13) NY WAG THE DOG (R) NY GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) NY FORESTORM (R) NY TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) NY JACKIE BROWN (R) NY AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) NY MOUSEHUNT (PG) NY FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) NY FLURBER (PG) HOME ALONE 3 (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Terrace Cinema 3040 Plymouth Rd. 313-261-3330 All shows 11 except shows after 6 pm • All Shows 11:50 7:50 every Tuesday Then become a "FREQUENT VIEWER" • COME IN AND TALK TO US NOW!	SUN. THURS Box Office opens at 4:00 pm Monday - Friday only CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES
National Amusements Showcase Cinemas Showcase Auburn Hills 114 2150 N. Oakdale Rd. Between University & Watson Blvd 810-373-2660 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. THE BOILER (R) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) WAG THE DOG (R) JACKIE BROWN (R) MR. MAGOO (PG) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) TITANIC (PG-13) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) MOUSEHUNT (PG) AMATASA (C) FLURBER (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Showcase Westland 1.1 5800 Wayne Rd. One block S. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1500 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. WAG THE DOG (R) THE BOILER (R) GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) SCREEN 2 (R) FLURBER (PG) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Star Westfield 11351 Rochester Rd. Westfield 114 248-456-1160 No one under 18 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP FORESTORM (R) NP THE POSTMAN (R) NP MR. MAGOO (PG) DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (R) MOUSEHUNT (PG) FLURBER (PG) AMATASA (C) AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) HOME ALONE 3 (PG) SCREEN 2 (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward Downtown Woodbridge 248-644-3419 No Desires No First Engagements Order Movie tickets by phone Call 844-3419 and have your VISA or MasterCard ready (11:15 AM) and we will apply it to telephone sales \$100, \$200 and \$300 GIFT BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE NP GOOD WILL HUNTING (R) NP WAG THE DOG (R) NP TITANIC (PG-13) NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13) NP JACKIE BROWN (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13) MOUSEHUNT (PG) AMATASA (C) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Main Art Theatre II Main - 11 Mile Royal Oak (248) 462-0180 \$1.00 (THU) SHOWS DAILY DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (R) THE STREET HEATER (R) THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Children Under 6 Not Admitted	Yves & Mastercard Accepted

Pan from page E1

is ageless, too.

She got the role in a national tour, then went on to play Belle and Grandma Tzeitel, the youngest daughter and oldest character in "Fiddler on the Roof."

Landing back in LA, Sagardina, 29, spent a couple years of filming commercials for Knorr, Wamco hula hoops, Coca-Cola and Mattel. Then she figured it might be time to pull out her "fall-back" plan and pursue a career as a psychologist.

Then she heard Rigby was "putting together another tour of 'Peter Pan'."

"From that moment, I knew that the role of Wendy was for me," she said.

While others who auditioned tended to overplay Wendy, Sagardina didn't fall into that trap.

"The producers liked my innocence in the role," she said. "Wendy is all about wonder."

And besides, Sagardina and Rigby are about the same size, and look like a natural match. Since opening in Sacramento in November, they've developed an on-stage chemistry.

"Cathy does different things each night — gestures, movements," said Sagardina. "She'll play and ad lib. I know that each night I've got to find something new."

The play never ends.

Journey from page E1

York, more people see Sesame Street Live in Detroit at the Fox than anywhere else in the country. The show tours 50 cities, and Detroit is the second most popular.

"It's wholesome, good family fun," said Gladman. "The orchestration is absolutely phenomenal. There are 17 cast members, and 21 characters shown. The cast is very diverse. They range in age from 18 to 40 and come from all over the country."

Besides being entertaining — and an enjoyable "blast from the past" — Sesame Street teaches children that learning is fun.

In an effort to promote fire safety, Children's Television Workshop — the creators of Sesame Street, are presenting "Stop, Drop and Roll," 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27 before the 11 a.m. performance.

Children will learn about fire

calculations. I have read, seen, heard and played the "Peter Pan" fantasy more than any living adult.

My youngest son is Peter Pan, just like his brother before him. Me?

For about the last four years, I've been assigned the role of the

Ruben has worked the trusses and wires for more than 300 different productions of "Peter Pan," including about 1,500 performances. His company, ZFX Flying Illusions, has also handled the levitation effects for other popular productions, including "Wizard of Oz," "Angels in America," "Tommy" and "Phantom of the Opera."

"This is the best 'Peter Pan' I've been involved with," he said. "Although he had yet to see first-hand the dimensions of the Detroit Opera House, Ruben expects that the theater will allow for the grandest of flying ventures — a trip over the audience."

The exceptional production begins with John Iacovelli's set designs. The four sets in "Peter Pan" create a bigger-than-life

Flying from page E1

fantasy, said Ruben.

The sets advance the story from the Darlings' nursery to Neverland to the Lost Boys' underground to Captain Hook's pirate ship. And finally, back to the nursery.

Along the way, Ruben sets wings on the backs of Peter Pan, the Darlings — Wendy, Michael, John — and a Neverland bird.

The massive set and special flying apparatus will be loaded into the Detroit Opera House in about an hour-and-a-half, said Ruben.

"The producers not only expect the highest standard of safety and special effects, but expect us to set up as fast as possible. We're on a tight budget."

Apparently, even Neverland lives according to fiscal responsibility.

— Frank Provenzano

valve. Olympia Entertainment is offering five school matinees, at \$7 per ticket to schools — a significant savings since full price tickets range from \$9 to \$22.50.

Coordinating the arrival of an average of 60-60 school buses transporting children to the show is a logistical feat.

"We've got it down pretty good," said Lee. "It's quite amazing, it's very well orchestrated event. Occasionally we have a few last-minute snafus."

The Observer & Eccentric is co-sponsoring a book swap with WYCD — Young Country, before the 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22 performance. Bring a used children's book, that's in good condition, and receive a free "Sesame Street" Golden Book. Limit one book per child. The book swap will begin in the lobby of the Fox Theatre at 6 p.m. Books will be donated to a literacy program.