

Glover shares a labor of love



CHRISTINA FUOCO

Corey Glover, former lead singer of Living Colour, is eager to let people know that he has a new album out, "Hymns" (LaFace/Arista). You can't really blame him.

"The record's been done for 2-1/2-3 years. I was on another label. I got off that label because I didn't think they had what it takes to make it work. We moved to another one and tried to find someone else that was a lot more friendly," Glover explained.

Hopefully this label will work out for him. "Hymns" is an incredible album that brings Glover's powerful voice to modern R&B, soul and pop arenas. Songs like the unabashed sexuality of "Do You First, Then Do Myself," the ballad "April Rain," and the slow groove of "Sidewalk Angel," make this one to listen to. The soulful ballad "Little Girl," if released to radio, could be an instant hit.

"Hymns" takes Glover in a different direction than Living Colour. While the rock band experimented with a variety of sounds, Glover sticks close to modern R&B, soul and pop with "Hymns."

"With Living Colour, we were trying to be cutting edge. I wanted something very warm and intimate and very much like the songs themselves. It's very introspective," Glover

said.

"A lot of the stuff was done very organically. There are no synthesizers on this record whatsoever. It's all real sounds. It was very much a band process. We all sat in the same room with no special guests for the most part."

The songs are intensely personal, many of which were written soon after the death of his father. Glover is still uncomfortable singing some of them.

"Some of the songs are hard in that they were very intimate things that I wasn't sure if I wanted to talk about," Glover explained.

"When I was in Living Colour, I had to express my emotions in a group context. But with this record, I was really able to dig down inside. The ability to create in music helps transform anything bad into something good, and it keeps me alive and happy."

Glover is coming to town on Saturday, Nov. 21, to play Alvin's in Detroit.

"It's an album that literally I've been working on for three years and now many people know about it. It's a true labor of love. It's something I'm married to and born to."

Corey Glover with special guests Mr. Freedom X and 60 Second Crash, perform Saturday, Nov. 21, at Alvin's, 6756 Cass Ave., Detroit. Doors open at 9 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For more information, visit any Ticketmaster outlet, call (313) 832-2355.

Reggae band wins Miller support

By CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.com

Tom Wall specifically remembers the day he was entranced by reggae music.

"I always really liked Bob Marley. Back when I was really young, in my teens, I saw him play live. I thought, 'This is too much.' He just captivated the crowd. It was unbelievable," said Wall, a graduate of Seaholm High School in Birmingham.

So inspiring, in fact, that it motivated him to start a reggae band. Now, Li Detroit Music Awards nominations, two wins, and a Miller Genuine Draft sponsorship later, Wall has a new goal with his band Immunity.

"We want to become teen idols."

Thanks to Miller Genuine Draft, the faces of Immunity—lead guitarist/percussionist/vocalist Wall, rhythm guitarist/percussionist Tom Varga, bassist Bill Koggenhop, a graduate of Luther High School in Bloomfield Hills, singer Jonathan Pettus of Royal Oak, and percussionist/vocalist Tony Mitchell of Pontiac—can be seen on posters plastered around town.

Immunity is the first reggae band to be sponsored by the Miller Genuine Draft Michigan

Who: Immunity
When: Performs from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday, Nov. 20
Where: Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township.
How: The show is free and open to those ages 21 and older. For more information, call (248) 360-7450.

Other upcoming performances:

From 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, Bogey's, 142 E. Walled Lake Dr., Walled Lake, (248) 669-1441; From 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27, The Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 349-9110; and from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at Union Lake Grill and Bar. All the shows are free and open to those 21 and older.

Music Network.

"We didn't have a reggae band and they are playing a lot of the best young adult clubs in a lot of the key young adult areas. Plus they have a great stage personality," said Kraus, event manager for GMR Marketing, Inc., in New Berlin, Wis.

Kraus said that the bands are chosen based on research by the people working the streets for

Miller. We find these bands through local publications as well. We look and see what names are playing, which places they play frequently, and ask around," he said.

In the past 19 years, the Band Network project has sponsored the Fabulous Thunderbirds, The Del Fuegos, The Producers, Roomful of Blues and Johnny Clyde Copeland.

Locally, The Rev. Right Time and the First Cousins of Funk, Johnny "Yarddog" Jones, Kung Fu Diesel and the Killer Flamigos are also sponsored by Miller. Immunity's sponsorship runs through 1999.

As a benefit, the bands receive signs, posters, band-specific banners, clothing and an incentive bonus.

"They produced 2,000 posters with the band's likeness that we can put up where the band is going to play. We also receive a good discount on equipment," said Immunity's manager Terri Koggenhop.

"I worked on Miller for a year. Once they saw us, it was a done deal," she added.

Immunity's live shows are energetic, bringing over the band members' trademark senses of humor. Impromptu jam sessions are common-place, with Wall trading his guitar for percussion. The showpiece, he said, however,

is lead singer Jonathan Pettus, a Trinidad native who now lives in Royal Oak.

"Jon gets out and moves. I can't do what he does. He moves in a way that nobody else moves. He's quite dynamic and very hyper," rhythm guitarist/percussionist Tom Varga.

Immunity formed three years ago, spending its first year playing on the west coast of Michigan. The band broke into Detroit in 1996. A year later, it was nominated for the outstanding reggae group, outstanding world music group and outstanding live performance Detroit Music Awards. Bassist Bill Koggenhop was up for outstanding jazz bassist in 1997.

This year, of the seven nominations, Koggenhop won the outstanding reggae/ska instrumental prize, while Pettus landed the outstanding reggae/ska vocalist award. Wall was also up for the same award.

"It was cool to have two people in the band nominated for the same awards," Wall said.

Besides the Miller sponsorship, Immunity has upped its visibility by playing 120 gigs a year, sometimes two in one day. This summer, the band performed at a private party for Janet Jackson in Joe Louis Arena's Olympia Room prior to her show at the arena.

FILLED WITH TENSION AND SUSPENSE
"A HOLD-YOUR-BREATH THRILLER"
"RIVETING!"
THE SIEGE
NOW SHOWING AT THESE THEATRES!

AMC BEL AIR 213 344 0800	AMC EASTLAND 2 313 541 2811	AMC LIVONIA 734 542 8008	AMC SOUTHWEST 248 853-1200
AMC STERLING CTR. 810 234 1400	AMC WONDERLAND 248 273 2800	AMC SOUTHWEST 20 734 542 8008	AMC QUO VADIS 734 542 8008
RENAISSANCE 248 273 2800	AMC AUBURN HILLS 248 273 2800	SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-5 810 234 1400	SHOWCASE STERLING HTS. 810 234 1400
STARLINOT 810 781 3000	STARLINOT 810 781 3000	STARLINOT LINCOLN PARK 248 463 2200	STARLINOT LINCOLN PARK 248 463 2200
STARLINOT SOUTHWEST 248 853-1200	STARLINOT SOUTHWEST 248 853-1200	STARLINOT SOUTHWEST 248 853-1200	STARLINOT SOUTHWEST 248 853-1200

"this bug's for you!"
from the creators of Toy Story
a bug's life
STARTS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU.
CHECK NEWSPAPERS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES

WILL SMITH GENE HACKMAN
ENEMY OF THE STATE
A FILM BY JOHN DAHL

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LIVONIA	AMC SOUTHWEST CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10
AMC WONDERLAND	AMC BIRMINGHAM 8	AMC NOV TOWN
NORWEST	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 4
SHOWCASE WILSON	SHOWCASE DIABLO	SHOWCASE PONTIAC
SHOWCASE WILSON	STAR GRANT AT 15 MI.	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MI.
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHSTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHWEST
STAR TAYLOR	STAR COMMERCIAL TWP 14	STAR WEST RIVER

"The adventure for anyone who's ever worn diapers, begins FRIDAY!"
THE Rugrats MOVIE
paramount pictures presents a klasky/csupo production
"The rugrats movie" stars by mark mothersbaugh, klasky/csupo production
co-producers: david weiss, j. david allen, producers: orlene klasky and gabriel cuspo
written by david weiss & j. david allen, directed by mark mothersbaugh
www.rugratsmovie.com

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

AMC EASTLAND 2	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA
AMC SOUTHWEST CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10	AMC BIRMINGHAM 8
STARLINOT CANTON	QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE WILSON
SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE DIABLO	STAR LINCOLN PARK
STAR GRANT AT 15 MI.	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MI.	STAR WINCHESTER 8
STAR SOUTHWEST	STAR TAYLOR	STAR WEST RIVER

Find a friend today in your
Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWN CLASSIFIEDS
Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

Oakland County — 248-644-1070
Wayne County — 734-581-0900
Rochester-Rochester Hills — 248-852-3222
Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford — 248-475-4596
www.oeonline.com

THE #1 COMEDY IN AMERICA
ADAM SANDLER
THE WATERBOY
www.thewaterboythemovie.com

AMC AMERICANAWAY	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 2
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA	AMC SOUTHWEST CITY
AMC STERLING CTR. 10	AMC WONDERLAND	AMC BIRMINGHAM 8
SHOWCASE WILSON	SHOWCASE DIABLO	SHOWCASE PONTIAC
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MI.	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHSTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHWEST	STAR TAYLOR	STAR COMMERCIAL TWP 14
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR WEST RIVER	NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED