

## STREET SCENE

## The waiting is over for Irish rockers The Devlins



CHRISTINA FLUGO

It seems appropriate that Peter Devlin is waiting. Leaning up against a phone booth at JFK Airport in New York City, Devlin—who handles bass, sampling, programming, and vocals for Irish pop band The Devlins—is talking about his band's latest disc "Waiting" (Raidiuniverse).

It's been four years since the

band offered its first full-length album "Drift" (Capitol).

"It definitely was a long wait, for more reasons than the obvious one," said Devlin, who was waiting to catch his flight to his hometown of Dublin.

"After we finished the whole promotion of the record in the United States we had to do it all over again at home. We didn't get a simultaneous release. It was only about two years ago when we started working on this one. It doesn't seem that long for us but for everybody in the States—anybody who cares—it seems like a long time."

The Devlins and its fans are hoping that "Waiting," produced and engineered by Pierre Marchand (Sarah McLachlan), and mixed by Tom Lord-Alge (The Verve Pipe, Oasis), will produce the superstardom that the band deserves.

"We felt that the record company didn't do our first album justice in the States. We didn't have management at the time to realize that. We just hooked up with really good management, and they negotiated our way off our label and onto another label."

"With our old label, all the staff changed and still is chang-

ing. We had four A&R people on one record. ... They were just looking for the next Green Day or ska/punk band. They were trying to get us to make a record we didn't want to make."

The Devlins now call Raidiuniverse, now which is also where Black Grape, Live, and Angelfish, the project by Garbage's Shirley Manson, answer.

The Devlins, which also includes drummer/percussionist/vocalist Sean Devitt, is to ska/punk what the Ramones are to classical music. The quiet hum of Colin Devlin's guitars embrace his moody, atmospheric vocals backed by simple tones of a grand piano and drums.

Intimate lyrics like "Tell me your secret, what you desire, I will still be there for you ... You light up my dreams, light up my skin, you're so far away, you're holding it in" in "World Outside" draw listeners into Colin Devlin's world.

"Colin's words I think are more sort of outward looking on this record. For the first one all the lyrics were written in his bedroom. They were very introspective and all about relationships," Peter Devlin said of his brother.

"This one there are some very personal songs about relationships. This record deals more with what we've been going through the last three years—getting a record deal and traveling all over the world and touring, all the promotion and waiting around. It is a bit more outward looking."

The Devlins' tour schedule for its debut "Drift" included shows with Sarah McLachlan. Among those dates was a show with McLachlan at the Music Hall in Detroit.

"People were standing up at the end of us. We got a half standing ovation which is better than none," Devlin said with a

laugh. This year and next, The Devlins are planning on sharing a stage with Paula Cole and Ben Harper. On New Year's Eve, The Devlins will celebrate with the Barenaked Ladies at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

"I can't wait for that show," Devlin said using that word again.

"We're looking forward to that. It's a big venue."

Tickets for the Barenaked Ladies "Holiday Spectacle," \$25, are still available at The Palace box office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Showtime is 9 p.m. for the all-ages show. The Palace is located at 2 Champunship Dr. #75 and Lapeer Road, Auburn Hills. For more information, call (248) 377-0100 or (248) 645-6666.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Flugo, you may leave a message for her at (313) 953-2047, ext. 2130.

## Dave Wagner accepts end of good run



ANN DELISI

It's the season for giving, acceptance, peace on earth and good will toward men. Unfortunately, it's also the season for busy mulls and parking lots, slow mail delivery and office parties at which more than a few employees will do and say things they'd regret if they could only remember them.

It's the time of year newspaper and magazine columns reap the year that was, too. And why should this one be any different? Besides, with *Backstage Pass* pre-empted to make way for special holiday programming on Detroit Public Television, we have time and space.

Speaking of having time on one's hands, one of our crack *Backstage Pass* correspondents has found himself with a dubious temporal windfall: Dave Wagner, victimized by a format change after 18 years at classical radio station WQRS-FM. Even when he says it himself, the number surprises Dave. "18 years? Wow, that's a long time. I wonder what that is in radio years?" He doesn't wait for Lorne Green to do the math, saying,

"That's a heck of a good run. Not too many people in the radio business get to do the same show on the same station for such a long time."

What? Here I am ready to hunker down and get small about corporate radio's abandonment of classical music, and Dave's already over it. "The past is gone. I've taken a Zen sort of attitude on all this. When you buy a house and it's a colonial and it's white and it's your house, and you paint it pink, you have the right to do that."

Assuming the loss of that venerable format is the nadir of the year in classical, "Back in February, there was a great recital by violinist Cho-Liang Lin. The concert was in Ann Arbor with the Arvo Part Chamber Orchestra. It's a highlight because he's such a brilliant player. And I love that orchestra, because it's made up of top players from Detroit, Cleveland and Dallas, who they fly in to put on these fabulous concerts."

I asked Dave to predict a high point for 1998. "The ongoing Pro Musica series at the DIA. They always bring great arts—up and coming artists—into a very intimate setting. Every program has been spectacular, and you're close to the performer. So often

classical concerts are such a formal presentation, with the orchestra elevated on stage, and they perform and the audience watches and then leaves. I mean, people leave uplifted, but they leave. It's not like, say, going to see a reggae band.

"For the Pro Musica series, the DIA always has an afterglow where you can actually talk to the performer. I don't know who gets a bigger kick out of it, the audience or the musicians. And that's because classical musicians are used to sort of being secondary to the music itself. They're conduits—they play the music, but the music is the star. That's what's special about the Pro Musica series, it's so different from the typical classical music setting. People get to connect with the musicians, much like what you hear that all the time in country music—the stars connecting with their fans. I think that's a good thing."

Bringing a touch of Twitty to Tchaikovsky is what makes Dave special. "The best thing is connecting with people. The great thing about radio is all those people enjoying what you do. I didn't realize how much people enjoyed that radio station, but since I've left I've had all these people telling me how much they valued it. It's touching really."

## GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

General Cinemas		R-rated films after 6 pm		EYE'S BAYOU (R)	
Sargan Movies Daily 11-12:30 (Two showings daily)		FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) AMISTAD (R) FLUBBER (PG)		THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R) NV DISHY'S LITTLE MERMAID (R) NV STARSHIP TROOPERS (R) NV	
Canton 6 Ford Rd. & I-10 West of I-275 981-1900 Advanced movie days available Showtimes: 12:00, 2:00, 4:00 Friday thru Thursday		NP GOODWILL HUNTING (R) NP POSTMAN (R) NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) NP TITANIC (PG-13) NP MOUSEHUNT (PG) NP AMISTAD (R) NP FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) FLUBBER (PG)		United Artists Oakland Inside Oakland Mall 810-545-7041	
CART BOOKS NOW ON SALE		Showcase Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph & Lake Rd. W side of 810-332-0241 Sargan Movies Daily All showtimes 6 pm Continuous Show Daily		Scream 2 (R) NV ALLEN RESURRECTION (R) NV THE BARNMAKER (PG-13) NV DOOGIE NIGHTS (R)	
THE BARNMAKER (PG-13) TITANIC (PG-13) Scream 2 (R) TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) FLUBBER (PG)		Star Rochester Hills 200 Barclay Circle 833-2560 FRIDAY THRU THURSDAY No one under age 13 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm		United Artists 12, 24 Inside Twelve Oaks Mall 810-545-7041	
New Town Center 8 New Rd. South of I-96 344-0077 Advanced movie days available Showtimes: 12:00, 2:00, 4:00 NO RESERVE RESTRICTIONS		Showcase Pontiac 6-12 2455 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph 810-334-6777 Sargan Movies Daily All showtimes 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show 10:30 Sat		TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) NP MOUSEHUNT (PG) NV Scream 2 (R) NV THE BARNMAKER (PG-13) NV	
CART BOOKS NOW ON SALE		Star Southfield 12 M. between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496 248-353-STAR No one under age 13 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm		United Artists West River 9 Mile 2 Book West of Middlefield 810-788-6572	
TITANIC (PG-13) HOME ALONE III (PG) THE JACKAL (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (R) AMISTAD (R) MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R) FLUBBER (PG)		Star Winchster 1136 S. Rochester Rd. Winchster Kia 248-656-1160 No one under age 13 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm		TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) NP MOUSEHUNT (PG) NV FLUBBER (PG) NV THE BARNMAKER (PG-13) NV HOME ALONE 3 (PG) NV Scream 2 (R) NV AMISTAD (R) NV	
Keepsa Twin Cinema Oxford Lake Rd. at Oak Lake Rd. 682-1900 All times 11:30 before 6 pm 12:30 after 6 pm 12:30 after 6 pm 12:30 after 6 pm 12:30 after 6 pm		Star Winchster 1136 S. Rochester Rd. Winchster Kia 248-656-1160 No one under age 13 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm		Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-644-3419 NP Devlin No Fun Engagements	
THE LITTLE MERMAID (G) AIR FORCE ONE (R) THE BARNMAKER (PG-13)		Showcase Westfield 1-8 6000 Wayne Rd. One S.W. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 Sargan Movies Daily All showtimes 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Wed Thurs Fri & Sat		SPECIAL OFFER: 10% OFF ON ALL \$10, \$20 AND \$30 CART BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE NP TITANIC (PG-13) NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) NP MOUSEHUNT (PG) NP AMISTAD (R) NP Scream 2 (R) NP HOME ALONE 3 (PG) NP FLUBBER (PG) NP THE BARNMAKER (PG-13) NP AMISTAD (R)	
National Amusements Showcase Cinemas		Star Theatres The World's Best Theatre Sargan Movies Daily 11:00 AM Showtimes before 10:00 PM Now accepting Visa & MasterCard NP Devlin No Fun Engagements		Main Act Theatre II 4000 Woodward Royal Oak (248) 542-0180 \$3.00 (TWO-LITTLE) SHOWS DAILY	
Showcase Dearborn 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3440 Sargan Movies Daily All showtimes 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri & Sat & Sun		Star John B at I-75 32789 John B Road 810-585-2070		MGM THEATRES 11:00 Ford Tel 1-50 313-561-7200 After 6 pm 11:30 Amper Parking - Ford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn Please Call Theatre for Showtimes	
TITANIC (PG-13) MOUSEHUNT (PG) AMISTAD (R) FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG-13) FLUBBER (PG) ALLEN 4 (R) AMISTAD (R) BARNMAKER (PG-13) THE JACKAL (R) LITTLE MERMAID (G)		Star John B at I-75 32789 John B Road 810-585-2070		ROCKET MAN (PG-13) FAIRY TALE (R) RED CORNER (R)	
CART BOOKS NOW ON SALE		Star John B at I-75 32789 John B Road 810-585-2070		DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (R) THE SWEET REBECCA (R) THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R)	
Showcase Dearborn 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3440 Sargan Movies Daily All showtimes 6 pm Continuous Show Daily Late Show Fri & Sat & Sun		Star John B at I-75 32789 John B Road 810-585-2070		Call for showtimes and times	
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (R) PG-13		Star John B at I-75 32789 John B Road 810-585-2070		Call for showtimes and times	

## Winter 1988

### Courses taught by Robert Schefman

**Drawing - All Levels** - In this class held on Tuesdays from 9:00 - 12:00 noon, students will explore a variety of drawing media, techniques, and subjects with an emphasis on drawing as our most immediate and fundamental means of expression.

**Oil Painting - All Levels** - Students will work from the model in this class held on Thursdays from 9:00 - 12:00 noon or 12:30 - 3:30 to breathe life into their painting. The class will study the formal concerns of value, color, and composition; going beyond into subject matter. A good drawing foundation is essential.

**Level 3 Painting Studio** - This course is team taught with Leslie Masters on Tuesdays from 12:30 - 3:30. The goal of this class is to provide serious, advanced painters with a group venue to examine their direction in painting, participate in discussions, and move ahead in the art process. Class members will be expected to work outside of class and approval from the instructors must be received to enroll in this class.



Robert Schefman received his BFA from Michigan State University and his MA from University of Iowa. He has participated in a wide variety of group shows including Interventions at the Detroit Institute of Arts in 1995. He has completed numerous commissions in painting and sculpture for schools such as Wayne State, University of Iowa, and Cooley Law School in Lansing, and for restaurants such as Stelline at Somerset and at Tribune in Farmington Hills. His most recent mural commission was for Dearborn's 19th District Court Building.

You can register for these classes and more by signing up for the Winter Semester at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. Classes start January 5 through March 28.

**Call (248) 644-0866**

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