WHY ARE WE COVERING HELLFEST ??



*1971 FRENCH COMEDY FILM DIRECTED BY CLAUDE ZIDI





THURSDAY JUNE 6TH. ARRIVAL AT CLISSON...



As for me, I've been here for two days, putting up posters for WELCOME TO HELL(fest) in all the shops and bars around Clisson and in all the food trucks around the campsite...

The folks'round here are pretty nice: every time I go somewhere to put up a poster and leave some flyers, they offer me a free drink.





NO NEED TO QUELE WITH MY VIP BADGE.



I LOVE MY VIP BADGE!

SODOM

I've never been to a bad SODOM concert and this was no exception! It's true, the setlist did only include one song from their eponymous 2006 album, my personal favourite (YES, I like it better than their legendary Agent Orange!), but I can hardly complain when their set was full of enthusiasm and "thrash in your frock" moments (@MathieuDavid).

You can tell SODOM love being on stage. Smiling through their riffs and galloping rhythms: nothing has changed since the 80s and we couldn't wish for more.

As I pounce on the guitarist Bernemann in the VIP tent a little later on, he stares at me wide-eyed before apologizing for his reaction, explaining that "it's quite rare that a girl comes up to congratulate us after a concert" and that "it's really nice to see!". Women of such poor taste...

s.

...QUITE RIGHT MY DEAR SOFIE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ADD THAT TOM "ANGEL RIPPER" IS A LITTLE LIKE THE ILLEGITAMATE SON OF LEMMY AND THE LITTLE GERMAN COUSIN OF CRONOS (VENOM).

> THAT'S MY BOY!!

... INSPIRED BY MÖTÖRHEAD, THE BOYS OF SODOM ARE TRUE PROFESSIONALS WHO SEAMLESSLY AND PROUDLY PLAY THEIR MUSIC WITHOUT MAKING A FUSS AND WITHOUT ANY PRETENTIOUS ROCKSTAR NONSENSE...

HERE COVERING "TRASHMEN" SURFIN'BIRD

FRIDAY, JUNE 17



(INTAL')

... THANK GOD FOR THESE FOUNTAINS ...

5





MAGMA

Is it possible to achieve a perfect sound at Hellfest? The answer is YES and MAGMA shows us it's as easy as a + b, or more like a x + bx + c = a (x - x1) (x - x2)!

Since 1969, these veterans of the French psych-prog scene base their sound on jazz, classical and psych rock with a rhythm more complex than a Tibetan mandala. Not satisfied with representing a more shamanic avant-garde than JOHN CALE while keeping it less hippy than HAWKWIND, they write most of their lyrics in their own language: Kobaïan. Tonight, the super energetic crowd dance freely: it's enough to shock the purist Parisian crowds who barely bat an eyelid during a gig. I hope they're here, stuck in the middle of the crowd, hypnotized by the swaying hair of the pretty girls at the front and drenched in beer spilt by the entranced doomsters with their ELECTRIC WIZARD backpatches.

Cosmic rating: 10

s.

FOREIGNER

With four decades under their belt and only one remaining original member, some major flops in the past and a radiofriendly reputation, FOREIGNER is that group that makes the Extreme fans among your friends (extreme metal, that is, not the group EXTREME which is their equivalent of a trip to the dentist) split their sides laughing as they watch you queue up to get in to their concert.

This year, the crowd is packed. So, despite what others may say, I enjoy this unforgettable moment jumping up and down, albeit a little far from the stage. The setlist is very much based on their 70s repertoire but doesn't leave out a few 80s anthems, all perfectly delivered by the powerful voice of Kelly Hansen, looking super classy in his little black blazer. Some might say the keyboard was boring and that I Want To Know What Love Is makes them want to throw up but I'm having a great time, even convincing my little blondie to join me in a little slow dance even though I am well aware he is appalled by the idea.

A great idea, this will make up for all the times I've had to listen to DECAPITATED at breakfast even though I would have preferred BLUE ÖYSTER CULT!

Guilty pleasure rating: 10



s.





*JACQUIE ET MICHEL IS AN OFTEN-PARODIED FRENCH PORN WEBSITE

