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PHOTOGRAPHS BY RON LIVINGSTONE



# GETTING STONED

On March 8, two busloads of Stirling students toddled along to see the Rolling Stones' farewell concert in Glasgow. The concert (or at least the second house) opened with the Groundhogs, who had perhaps one of the most difficult spots of the century. They played a very tight blues set with several tracks from previous albums. The 3,000 crowd applauded politely, however the band failed to make any impact, and after half an hour they left to make way for the Stones.

After the usual hordes of roadies running about the stage, the Stones came on with Jagger in a pink satin suit waving and wiggling to the crowd. They opened with *Jumpin' Jack Flash* and proceeded through some of their old material to numbers from *Let It Bleed*. After half an hour or so of arousing the crowd, the Stones played *Midnight Rambler* with Jagger crawling about and lashing the stage with his belt.

By this time the crowd were getting rather wild and a cop or two waded into the people at the front, to keep them back from the stage. The bouncers, meanwhile, attempted to keep back the mob by flashing their torches in faces that got too close.

By the time the Stones played *Honky Tonk Women*, with the crowd joining in, people were taking off their

shirts, climbing on seats and waving their arms. Mild scenes, however, compared to what used to happen when the Stones last toured Britain.

They then moved into *Satisfaction*, Jagger pulling off his T shirt in sympathy with the crowd, which by this time looked as if the front stalls at least were on the point of riot.

And then the Stones were gone, leaving a couple of thousand people standing shouting for more. Being real superstars, of course, they didn't come back for an encore.

The whole event had an atmosphere of a bygone age, when people screamed at Gerry and the Pacemakers, and wore Chelsea boots. However, it was a fairly pleasant trip down memory lane though one wonders if it would have been possible for the Stones to have done a repeat in a year's time.

## bridget st john

PLAYED IN SOLO CONCERT TO

A STANDING ROOM ONLY AUDIENCE IN PATHFOOT RECENTLY. AFTERWARDS SHE PATIENTLY ANSWERED ENDLESS INANE QUESTIONS FROM BRIG, OF WHICH A FEW ARE PRINTED BELOW.

How did you enjoy the concert?  
Very nice; just very warm and very good to me. It was nicely arranged...

Do you like playing universities?  
Yeah, mostly. I don't like doing Union Balls and things like that when you get put on as a cabaret. One time I was on with Champion Jack Dupree who gets drunk and tells dirty jokes, and a stripper and they were all waiting to see the stripper of course.

How far does your musical career go back? When did you start playing musical instruments?  
Well, as soon as I left school I got a guitar - that was the first one - about five years ago. I started playing professionally about two years ago, when I left university.

What kind of music do you like to listen to?  
I like music where you can make out what's going on; some loud music's ok, but sometimes it's just a big noise - I don't see the point of singing songs when people can't hear the words to them, or just putting words to things, that don't really mean anything, just so you can stick guitar licks in between.

You played one of Leonard Cohen's songs - is that the sort of thing you like?  
Oh yeah, I like his stuff a lot. Who else?  
John Martyn, out of the

British songwriters, and I like The Band as well... and Joni Mitchell.

You record for Dandelion - are you happy with Peel's setup there?  
Oh yeah, because you can do just what you want...it means if I have an idea for doing something, they nearly always say yes - like doing the single; that cost them quite a lot of money to do.

Why do you think Peel runs a company like that?  
Just because he believes that anyone anywhere should have the chance to record if they want to.

Do you plan to play any other kinds of music, like with other musicians, or anything like that?

Well, I don't know. I haven't got any plans. It's the sort of thing that'll happen if it happens, and if it doesn't, it doesn't. I couldn't plan that sort of thing.

You said you played mostly to university audiences - doesn't it worry you that only a small section of the community is hearing you?  
I don't know actually - I've played in working men's clubs and I didn't get through at all, so I think I just have to accept that there are some people I'll



never get through to - you can't tell people "listen to me, you've got to listen" because there are some people who know what they like to hear, and it's nothing to do with what I'm doing.

Your lyrics seem to have quite a wide range of emotions - are they all personal?  
Yeah, well they're all related to things that have happened to me, things that I feel. Sometimes I can't feel a song anymore - but when that happens, I don't sing it anymore. But most of the ones I sing now, I still feel, or I can remember how I felt, so I can project myself back into it.



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