

## Big Wreck and Emm Gryner in Charlottetown

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rupturing version of "High" by Jimmie's Chicken Shack, as well as a couple of other covers, like "Baba O'Reilly," and the big mother of them all, Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song," which they played as their first of two encores.

They also played some new material, including the song which I believe was called "Everything Is Fine," as their second and last encore. After that, they did a rousing version of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and then sang "O Canada." No kidding. After Ian finished the first line of "O Canada," he left his feedbacking guitar on stage and they walked off. A very interesting ending to a very good show.

The crowd at Myron's was very into the show, and Big Wreck seemed to appreciate it. He did give us a few compliments, commenting on our frequent use of the split-fingered rock salute, the universal sign for "yeaaaah!"

"You guys are cool, no one in the States does that. The States suck!" he exclaimed. How true, how true. He had to cover his back, though. Ian's from Toronto originally, but his bandmates are all from Boston. The band's sound certainly was big, perhaps a bit swampy, but nothing short of absolutely rockin'. If Myron's has a butt, they rocked it off that night with loud, stellar playing, and a great stage presence. Thornley can wail and scream like a banshee if he has to, just like a certain Led Zeppelin vocalist I know.

That may be why their cover of Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song" is such a great fit for them and why they do it so well.

To make a bit of this long story shorter, I managed to get into the "Band Only" room upstairs after the show, along with about 8 other lucky people, unlike the poor girl trying to get in, who yelled through the door, "I've got perky breasts!" We were told we only had about 15 minutes, so we all talked and got autographs as quickly as we could before the band had to beat it for the bus to make their way to New Brunswick.

They signed some nice big posters, and somehow I didn't get one. I was still happy though. I got all four of Big Wreck's members to sign my CD, and got to have a little chat with Forrest Williams, their drummer.

After I thanked Forrest for the comments and we shook hands & parted, I noticed Emm Gryner at a table behind me. Just her and her bandmates, laughing and having a good time, with no fans around them. So, I decided I'd go and meet her. We talked for a short amount of time, about various things. She said things were going well for her right now, and then I congratulated her on her Juno nomination.

So, to sum it up, it was one helluva show from a great group and a great Canadian solo artist, both of which you may want to check out in concert or CD form the next time you get a chance.

*Edited for space constraints. kr.*

By RYAN O'CONNOR

Pete Seeger is one of America's best loved and highly respected musicians. Born in 1919, he is still active in the folk circle. In fact, he won a Grammy Award in 1997 for his album "Pete", which was released on the Living Music label. Despite being in his late seventies when recording this CD, his voice is just as clear as ever, and the one weakness that he has acquired in his old age — he can't hit the high notes like he used to — is remedied by the appearance of a choir that backs him in many of the album's 18 tracks.

There are a couple of Pete's better known songs on this album, "Garbage" and "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine," and they are delivered extremely well here. However, even more impressive are the newer tracks, including "All Mixed Up," the inspirational "Well May The World Go," and "Huddie Leadbetter" which is a tribute to the late folksinger.

An even more recent release by Seeger is Smithsonian Folkways' *If I Had A Hammer: Songs of Hope and Struggle*. Featuring songs recorded from 1955 to 1998, this compilation has 26 tunes on the themes of labour, civil rights, peace, and hope for the future. There are many great songs on this album, including some of his earliest recordings such as "Casey Jones," "Talking Union" and "Union Maid," all of which feature the accompaniment of the Almanac Singers.

Also included on this CD are Seeger penned clas-

sics such as "Where Have All The Flowers Gone," "Turn, Turn, Turn," and "If I Had A Hammer."

Also, Appleseed Recordings has released a two cd tribute to Pete Seeger, entitled *Where Have All The Flowers Gone*. With 39 recordings and over two and a half hours in length, this star studded collection features artists as diverse as Bruce Cockburn with "Turn, Turn, Turn" and Bruce Springsteen singing "We Shall Overcome."

Highlights of this album include Tommy Sands' version of the title track, Roger McGuinn on "Bells of Rhymney," Dick Gaughan with "Waist Deep In The Big Muddy," Peter Paul and Mary's "All Mixed Up," and Tom Paxton's performance of "Get Up and Go." Not being one to sit

by the wayside, Seeger himself included a freshly penned song called "And Still I Am Searching."

All three of these albums are worth owning. If you're looking for old Seeger classics, go with "If I Had A Hammer." If you'd like to hear newer material, buy his Grammy Award winning *Pete* and if you'd like the tribute featuring other artists and their interpretations of his songs, go with *Where Have All The Flowers Gone*.

www.appleseed.com — for more information on Appleseed Recordings  
www.livingmusic.com — for more information on Living Music  
www.si.edu/organiza/offices/folklife/folkways/ — for information on Smithsonian Folkways

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**Overheard at 3:03am: "I'm going exploring!"  
-Richard Haines**