

Two Lincoln Originals



Laser brightens Mueller

By Bill Casari
Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

Editor's note: This article contains opinions of the author.

"The Laser Fantasy" now showing at Mueller Planetarium lets people visualize rock music through laser images.

Laser light, in a variety of colors, creates patterns on the planetarium ceiling that correlate with the rock song playing. The show features music from The Fixx, Michael Jackson, Def Leppard, The Police and others.

"It's an explosion of vivid, pure color; it's music that you can see," Scott Frederick, laserist, said. He said the laser machine emits light that is reflected onto a series of mirrors and then is projected onto the ceiling.

The laser images come from the side of the room while the background they are projected onto comes from a star ball in the middle of the room. Frederick said use of the star field creates a sense of depth and a

feeling that the image is floating.

Frederick does some of the show "live," but other parts of the show are computer aided. The laser lines are actually a series of dots that move so fast they appear to form a line.

Much of the laser imagery is in the eyes of the audience. People can relate their own meanings to the patterns — somewhat like interpreting poetry. Meaning is clearly evident in some segments such as "Major Tom Coming Home," which has a clear story line that the patterns follow. Others such as "Red Skies" and "In The Mood" are more abstract.

I found myself associating specific experiences and feelings I had with the lines. My imagination flew as I thought of things that seemed to point to meaning in the song or in my own life.

The show progresses well and is humorous during "Beat It" and "Puppy Love."

I was fascinated with the way the images coincided with

my own visual image of the song. During "Synchronicity II" the effects made me feel as if I was actually in a Scottish fog. This show is for everyone who likes different forms of art.

"If you like music videos you'll like this," Frederick said. However, the laser images are a different art form. Lasers seem more mentally stimulating than music videos.

The show is produced by Laser Optics and uses a technologically advanced laser projection, said Jack Dunn, manager of Mueller Planetarium.

The show is visually exciting and well worth the ticket price. "The Laser Fantasy" will be showing for about a month at Mueller Planetarium in Morrill Hall.

Tickets are \$3.50 and will be sold 30 minutes before the show. Shows are Thursdays at 7:30 and 9 p.m., Fridays at 7:30, 9 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday shows are at 3:30 p.m., except for home football Saturdays when shows will be held at 11 a.m., 7:30, 9 and 10:30 p.m.

The Fixx grips '80s music scene

By Randy Wymore
Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

In a world where some of the biggest names in the music business are often manufactured in

the offices of corporate music heads, bands like The Fixx are a sign of hope for us all.

With the release of this four-

man band's third album, *Phantoms*, The Fixx takes a firm grip on the decade's music scene. This band gets stronger with every release as it holds fast to its own distinct sound and explores its boundaries.

The Fixx has always been a band that conveys feelings without using a strict lyrical form. Not many of their songs — written by vocalist Cy Curnin — have a certain story line. Rather, they present a keen sense of calculating syntax.

Phantoms is no different. The

entire album conveys a feeling of being lost and alone, near hopelessness.

On "Wish," Curnin sings, "Your wish is my sentence." The first five lines of "Facing the wind" are: "Just give me something to hold

on
A piece of the world that won't go round

Is there somebody there I can talk to

Somebody who shares the same view

Facing the wind"

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Record Review

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