



Legal Weapon

Courtesy of Legal Weapon

Arthur's searing, bluesy voice wielded well by Legal Weapon

By Charles Lieurance
Staff Reporter

At one time or another, the rock press has compared Legal Weapon's Kat Arthur to Debbie Harry, Janis Joplin, Joan Jett, Big Mama Thornton, Exene Cervenka and Pat Benatar.

Band Preview

If you've ever heard "Heart of Glass," "Another Little Piece of My Heart," "I Love Rock 'n' Roll," "Burning House of Love" and "Hell is for Children" back to back, you can be grateful the com-

parisons are not all on target.

Legal Weapon, which will play at the Drumstick tonight, probably can't do justice to every one of these comparisons, but Arthur's voice is an authentic wonder.

Legal Weapon, a Los Angeles quartet, plays jagged, hard rock 'n' roll. After two LP's full of rather pedestrian hardcore, their third release, "Interior Hearts," finally gave Arthur's searing, bluesy vocal talents an adequate showcase.

The band has also pared down its sound to make way for "the voice," slowing the tempo a bit to Rolling Stones time and sometimes wallowing in moody Los Angeles gothic rock.

Arthur's lyrics have a penchant for

Lou Reed-ish ugliness. Big Themes include drugs, incest, rape, patricide and love in the ruins of civilization.

I'll resist calling Legal Weapon any kind of a punk band because punk just doesn't describe much of what's happening anywhere in music today. Legal Weapon looks awfully punk in their leather jackets and safety pins, but the sound is pure rock muscle, the kind high school kids listened to in the 1970s without apology or nostalgia.

Legal Weapon's live show is legendary in L.A., where great live shows are about as rare as a good tan, so you might want to trot out your dance partner tonight for some, uh, rock 'n' roll. But leave your Clash buttons at home.

Bright images cover meaning

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the importance of harmonious union between people, with no emphasis placed on creed or color. I sense the artist's desire to encourage the viewers to take a closer look at their lives and become more aware of the way they classify and stereotype others.

Humphrey presents views on many social and personal issues through printmaking. Especially memorable is "The Lady and The Tiger." This creation cynically approaches how pretentious the act of love can be. The scene

consists of a Tiger, depicted as a man, who has deceived a willing cat, a woman, to come into his lair.

The piece seems to have a superficial manner with happy and bright images of a rainbow and a flower. But it is easy to detect a darkened mood because of the lewd expression and obvious lustful intentions of the tiger.

Humphrey reaches out to the viewer through her striking creations. Her art brings society's overlooked faults into perspective, asking the viewer to gain a sensitive approach to other humans.

Humphrey is a teacher from Oak-

land, Calif. She has received many awards in recognition of her work, including a Ford Foundation Grant and the Robert C. Walker Award given by Philadelphia Print Club. Her appearance is made possible through the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Sheldon Art Gallery and the Nebraska Arts Association.

The exhibition is on display until Feb. 20 in the Richards Hall Gallery. The gallery is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit is free.

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