

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Candlebox ready to light up Omaha tonight

Quik Facts

Show: Candlebox

At: Mancuso Convention Hall at the Civic Auditorium, Omaha

Time: 7:30 tonight

Tickets: \$17.50, available through Ticketmaster

By Joel Strauch
Senior Reporter

The rock sensation Candlebox will set fire to the Mancuso Convention Hall in Omaha tonight.

Touring in the wake of the phenomenal success of its debut album — it's been in the top 40 for nearly a year — the band is joined by The Flaming Lips and Mother Tongue.

"The tour is going really well," Scott Mercado, the drummer for the band, said.

"This is our first full-production headlining tour," he said. "It's a lot smoother. We're not on someone else's time limit."

This will be the second time that Candlebox will be rockin' it up in Nebraska.

"We played once at the Ranch Bowl in Omaha," Mercado said. "It's totally fun to play there. We don't get out there very much."

"I really like the smaller venues in more obscure places. It's a lot less hectic."

The band's 11-track album is a virtual cornucopia of hit songs and has fueled its almost instant success.

"Compared to a lot of bands like Pearl Jam, it (success) is not that rapid," Mercado said.

"But we've been basically unaffected by it," he said. "It doesn't affect our music."

"We've been on the road for about a year and a half, so we've been able to keep our wits about it," he said.

Candlebox is from Seattle but never was part of that city's club scene, which seemed to launch so many bands to stardom.

In order to get gigs in the Northwest, they needed to tape a demo. The band's



Courtesy of Maverick Records

Rock band Candlebox, on the heels of the success of its debut album, will play a concert in Omaha tonight.

members sold most of their worldly possessions and cut an eight-song demo.

"It cost us almost everything," Mercado said. "But our two biggest singles, 'You' and 'Far Behind,' are from the original demo."

The band soon was signed with Madonna's Maverick label and has been with it since.

"It's been a good label; it's a small label, so we get a lot of attention," he said.

"They've been able to meet all our needs," Mercado said. "We're happy so far."

The unique sounds displayed on the "Candlebox" album stem from the diverse background of the individual members of the band, Mercado said.

"Peter (Klett, guitarist) and Bardi (Martin, bassist) like a lot of '60s and '70s rock," Mercado said. "Kevin (Martin, vocalist) is into skate punk and R&B, and I like a lot

of jazz.

"Kevin is heavily influenced by Peter Garrett as a lyricist, and a lot of our music is based on late '60s and early '70s rock, like (Jimi) Hendrix and (Janis) Joplin," he said.

To check out the peerless style that the band has to offer, head up to Omaha and try not to get burned when the Candlebox opens up.

No experience needed to see sexy comedy 'Exit to Eden'

By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

I love this job.

Granted, those feelings don't occur all of the time, but fun movies like "Exit To Eden" help to make this job bearable — especially after such abysmal movies as "Look Who's Talking Now!" and "Surviving the Game."

"Exit to Eden" is based on a novel by Anne Rice, who at the time used the pseudonym Anne Rampling, but director Garry Marshall ("Pretty Woman") added some new characters to the story. Thus, all plot lines become hilariously intertwined, making the movie something reminiscent of "A Fish Called Wanda."

Photojournalist Elliot Slater (Paul Mercurio) takes pictures of Omar, a reclusive smuggler (Stuart Wilson, "No Escape"), and Slater unknowingly is pursued by two straight-laced Los Angeles detectives (played by Dan Aykroyd and Rosie O'Donnell).

Everybody follows Slater to an exclusive tropical resort called Club Eden, a place where people are allowed to have all of their

Quik Facts

Movie: "Exit To Eden"

Rating: R

Stars: Dana Delany, Paul Mercurio, Hector Elizondo, Rosie O'Donnell, Dan Aykroyd

Director: Garry Marshall

Grade: B-

Five words: Sexy comedy hits big screen

sexual fantasies fulfilled.

At Eden, Slater gets the attention of Mistress Lisa (Dana Delany), a beautiful dominatrix who decides that she needs to "train" him personally.

All performers look like they are having a good time making the film, except for Aykroyd. However, if he had been in a bit more of the film, that may have put a smile back on his face.

Mercurio, who dazzled audiences with his dancing in "Strictly Ballroom," is all right as Slater,

the cameraman who needs a good spanking once in a while.

What makes the movie work is the laughter. O'Donnell's dry, sardonic wit finds a new hunting ground in a world where fantasy and reality intermingle.

The movie has some scary points, too, just in time for Halloween. It's not monsters or demons, however, but Rosie O'Donnell in a dominatrix outfit. Brrrrrrrr! It makes the spine shiver just thinking about it!

There's also some major explicit stuff, too. Many buttocks and breasts parade across the screen like the herds of buffalo in "Dances With Wolves." The subject matter gets rather interesting at times with discussions of bondage and domination, and there are a couple of rather explicit — and romantic — sex scenes.

Translation: Leave the kids at home.

Those who want the movie to be EXACTLY like the book, in both content and quality, will be disappointed with "Exit To Eden," but those who can get by that comparison will enjoy the film.

'Pulp' is bizarre but compelling

By Chris Hain
Senior Editor

If the urban crime scene is the western frontier of the '90s, then "Pulp Fiction" might be a spaghetti western.

"Pulp Fiction" is an action/comedy containing more fresh brutality from Quentin Tarantino. The movie takes place on the renegade frontier of organized crime, where bizarre is the norm.

The originality of "Pulp Fiction" may have a lot to do with writer/director Tarantino's non-film school background. Tarantino was a video clerk prior to his film career.

"Pulp Fiction" comes to town with perhaps more hype and critical acclaim than any film this year. It won best picture (Palme d'Or) at the 1994 Cannes film festival and opened the New York Film Festival in September.

Like "Reservoir Dogs," the first movie Tarantino wrote and directed, "Pulp Fiction" dwells on crime and isn't short on violence.

In Tarantino's world, lurking

Quik Facts

Movie: "Pulp Fiction"

Rating: R

Stars: John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman, Harvey Keitel, Bruce Willis

Director: Quentin Tarantino

Grade: A

Five Words: Irresistible, brutal ride through underworld

in the shadows are characters who participate in intelligent, analytical discussions, complete with everyday humanity and politeness, and then commit the most shocking crimes.

"Pulp Fiction" plays on a similar paradox by inserting humor into the most violent, demented scenes. The result is laughter that often is clipped by the audience's realization of what it is actually

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