

Live Reviews

The House of Love, The Zappa Club, Herzliya, Israel. 15-02-2017



The House of Love Photo: Yuval Erel

Israel opened the opportunity for a large audience to enjoy the overseas performances that would not normally come here. Last night however, such a performance took place in the big space of the Zerca branch of the Zappa Club.

This was when the British band **'The House of Love'**, founded in 1986 in London, as part of the alternative rock phenomenon that began to grow on the British island, they came to give the local audience living its youth in the eighties and nineties the sweet moments they grew up on.

In 1987, the band released the song "Shine On" which in a very short time became a kind of anthem for youth at the time. The band was created by Guy Chadwick, a composer and guitarist along with leading guitarist Terry Bickers.

After a successful warm up by DJ Tal Agraman who introduced the guests to a British atmosphere, with the best of old and new indie classics, the 51 yr old Bickers came to the stage, looking not a day over 35. He began to play the guitar and within a few moments the rest of the band joined him on stage and began with the regular opening song, "Never".

Songs being played were mostly from the 1st three albums. The songs sounded fresh, cohesive and relevant considering that this set consisted of songs where the albums were recorded sometime in the late 80's and early 90's.

Bicker's guitar energy and playing set the tone for all the songs and in general he tended to lead the rest of the band more than Chadwick who seemed quite distant and alienated with sunglasses and an indifferent look. Nevertheless, Chadwick's voice sounded as if it has not been 30 years and he presented the songs with the same enthusiasm and grace of studio recordings.

Black shirts and white hair stood out in the crowd. It was beautiful to see that love of music does not die with age. Anyone who knew the band in real time was thirsty for the big songs. Hits like "Christine", "Beatles and the Stones" and every song they started to play showed there was an event and excitement.

It's hard to admit it, but the crowd were anxiously waiting for 1 particular song, "Shine On", The band's first single which was probably the only one they will remember in the history of music, was the last song before the encore. Even Chadwick muttered a few words into the microphone knowing that this was probably the moment everyone had waited for. Surprisingly, the playing of this song was among the weak of the evening; not what bothered the hundreds of people to pull out their cell phones in order to document the historical event!

The band returned for 2 more songs in the encore, while the last song, "Love in a Car" they pulled into a long and beautiful psychedelic section and then left the stage. The lights went on and the show had ended.

With a taste of youth, we went out into the cold, very wet night with dreams of the next surprises the lady would prepare for the audience in the coming months.

Photo Gallery from the show





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Video gallery from the show

Video 1: 'Christine'

Link: <https://youtu.be/qUutalZ0Z6I>

Video 2: 'Shine On'

Link: <https://youtu.be/6hXDO3f8dOI>

Video 3: 'The Beatles and the Stones'

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2FAbtdS>

Video: Adva Erel

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Reviewer: Yuval Erel