

+ THE LOVE GODS

alvin purple experience | nevada smiths | jan 31 & feb 7

we just recently realised that LEG's been knocking around for nie on 5 months now and we've never mentioned the alvins. then we realised, godamnit, we gotta put that right. john frawley investigates.....

The 70's; the decade of wing collars and bell-bottom jeans, the decade of hallucinogenic drugs and men wearing make-up, the decade that taste forgot!

The Alvin Purple Experience revive that era of glam rock and decadence by taking you back in time to the sweaty, smoke filled hot-spots of London ...the make-up, the glitter, the tasteless flashy stage costumes and the rock idol posturing.... and pumping out the raw and raucous guitar driven sounds of T-Rex, The Sweet, Bowie, Glitter, Mud and Joe Dolan to name but a few. To see them is to love them, to love them is to truly live, at least so their fans and the "lovegod" himself Mr. Alvin Purple would have you believe.

I am considered by Alvin-ites to be blessed indeed as not only have I met the band themselves (Ricky Slick Slaughter, drummer extra-ordinaire, rumoured to be part chameleon and the fine tuned engine that drives the band along, Gary Slitter, bassist, started out his teens as a soccer pro with wimbledon and is credited with earning them the original "crazy gang" nickname before turning to drugs and rock'n'roll and Ronnie Hendrix, powerhouse guitar virtuoso, the defining sound of the band and the granddaddy of the line-up), but I have also had an audience with the man himself.

It happened quite by chance actually. I ran into his dog "terrywogan" on my bike while cycling on the grounds of Mr. Purple's castle and one of his house maidens took me in to clean the wounds. He arrived on the scene quickly and once he had assured himself that "terrywogan" was none the worse for wear, he agreed to a brief interview if I agreed not to claim.

Born on the toilet floor of The Stags Head, Camden, London (he didn't specify male or female) Alvin is reluctant to discuss his childhood and claims to have little or no memory of anything prior to 1973. It was in March of that year he says he encountered Ronnie "the guvner" Hendrix holding court in the Rusty Bullet Hole in Basinstoke. "It only took one powerchord an' I knew it was his destiny to back me", he says with typical Alvin modesty. "The boys (Ricky and Gary) were in the crowd that night and were drawn to my side by my sheer magnetism", he continued, "and the rest is history, 'innit??" At this

point six nymph-like beauties danced through the door wearing nothing but chocolate flavoured body paint, Alvins favorite food, and the interview ended. He very graciously invited me to stay for "lunch" and so even though it was one of the shorter interviews I ever conducted it was also one of the more satisfying, and for the record.... the man is HUGE.



The Alvin Purple Experience are all about having fun and they have been gigging extensively and delighting audiences throughout the country. Those lucky enough to see them are taken on a glitter filled glam-tastic journey through the sounds, sights and sometimes even the smells of the 70's with "love-in" singalongs and crowd participation that you have never experienced before all orchestrated by one of the finest frontmen on show anywhere in this fair Isle. Limerick folk can catch them at Nevada Smiths on Bedford Row on Thursday nights.

The Wild
Onion
Cafe

serving american breakfast from 8am, tuesday to friday, and from 9am on saturdays.
on high street near the old milk market opposite the round house pub.
american cakes and cookies too.
and a real hamburger!