

Recreating Zeppelin

Cover band impressing fans performing Led Zeppelin classics word for word, note for note



"INCREDIBLE": Nick Hildyard belts out the songs of Led Zappelin II.



DEAN LISK MUSIC REVIEW

Craig Martin said some people will attend his show, Classic Albums Live, for what he refers to as the NASCAR factor.

"People come out to watch us crash into the wall," said Martin, who performs *Led Zeppelin II* at Casino Nova Scotia tonight. "They want to see a car crash — but they don't get them."

He and his five bandmates will perform the entire album — which includes *Whole Lotta Love*, *Heartbreaker*, and *Bring It on Home* — note-for-note and song-for-song.

"There is a point in the night, and on this album it is *The Lemon Song*, that the disbelief is gone and the audience realizes the show is incredible and, 'I can't believe these guys are pulling this off.'"

Nothing like hearing it live

"There is nothing like hearing this album created live on stage, in all its fullness, and see the musicians execute these parts."

Martin came up with the idea to start Classic Albums Live will returning from a music gig about four years ago.

He and his band mates heard back-to-back Rolling Stones songs and started talking about how cool it would be to hear a whole album at a single show

He said it's a bit of no-brainer deciding what albums to perform. They are the classics from the '60s and '70s, stuff by bands such as Pink Floyd, The Beatles and the Stones.

To recreate the albums, they go to the lengths of having a live orchestra, children's choirs, sitar



LED ZEPPELIN II: Fans can hear all the songs on the album, live.

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Classic Albums Live presents Led Zeppelin II
- **WHERE:** The Schooner Showroom, Casino Nova Scotia
- **WHEN:** Thursday at 8 p.m.
- **TICKETS:** \$24.98 Oplus tax. Call 425-7777

players or horn sections — whatever was used on the album they're recreating live.

What they don't do during the show is impersonate the actual band, dress-up in crazy costumes or jump around the stage. It sounds pretty un-rock 'n' roll these days but all they do is stand there and play.

"We have this sublime bond that happens with the audience," said Martin. "They see the passion, the respect and the care that we've put toward this music. We are re-igniting their youth and their imagination."

But, why would you want to shell out nearly \$30 bucks to hear a band play an album you can pop into the CD player for free?

"It's a musical recital," said Martin "Why do people go to see Brahms and Bach and Beethoven? We do the same thing, except it's Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin." disk@hfxnews.ca