

Thee Spaggiatti

NINE 22-4-72

THE CLASSIC way of making a band together of looking over the maps, of setting the final seal of quality group's music, is by the tour. And, of course, there are tours and tours.

In America a group can expect endless plans flights, unattended hotel handovers and — in general — smooth, efficient organization. In Europe, except that distances are shorter and food is less a concern, the touring scene is the same. In Italy, it's no use in using the tour machine till the cups reach monthly; Italy will throw squanders into the details of the Italian way of doing things will take care of that too.

But Italy is still a nice place to play. The people, as they say in the Pan-Am guidebooks, are friendly. The weather is pleasant. The views? Ah, travel? Italian motorists are excellent and fast, and their Pirelli autocrosses make the blue road look like a thought.

Top? There is no different about Italy? To find out, the northern provinces are of Venice. Here's the report.

VENICE AIRPORT
Sun Yippee. Met by Paul Corroy, Christiani Fralbeck, Phil Collins, Genesis' demon drummer, and highbrow Italian promoter named Maurizio Salvadore. He's not very old — and he's never gonna be, judging by the way he drives the Alfa.

Takes 20 minutes to cover the 20 miles to the airport. Collins with me. "I'm sorry," says the driver, "but we are going to exploit the airport." Why? "Because of the money." At the airport, he says, "I'm sorry, but we are going to exploit the airport." Why? "Because of the money."

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GENESIS

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SceenE

OR... GENESIS IN ITALY

er. The Italian are dedicated in their approach to "Il Pop" and the long bar is crowded with interested purchasers.

Genesis are greeted with great approval from the Pirelli and-cake crowd. Before music is completed, there are holders for numbers from "Nurtur-Cryme" but the group stick to their performing set and back to the stage.

Modulated appreciation. Set continues, and it's incredible how clear this band is. Not quite a symphony — which are presentation, which is usually annoyingly dramatic and persuasive, but in their instrumental ability.

Mike Rutherford, bassist, dips on guitar now and again, and keeps the bass lines moving by means of a neglected fruit of rocktech bass pedals, which he

whole playing the Rhythm position. Vocalist Peter Gabriel is the only member of Genesis with stand-out songs. Stern, with folded arms and frowning

behave, he resembles a cross between an Italian canning and an American politician. He also fills a lamp

bourne and peddle a solitary beard with his right foot. Extraordinary chap.

High point
"Fountain Of Salmatrix" is the highlight of the set and the kind of drama that is rare in national. Phil's piano figures and sweeping melodic lines produce the pacy lyrics from Peter, while Steve Hackett on lead

contrabass volume produced from his left hand.

Upstairs, people are beginning to filter in. No pretensions so less here. The Trevi's mob are dressed in their best. Pucci

There's no scent of single chevron, no cheering feet of not

Brand X



PHIL'S ACTIVITIES AND SOME BRAND X NEWS

Phil and John Goodall played with Peter Gabriel at the recent Glastonbury Festival, and it's not inconceivable that similar get-togethers may occur in the future. As you know, Phil also joined in at the end of a couple of Peter's Christmas gigs at Hammersmith Odeon.

The new Brand X album, which is due for release on 29th August, was recorded with more new material in a very

undone way — the whole Brand X collective all got together to work full-time 24-hours a day at two studios in the Starling Studios complex with three engineers to get the maximum benefit of the various combinations of musicians possible. It may sound a bit like working in shifts, but all the musicians involved found it to be a very stimulating atmosphere.

The album begins with a John Goodall song 'Don't Make Waves', which is followed by Ferry Jones' 'Dance Of The Illegal Aliens', which involves the efforts required in order to become an American resident. Also on the album is 'And So To P' which was written by Phil and previewed by him in an interview on London's Capital Radio on Friday 13th July. The full list of musicians involved in these recordings is Phil Collins, Ferry Jones, John Goodall, John Giblin (Jeff Beck's bass-player), Peter Robinson, Morris Pert, Mike Garke (Herbie Hancock's drummer), Robin Lumley. This shows that Brand X are more of a club or collective of elite session players, rather than a fixed group or band.

Phil has also had time to work on a solo album, for which he has been carefully putting ideas together over the last couple of years. Although he has plenty of material for an album, he sees it more as a continuing project — and isn't in any hurry to release anything for a long while. A lot of the ideas have been put down on his 8-track home studio.

He has also been working on an album with John Kerlyn.

Brand X



Steve Hackett

STEVE HACKETT - SPECTRAL MORNINGS

Steve and his band have just completed their second U.K. tour in under a year to coincide with the success of the 'Spectral Mornings' album, and I certainly hoped that you managed to see one of the gigs. The whole band now work together so closely and with such confidence that one can easily imagine that they've been playing together for years.

The whole set was impressively enhanced by a very imaginative light show designed by Steve's girlfriend Kim Poor. Our next chance to see Steve and the band will be at the



JOHN SHEARER

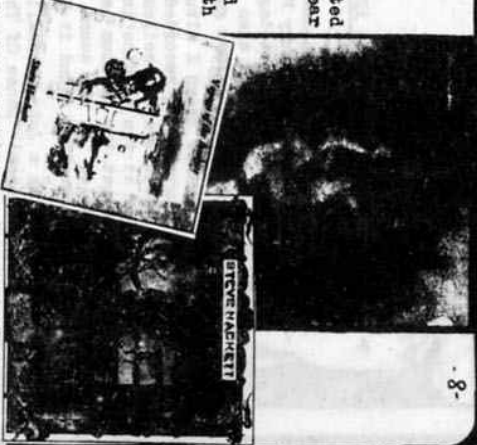


Reading Festival on Saturday 25th August.

Steve has kindly autographed five copies of 'Spectral Mornings' as prizes for a competition:

- 1) Around what subject is 'Voyage of the Acolyte' based?
- 2) Who has co-produced Steve's three albums with him?
- 3) There was 'Spectral Mornings' recorded? Which is Steve's U.S. record label? We also have 20 prizes of a badge and sticker set. Send your entry to Geoff & mark the envelope 'Steve Hackett Comp.'. Closing date is 1st September. Good luck!

On the next page is a letter from Steve to us all with his comments on the tour - as you can see he really enjoyed himself.



The only way to describe the recent tour would be to say that it had been the most enjoyable one that I had ever done.

I've always felt that a successful gig was more in the hands of an audience than those of a performer as it is they who create the atmosphere which enable musicians to know that whatever the effort by everybody from Road Crew to the members of the band it has been worthwhile when appreciation is given to us.

There's no better feeling than playing live in front of a tremendous crowd and you're the people who make it all possible. Thanks a lot more than I can say

Steve Hackett

P.S. Thank you folks!

