

The Hot Spot: Filabusta

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Photo by Andrea Ramey



Andrea Ramey
AZ Edge

"It's like James Brown and Jimi Hendrix having lunch with the Isley Brothers at Stevie Wonder's house listening to Jerry Garcia cover a Bob Marley song".....if you are intrigued by this, a fan's description of a local band, you would have been well advised to stop by at Annie's Attic last Saturday to enjoy the tunes of Filabusta. These three guys are absolutely fantastic and they work hard for their fans. I really liked the fact that they don't become some foreign entity up on that stage, but manage to establish a

firm connection with their audience, which in turn makes the band's performance a fun adventure to be a part of. The dance floor was packed the entire night, which is saying something, considering the guys took only one break during their whole performance.

If a couple of members of Filabusta look familiar, it's because Mike Kreidel on drums and Lorin McLain on bass used to play for another well known local band, Sweet Nasty. In the beginning of 2010 Mike and Lorin hooked up with Kenny James (lead vocals and guitar) and Filabusta was founded. Doing mostly cover songs to which they add their own unique embellishment, they definitely keep their fans on the dance floor. At times segueing from one song to the next, they don't give the audience a chance to sit down....not that anyone seems to mind!

Vocalist Kenny James, who originally hails from San Francisco, is definitely the driving force on stage. Combining his unique brand of charm with a powerful voice, he easily takes on different genres of music, firmly (and obviously) putting some of the female audience members under his spell.

Mike Kreidel certainly doesn't hide behind his drum set. Dispensing lots of big, sweet smiles he shows off his skill, which is definitely considerable. Working at AZ Web Designs by day, he has been playing the drums for 29 ½ years ... but his talent is something inherent, something no amount of practice would produce.

Lorin McLain, transposed from Ohio, by profession a published journalist, whose every utterance seems to slightly hint at sarcasm. And man, does he manipulate that bass! When he puts it behind his head and plays blindly, the audience goes ballistic!

These three accomplished musicians absolutely make it work. They have found their groove and the results are fantastic. They won the annual Prescott Valley Battle of the Bands in 2010 and as a result will be playing at Cliff Castle Casino with Styx this May. Filabusta can be seen at different venues around the state, most prominently in Sedona, Flagstaff and, of course, about once a month at Annie's Attic here in Prescott. Go see them and dance like nobody's watching!

Looking ahead:

This Saturday will find me bouncing between Sundance's and The Raven Café. At Sundance's I will see Storm of Perception and others (Heavy Metal and Punk) which starts at 9 p.m. At The Raven I want to check out Dave Logan Band. They start at 8 p.m., and put out their very own brand of music. So it will be a very exciting Saturday night once again. Come and join me!

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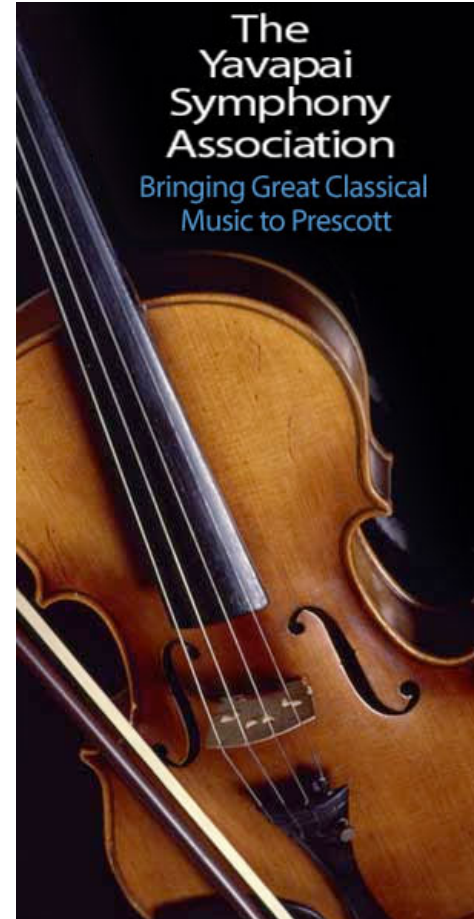
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