

Artist Hall & Oates

Where & When: Riverside Theater-Milwaukee, WI February 19th

Reviewed on 2/24/2002 by [Gary](#)

Style Pop

Score 70

This was a tough one to review. On one hand you have the music, which was great. On the other hand, you had the attitude of a certain musician who at this point in his career should know better.

Hall & Oates came to town not promoting a new album, but riding the wave from their Behind The Music special. They will have some new music out shortly with the release of 'Behind The Music - The Daryl Hall and John Oates Collection' which contains several redone recordings, live versions and a couple of new studio tracks, one of which "Do It For Love" was performed tonight. This was definitely not an oldie's show by far, as the two are still musically relevant.

Opening with "Adult Education," the guys squeezed in almost every hit you could think of in a short, but entertaining show. The band was tight with T-Bone Wolk holding down the bottom end on bass and a great sax player whose name I didn't catch. Though they had most of their hits during the 1980's and have unfairly been tagged as a "80's band," they touched on all aspects of their career, from 1973's "She's Gone" through a song from their last studio effort, the underrated Marigold Sky.

Although they didn't do too many obscure songs (I would've loved to see them do something like "It's A Laugh") they did throw in "How Does It Feel To Be Back." Most of the evening though was made up of hits from their early '80's output. "Kiss On My List," "One On One," "Out Of Touch," "You Make My Dreams" and "Maneater" were all done to an appreciative, but strangely mellow crowd. It didn't help either that when anybody did stand up to dance, security made them sit down!

The guys didn't seem to mind though, mostly because Daryl Hall spent most of the night bitching at his guitar tech. After Hall broke a string, the poor guy made the unforgivable mistake of either bringing Hall the wrong guitar or was too slow in getting the correct one to him. It was almost embarrassing the way Hall treated this guy. Equally embarrassing was the way he treated his partner John Oates. Barely looking at him and hardly acknowledging his existence all night, Hall just went about his business. I'm not sure of the nature of their relationship anymore, but it's clear that Hall needs Oates at least musically. Though his solo albums are very good, they went nowhere compared to the success with Oates. It might be the name recognition with the fans, but it's also Oates vocals and playing that add to the success of the duo.

The show itself though was very good and well paced despite the sideshow. Hall was in great voice and sang soulfully, especially on some of the R&B covers they included in the set. It's been a long career for these two, and I still think they have some great music left in them. Hall just needs to realize they never will fill stadiums and arenas again and to enjoy the moment while they still have it.

For more info on the band or Concert surf to [Click Here!](#)