

rhythmnet.com

Make \$\$\$\$  
Selling your CD  
Recording  
On The Internet.  
Call Today!!!

Toll Free 1-(888) 749-8461

http://www.rhythmnet.com

**Producer / Engineer  
For Hire**

If Your Ready to record your  
album or Master Quality  
Demo I can Help  
I Have Major label and artist  
credits, a Rehearsal and Studio  
and State of the art 24 trk  
recording studio featuring:  
Studer, Neve, Trident and  
Vintage Equipment  
(818) 763-4188

Robert P. Richeigh

**LONG HAIR  
Specialists**

LONG SENSUOUS HAIR FOR  
TODAY'S WOMAN  
Open

Tuesday through Saturday  
Late Appts.

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
2513 E. Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena CA. 91107  
818.795.1272

**RECORD INDUSTRY  
REPRESENTATIVE**  
(AWARDED MANY GOLD/PLATINUM  
RECORDS)  
Professional Record Company Executive

- 1) We can get you a record deal.
  - 2) We'll start your new record label  
with distribution
  - 3) We'll promote and market product to radio  
stations and record stores.
- 213•461•0757**

**GET RELEASED!**

You Work Hard On Your Music!  
You Deserve The Best Shot You Can!  
Major Music Marketing Firm  
Can Help You:

- Make your package more marketable!
- Shop your music for more potential!
- Release your own CD with more impact!
- Set up your own label & distribution!
- ★ US Deals ★ Foreign Deals ★ Airplay  
★ Soundtracks & More

**IM INTEGRATED  
MARKETING**

**(818) 508-0060**

The Competition Is Fierce - Have the edge!



**CLUB REVIEWS**



The Freeloaders: Call it "new roadhouse music."

**The Freeloaders**

Alligator Lounge  
Santa Monica

Contact: Artist Hot Line: 818-999-LOAD

The Players: Adam Merrin, piano;  
Keith Slettedahl, guitar vocals;  
Carlos Torres, bass; Mark Vasapolli, drums.

**M**aterial: The one area where this band does need some development is in their songs. No song lodges in your brain. The sound of the band and Slettedahl's voice do, but the songs tend to be long and full of extended jamming. Most are built on a repeating bass run with little variation (even in the choruses) over which Slettedahl's guitar and Merrin's piano jam. Because of this, the band's songs tend to sound very much alike. Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Born On The Bayou" could be sung over most of the songs and would fit well. They're not really bad, but none has a chorus nearly as catchy as "Born On The Bayou." The choruses they do throw in sometimes sound like they're from completely different songs, with no relation to the verses whatsoever. It's unique, but doesn't really work.

**M**usicianship: The strongest asset the Freeloaders possess is frontman Keith Slettedahl. With a stage presence that is part Elvis Costello and part River Phoenix, Slettedahl is comfortable onstage and possesses a certain charm that can endear him to an audience, but his real draw is his voice that has a Lennon-esque quality—hoarse, passionate and melodic. He also very often sounds like a young Joe Cocker.

The rest of the band appears equally comfortable onstage and does a good job of providing the backing for Slettedahl. The players all play simply. The arrangements are sparse and jammy, without anyone outshining other members.

They play together extremely well for such a young unit.

**P**erformance: The Freeloaders play a variety of rock that harkens back to an era before the proliferation of electronic gadgets. It's rock with a strong blues influence and an edge of simple fun. While one could well argue that their sound has been done before, in the current musical climate of the mid-Nineties, it's actually a refreshing sound that comes off as something new. The term that comes to mind is "new roadhouse music." That may explain the large turnout at this show. The band has done a good job of building a following in the short year that they've been together. Besides hard work, there may be a few musical factors that contribute to this.

**S**ummary: There is something about this band that merits a return trip to see them. The songs, though, arguably the most important aspect of popular music, really drag things down. If the Freeloaders could combine their energy, style and sound with better song structures and catchier choruses, they could start a whole new scene.

—Carl Peel

**Biff**

Crooked Bar  
West Hollywood

Contact: Artist Hot Line: 818-760-1787, ext. 5.

The Players: Biff, vocals, guitar;  
Chris Kelly, guitar, vocals; Duncan Sanford, bass, vocals; Wesley Parker, drums, vocals.

**M**aterial: Biff is a very promising songwriter and musician. He writes songs that have a folksy, self-confessing edge to them, but never loses the sense of tension that is intrinsic to good rock & roll. Biff is a songwriter from the heart, as it seems like every song is one

of inner confession. This is definitely music with feeling. Especially effective is the way that Biff has woven the songs he has written into his own vocal arena—playing up to his musical strengths and potentially avoiding any weak spots he might have. Along with his great lyrics, it is Biff's voice that goes home with you at the end of the evening.

**M**usicianship: The band has a tight sound with very good solo guitar work provided by Chris Kelly. The players seem to

bounce off one another musically, and the sense of the songs is never lost. Also, the band has a very good vocal harmony groove, with Biff leading the way with his smooth voice sliding over whatever rough spots in the music there may be.

**P**erformance: Leading a quartet, Biff rambles through the show, calling out the numbers onstage and addressing asides to people he knows in the crowd. At times, this sense of intimacy works, making every member of the audience feel like one of Biff's friends, and at others it just serves to exclude the people that don't really know him. While it would probably suit this band to be a little more professional onstage, this lack of pretention does effectively allow Biff to show off his unique songwriting and lyric crafting skills.

**S**ummary: Whether this is funky folk, alternative pop or whatever people choose to label it, it's good. While there may be some room for improvement in these performers' set, they are doing a very good job already. In time, this band could go somewhere.

—Jon Pepper



Biff: A songwriter from the heart.