

3TwinsSunsetEventsFort Collins2007TextTVS

3 Twins, Sunset Events Center, Fort Collins, January 12, 2007.

By Tim Van Schmidt

The finger-biting cold outside the Sunset Events Center seemed to be completely forgotten inside as the 3 Twins- the band that acts as a local outlet for three members of the subdudes- revved up another Dance Party on January 12. The Sunset event was actually a rescheduled date that was supposed to be an end of the year blast, but turned into an upbeat New Year's celebration instead as the venue filled for the first 3 Twins date in over a year. Indeed with by now familiar material that is completely separate from the subdudes and a robust mix of special local guest musicians, this was a first class Fort Collins night on the town.

Mixing original gems with a diversity of cover material, the 3 Twins, featuring keyboardist John Magnie, percussionist Steve Amedee and bassist Tim Cook of the subdudes, along with guitarist Jay Clear, have managed to become a distinctive and unique unit in itself, despite the long stretches between gigs thanks to the subdudes' busy schedule. There are some telltale signs of the subdudes' music- including well-honed vocal harmonies and upbeat jangly grooves- but the flavor of the music overall balances R & B, country, rock and roll and a strong dose of gospel in a much more carefree manner.

As the name of the 3 Twins events imply- Dance Party- everything is geared around the dance floor and at the Sunset, it filled from the very first tune. From high energy rockers like "Great Balls of Fire" to simmering James Brown funk, the covers songs added plenty of spice in between the originals. 3 Twins tunes like the medium tempo "This Time," the savory mountain music-flavored band standard "Blue Mountain Girl" and all-out rocker "Wyoming Bound" filled out the set with style.

But 3 Twins fans knew exactly what would be the climax of the show from past experience. That is, when the 3 Twins gathered some singers onto the stage and plowed into the infectious and uplifting gospel song "Look at the Day." Fans at the Sunset joined in on the joyous chorus to make this an inspired moment indeed.

Magnie's wife Kathe, who acted as the promoter for the event, mentioned in a conversation that it had been 13 months since the last 3 Twins Dance Party in Fort Collins. Many of the people at the Sunset- a gregarious grouping of, shall we say, "more mature" community members- seemed to agree that it had been too long a time. But I say that the time in between the local events makes it all the more sweeter when the 3 Twins finally do take the stage again. It was not just business as usual for the crowd or the musicians and that makes it all the more special.

Magnie will be playing a solo show at the Stonehouse Grille in Fort Collins on February 3- tickets available at the venue.