

SOUNDS » NEVILLE BROTHERS



The Neville Brothers play tonight at Rams Head on Stage. - Courtesy photo

Solid funk, luscious ballads

Neville Brothers bring their classic sound to town

By Nancy Dunham
Examiner Correspondent

After careers that spanned almost half a century playing with everyone from B.B. King and Aretha Franklin to Sam Cooke and Nat King Cole, the Neville Brothers give no indication of slowing down.

The group, formed by brothers Aaron, Charles, Art and Cyril, is cited by many modern producers (think Justin Timberlake and 50 Cent) as one of the most influential in modern music history.

"We have fans all over the world of all ages. Here in the states, our fans are from every walk of life," Charles Neville said. "I think it's because the music is real and speaks from our spirits."

Indeed, their latest release, "Walkin' in the Shadow of Life," was inspired when Art expressed the sentiment in 2001 while facing paralysis after back surgery.

Not that the brothers hadn't faced adversity before. The four grew up in one of the toughest neighborhoods of New Orleans, the 13th Ward, and faced struggles born of drug use and business missteps.

"Really all of the experiences added to who we are and what we are now," Charles Neville said. "There is nothing I would change or regret."

Embracing life as it comes is apparent in the Neville Brothers' shows, which are rich in various genres of music. Many bemoan that such expert interpretation of genres is a lost art.

"It is not really their fault," said Neville of much of today's somewhat homogenized sounds. "They have a certain band of music, and they're told, 'This is your music. This is how you should sound.' We are from an age when a new sound made an impact."

Kent Sorrell, the band's manager, said the Neville Brothers' sound will again be enriched when they release a new studio album, likely next spring.

"The Neville Brothers are the first family of New Orleans music," he said. "In the climate of the entertainment business, with so many one-hit wonders around, it's exciting to have such a rich catalog and fan base."

And Neville doesn't take that rich music history lightly.

"When we play for an audience, it is always new because we are sharing what is happening in that moment with the audience," Neville said. "We don't have pre-planned shows. We respond to the environment."



STANDING ROOM ONLY

« Floetry with Emily King will perform at Rams Head Live! at 20 Market Place in Baltimore. Tickets cost \$20. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-244-1131.

LISTENING POSTS

Open Mic Night featuring Pikesvillian

The 8x10 Club, 10 East Cross St., Baltimore; \$3; 7 p.m.; 410-625-2000

Matt Davis' Noise in the Basement

Fletcher's Bar, 701 S. Bond St., Baltimore; \$5; 8 p.m.; 410-558-1889

Peabody Jazz Quartet

An Die Musik Live! 409 N. Charles St., Baltimore; \$8, \$5 students and seniors; 7:30 p.m.; 410-385-2638

Deep House & NuJazz DJs

XS Restaurant, 1307 N. Charles St., Baltimore; Free; 8 p.m.; 410-468-0002



E-mail us your faves:
jmann@baltimoreexaminer.com

SOUNDS » MARILYN MANSON AND SLAYER



Slayer, above, will play with Marilyn Manson at Merriweather Post Pavillion tonight. - Courtesy photo

Two worlds collide on diverse double bill

By Nancy Dunham
Examiner Correspondent

Tom Araya seems as surprised as anyone that he and bandmate Kerry King are staring out from the cover of the most recent issue of *Revolver*.

It's not that Araya, bassist, vocalist and founding member of Slayer, is a stranger to major media attention. After all, Slayer is one of the "big four" (the others being Megadeth, Anthrax and Metallica) thrash metal bands. The surprise is that Marilyn Manson also is on the cover.

"When it was first mentioned that we'd tour with Marilyn Manson, I thought that would make a pretty interesting bill," he said. "A lot of people don't feel that way."

The tour came about when Manson's manager approached Slayer about teaming up after rejecting such a partnership a few years ago. It seems the tour will be something

IF YOU GO

Marilyn Manson and Slayer with Bleeding Through
» **Venue:** Merriweather Post Pavilion, 10475 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia
» **Time:** 7:30 tonight
» **Tickets:** \$30, \$45; 410-547-SEAT; www.ticketmaster.com

of a challenge for Slayer, which has been on the road almost constantly since 2006 supporting "Christ Illusion." The song "Eyes of the Insane," from that album, won a Grammy for Best Metal Performance.

But Araya said he and his bandmates are excited about the challenge and will change the set, playing the hits but also dusting off some shelved songs.

"That's something that's been on my mind," Araya said. "Now we're doing it."

The change will also expose new

Slayer fans to more of the band's catalog. In their 30 years of metal, Araya and his bandmates have seen the genre and fans repeatedly change. Now, they count three generations — ranging in ages from 20 to 50 — in the audience.

"That's metal," Araya said. "It's like a serpent that sticks its head out of the water and goes down but doesn't go away and die. It comes back later."

But will the fans embrace the bill with what many see as two very different musical styles? Araya metaphorically shrugs away concerns with a "some will, some won't" philosophy.

Manson, for his part, seems excited by the fan diversity.

"That's the most interesting thing about these shows, I think — two completely different audiences," Manson said with a laugh during the free-form interview with *Revolver*. "I was actually thinking if I was a fan, would I be afraid to go to this show?"

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

CHILDREN'S EVENT

Farmer Minor and Daisy — Various times

Harford County Public Libraries, Abingdon Branch, 2510 Tollgate Road, Abingdon; Free; 10:30 a.m.; 410-638-3990. Bel Air Branch, 100 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Bel Air; Free; 2 p.m.; 410-638-3151; Whiteford Branch, 2407 Whiteford Road, Whiteford; Free; 6:30 p.m.; 410-452-8831

DANCE

Just for Teens: Salsa Dancing — 3 p.m.

Enoch Pratt Southeast Anchor Library, 3601 Eastern Ave., Baltimore; Free; 410-396-1580

EXHIBIT

Artwork by Adrienne Figus, Elizabeth Graeber and Lexy Singer — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sheppard Art Gallery, 8173 Main St., Ellicott City; Free; 410-461-1616

TOUR

Mount Vernon Cultural Walk — Noon

Inner Harbor Visitors Center, 401 Light St., Baltimore; Free; 443-984-2369

BOOK TALK

"We'll Go Everywhere" — 10:15 a.m.

Harford County Public Libraries, Aberdeen Branch, 21 Franklin St., Aberdeen; Free; 410-273-5608

IF YOU GO

The Neville Brothers
» **Venue:** Rams Head on Stage, 33 West St., Annapolis
» **Time:** 8 tonight
» **Details:** \$79.50; 410-268-4545; www.ramsheadontage.com