

Sean Spillane Music Blog

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Tom Tom Club at FTC

It was great to see Tom Tom Club back in action Tuesday night at the Fairfield Theatre Company and, watching the band members cavorting on stage, it was easy to tell they were happy to be back.

Drummer Chris Frantz and his wife, singer-bassist Tina Weymouth, have lived in the Southport section of Fairfield for many years, but they rarely, if ever, get to play a hometown show like this. Hopefully, now that the town has a top-notch music venue, Tom Tom Club can make regular appearances at FTC. The set list was pretty much unchanged since I last saw Tom Tom Club a few years ago, but it was like visiting old friends to hear them again. And the energy TTC gives off is infectious, even if the crowd didn't do too much dancing.

That might have been the only drawback for the band playing FTC. It's setup is more suited for sitting and watching a performance, as opposed to shaking what you got.

New to the band — at least since the last time I saw a show — was guitarist James SanGiovanni, better known as Fuzz from Deep Banana Blackout, Rolla and Fuzz and Carrie, the duo setup he has with wife. As anyone who ever saw DBB perform can probably guess, Fuzz matched the other members of Tom Tom Club in the energy department and was a welcome addition to the band.

Of course, helping Chris and Tina keep things moving were singers Mystic Bowie and Victoria Clamp. The two obviously have a ball on stage together and it translates well to the fans.

Opening the concert was the latest project from Fuzz and Carrie, called Carnival of Thieves. The quartet — which also includes bassist Brian Anderson and violinist Ben Dean — plays a sort of gypsy folk that is very catchy and the music was well-received by the crowd.

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