

My Morning Jacket @ the Fillmore

December 30, 2006

The band's name comes from a discarded coat lead singer and founder Jim James found while sifting through the remains of his favorite bar after it burned down. The coat was embroidered with the letters MMJ on it. My Morning Jacket is a rock band known for their reverb-heavy sound and enthusiastic live shows. Their music is described as Louisville soul.

My Morning Jacket began their Winter 2007 tour with a 3-night stand in San Francisco at the Fillmore. Playing songs from their recent live album, *Okonokos*, *Z* and *Acoustic Citsuoca* CDs, singer, songwriter and guitarist, Jim James delivered a pounding, dream like performance complete with fog and light show reminiscent of 60s concerts attended by R&RRH members. The 5-piece group grooved and swung. Jim James' vocals were emotional and majestic. His driving guitar was electrifying. The music, rhythms, strings, guitar solos equally as important as the lyrics. Best known for their hit song, *Wordless Chorus*, MMJ rolled on with songs from *Acoustic Citsuoca*, bringing *The Bear* on stage for one of the most heart pounding songs of the evening aptly named *The Bear*. When MMJ played *Dondante* from their *Z* album the room swayed to James' guitar; each note hitting hard with reverberating vocals swirling around the room. The smell in the air was mesmerizing as was the sweet feeling of Fillmore *deja vu* - the fog, the lights, the brilliant crystal chandeliers listening to music unconfined by seats. It was surreal.

Opening for My Morning Jacket was the group, *Elvis Perkins* in *Dearland*. *Elvis*, the son of *Anthony Perkins*, performed vocals, harmonica and guitar and was backed by a talented group of young band members. This group is on the rise. They reminded me of *Bob Dylan* back in the day.

To sample My Morning Jacket, try the *Acoustic Citsuoca* CD.

This was R&RRH girlfriend's first trip to the Fillmore. The webmaster wasn't sure if he had been to the Fillmore when he lived in San Jose in the early 70s. He said it seemed familiar, but then all those auditoriums seem familiar. The upstairs bar of the Fillmore is filled from floor to ceiling with every imaginable Fillmore poster. It was like being in a dream or a hallucination. When the show began, the R&RRH webmaster turned to see *Robin Williams* behind him. No hallucination.

My thanks to the R&RRH webmaster for always being open to new material. You are very far out, dude. My Morning Jacket will be playing at the House of Blues in Anaheim on January 5th and in Salt Lake City, Utah at the Depot on January 11th. Check MMJ out.
Rock and Roll lives forever ~