


Jimmy Buffett's presentation of Herman Wouk's Don't Stop the Carnival begins an open-ended run at the Atlantis Theatre on April 6, 2001. Set amid the tropical splendor of Atlantis, Paradise Island, the newly remodeled theatre, outfitted with professional lighting and sound, and circled by beautifully back-lit travel posters, presents the perfect venue to display the theatrical tour of Kinja.

Jimmy's infatuation with the Pulitzer Prize Winning novelists' mid-life tale continues; a Gold Album for the CD of the same name, an award winning play at Coconut Grove Theatre in south Miami, and now a 90-minute musical revue satiated with singing and dancing, and laced with just enough narrative to propel the spectacle to it's carnival-costumed conclusion. Local musicians and dancers, along with stateside cast members, create a colorful, collaborative cast of Amerigo natives theatrically illustrating how t'ings really work "down island."

We went to Atlantis a couple of weeks ago to check out the DSTC revue, assist in their merchandising efforts and get free drinks in the casino. 101 Productions has the unenviable task of assembling the egos and eccentricities into a presentation that will please fans familiar with the story as well as visitors lured by a free drink and steel drum music. Atlantis Theatre, easily discernible by the freshly painted Amerigo Mural, a short walk from Mama Loo's (great Mai Tai's) and around the corner from the Bahamian Club (terrific conch chowder), occupies the west side of a rotunda centered by a dolphin sculptured fountain. Here we were greeted by old friends from the Buffett tour.

Jimmy has perfected a true "work ethic." Find people who know what they're doing and stay the hell out of the way. Sid Strong, light designer extraordinaire has traveled with Jimmy for over a decade. He has a blank stage to layout and light. Placement is primary. Using the backdrop from the Beach House tour, he has effected a lifelike island atmosphere, complete with "moving" clouds and water that "ripples."

Ross Ritto toured with Jimmy back when the wheels didn't leave the ground, when King Tut was their home, stage backdrop, and road refuge. Studio albums, live albums, and now theater performances all feature the patented sound from Ross and his company Sound Image. "Tell Richie (sound designer Richard Davis) I'm going to the casino," Ross bellows to an electrician. Ya mon. While the dealer casually flips himself yet another face card, Ross bravely attempts to explain audio design, leaving us mired in a sea of acoustics and technical specifications. Better hit that 14 Ross.

Costume designer Helen Hiatt, another Buffett tour veteran, and Emmy Award Winner for Outstanding Costumes for a Variety or Music Program brings her talent to Atlantis as well. Concert goers will recognize her work throughout the musical, but most predominantly in the junkanoo-inspired Carnival scene.

And Michael Utley, the embarrassingly polite Mr. Utley, always a joy to talk to and chief practitioner of the aforementioned Buffett work ethic. Serving as musical supervisor, Michael's working on arrangements with Stephen Coleman who will assume the musical director duties once Mr. Utley sweats his way through customs.


Luis Perez and Michael Rupert

We are fortunate to be here at this time because we'll see the first complete run through of the performance. A conference room down the hall contains a makeshift stage and a piano, all this group of pro's need. The cast arrives, Peter Samuel (our hero, Norman Paperman) who must be cool if he wears a Broadway softball t'shirt, and Sandy Edgerton, reprising the role of Iris she mastered in Coconut Grove. Harriett D. Foy embraces the role of Sheila, opening the play in a rousing vocal narrative and, along with the ensemble, a flawless (to my untrained eye at any rate) dance routine. The maternal Sheila maintains the flow of the show, encapsulating previous scenes and influencing the next. Lew Lloyd (Lester Atlas) paces stage left before he explodes into the cliche, loudmouth, boorish, ugly-American character...and he does it so well. Pia Farmer (Norman's wife Henny) has the long-suffering task of supporting her adulterous husband's escapist nightmare. She plays the foil perfectly, while providing the necessary dose of reality.

The ensemble cast compliments the lead characters, stepping in and out of various roles in addition to the strenuous dance duties composed by choreographer Luis Perez. Well respected in the industry, Luis' in-demand skills as confrontational choreographer, if you will, have enabled him to stage fight scenes for many Broadway shows. "Jimmy's very trusting. He seems to know talent and knows enough to leave it alone." He discussed the possibility of doing DSTC with director Michael Rupert, read the book and bought the CD. "I had to listen to the music many times over working out arrangements. I enjoyed the CD which made that task much easier, didn't mind playing the CD over at all."

Director Michael Rupert played Norman Paperman in the Coconut Grove production. Even then, the possibility of advancing the play was discussed. "We knew it had flaws, we knew it needed work, but with the reception we were getting every night, we also knew we had something." Several years later the Tony Award Winning actor received an email from Jimmy requesting he consider directing a totally revamped version and Michael jumped at the opportunity. He also had the pleasure of spending many constructive hours in Paradise Island

with the author, Herman Wouk, reshaping and condensing the play, using Luis' choreographed sequences to propel and theatrically illustrate the story.

Fast forward to Friday, April 6, opening night. Jimmy is in attendance passing out champagne and generally feeling pretty good about the theatre, the performance and the cast. The doors ceremoniously close on the cast party, and the Atlantis Theatre, the newly remodeled Atlantis Theatre, receives it's initiation in Buffett-style celebrating. Here the story ends, or begins...

Jimmy's songwriting / storytelling skills are a given, a curious brew of fact and fiction, and at times unabashedly autobiographical. "Gypsies In The Palace" immediately comes to mind; We'll party just like Bubba does, we'll do the old man proud. All the time, effort and pent up energy that goes into the production is released in one glorious bacchanal. The work isn't over, refinements will be made, but that is for tomorrow.

And tomorrow does come, long shadows cast by the rising sun creep up the faux Mayan Temple, repeating a scene that played out centuries ago. The troupe recuperates from a successful opening night performance, we're in the casino lost in a maze of slot machines, Herman Wouk sleeps comfortably several time zones away, and the protagonist in this saga casually packs his bag for a flight to Miami. He's planning to attend the Miami Heat game on Sunday. They're playing the Knicks..

Show Schedule: Mondays, Wednesdays \& Thursdays 8PM Tuesday, Fridays \& Saturdays 7PM \& 10PM Atlantis Theater, Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas Please call 1-800-ATLANTIS (285-2684) or www.atlantis.com


Of the many perks to being a Margaritian, one in particular stands out; the opportunity to see and hear Jimmy at work. Weve reported on cafe appearances in the past, but nothing compares to an on-the-road production. The entire band, the crew, the crowd, the undeniable energy associated with a Buffett show.
A winter stop in Ft. Lauderdale presented just such an opportunity. The Margaritaville Store closed for the day, rented a bus big enough to absorb some "mileage," and off we went. We toasted our good fortune heading north on A1A, toasted Henry Flagler for daring to build bridges connecting the keys, toasted Wayne Huizenga for renting cars and we toasted Canada for starting hockey franchises. Our bus made it's way around back and we spilled into the parking lot. Familiar faces from the backstage crew greeted us as we made our way to the buffet line. We toasted them as well. Free food and Corona. We found Club Trini, snaked our way through the conga line and harrassed the Sports Magic Guys. It's better in the summer in an outdoor "shed," but this is still livin' the good life. Great seats all in a row, and the beach ball battle began. At the risk of being labeled a syncophant, this is where Jimmy shines. Forget the stores, the cafes, the books and movie deals, Jimmy Buffett is an entertainer - one of the best. Using words and wit to lift the crowd out of their cushioned seats, forcing them to flail their arms to and fro in the Fins "salute, and still, after all these years, hitting them in the heart with A Pirate Looks at Forty ...just a few friends, just a few friends... We raised our glasses and, many of us think, got a wink and a nod from the Big Guy.
And it's over. Suddenly we realize were five hours from home, tired, hungry, and beginning to experience the discomfort often associated with a belly full of beer and margaritas. Back to the bus and the slow, silent cruise down the keys.
There was one more toast to make. One fellow Margaritian to recognize, one empty seat to deal with. A dear friend who didn't make the show and who, sadly, will not be attending anymore. Our final, fitting toast ...just a few friends, just a few friends... Here's to you Ellen, and to happy days, we miss you



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E

Changes in latitudes

Drinkin all night





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Radio Magarilaville，wwwrradiomargarilaville．com，has continued each week to climb in numbers and has become one of the highest ranked web channets on the internet．

The internet－only stalion，founded by singer／song－ writer Jimmy Bufiett is streamed by RealBroadeast Networks，and was ranked 73 on MeasureCas：the first company to provide the streaming media industry with nexi－day audience size and demagraphic reports． The radio stalion debuted at \＃8 on MeasureCast＇s first charting Nov．27，and has since moved up each week． Arbilien，the only other company praviding webcast ratings，listed the channel＇s＂Aggregale Tuning Hours＂ ［ATH／a measure of total listening haur per month］at II3．100，and ranked it \＃23 out of 1000 webcast channels．Radio Margarilaville gained 17，100 ATH in just one Arbilion rating period．

In addilion to limmy Buffelt tunes，Radio Margarilaville plays a vast array of artists，including Enb Marley， James Taylar，Bonnie Railt，Little Feat，Neville Bros．， Jackson Browne，Harry Belafonle and many athers．

II＇s very exciling to be able to program a radia station that people all over the world can tune into and enjoy．＂says Buifett．＂The power and scope of the inter－ net has opened up a whole new world for radio．＂

Sieve Huntington，the station＇s Program Director com－ men＇s，The internet is finally showing what we had suspected for over two years，and that is that Radio Margarilavile is way ahead of the curve in internet broadrasting．Jimmy Buffelt＇s idea to address an audlence that wasnt being served alhewise has proven to be a winner．The great music，and the fun that were having with it on Ratio Margarilaville is clearly catching on with internet listenars．

Adds Coleman Sisson，Stalion Manage，We are extremely pleased to be recognized by measure－ casticom，Arbilion and more imparianily by limmy＇s fans．They know that Radio Margarilavile is not fust about limmy Buffell music，il＇s about good music．That was Jimmy＇s vision from the beginning and il＇s great to see his pirale approach to things warks in the high tech warld of the internet just as it has in his baoks and music．＂


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Charlotte, NC (February 20) During his sold out concert at the Charlotte Coliseum on Tuesday evening, Jimmy Buffett paid tribute to Dale Earnhardt. "I know he had a great sense of humor and he would want us here raising hell tonight," Jimmy told the Parrot Heads. "From all of us to all of you, heroes are hard to come by so we'll take \# 3 around the track for Dale right now." The concert was scheduled months ahead of time. But it was what the people of Charlotte needed most on a cold February evening. Jimmy dedicated the song "Take Another Road" (with slightly altered lyrics) to the seven-time champion. "Never look back, that's what he swore, Take 'ol number three to the shore Somewhere, somewhere... Take another road to a hiding place, Disappear without a trace, Take another road to another time"

At the end of the night, Jimmy came back on stage for one last song- "Oysters and Pearls." A song about those rare individuals willing to take huge risks for the ultimate glory. Indeed, a fitting tribute to The Intimidator. The last line "Lindbergh left Long Island in 1927" was replaced with "Earnhardt left Daytona...February 2001." His final words to the Charlotte crowd were "Goodnight everybody, God bless you. For you Dale." Larry Graff, Webmaster- Jeff Gordon Online www.gordonline.com


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## Saturday, June 2

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Thursday, June 7
Thursday, August 30
Saturday, September 1 Tuesday. September 4
Thursday, September 6
Saturday, September 8
Tuesday, September 1 Thursday, September 13 Saturday, September 15


