

Music 121

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Concert Report: 1

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The punk rock thunderstorm at the Kennedy Center

On Friday, September 4th 2015 at 6 pm The John F. Kennedy Center hosted **Loud Boyz** who performed in a heterogeneous blast of timbre equivalent to a local summer thunderstorm rumbling the area. In addition, professional and amateur skateboarders were entertaining the public on stage. Was it the summer heat or the atmosphere, but After the singer Kenny Brown sang “Hard Feelings” from the album “Tough Love, Hard Feelings”, he took off his shirt and revealed the sea of tattoos all over his muscular body. Tattoos, sweat, long hair, and savage behavior were evident throughout the show unlike the symphony culture usually performed at this venue. The Kennedy Center hosted these music makers in an effort to evoke the interest of different age groups and cultural preferences into their aging and shrinking clientele.

Silence was not heard at any time during this concert because **Loud Boyz** were very good at shaking things up. The first song in the set “I am the Night” performed with Kenny Brown singing truly riled up the crowd. The guitar players Alex Anderson, Rory Sheridan, and Mitchel West dominated the stage overshadowing the vocal sound of Kenny Brown. The drums played by Devin Cassidy strained to keep up with the ever increasing tempo of the guitar players. While musicians were performing skateboarders attempted to perform tricks in the skate area of the stage. **Loud Boyz** vocalist Kenny Brown sent positive messages to the skateboarders and audience making the crowd scream back in enjoyment. When the song ended instead of clapping the audience proceeded to slap their skateboards on the ground and shouted the bands name in unison. “Hard Feelings” was a true hit with each band member contributing with their own heterogeneous slightly too loud voice that riled up the

crowd. The best song of the night entitled “4 The Ladies” was a more upbeat song from the punk rocker's repertoire. Aesthetically it would have been more appealing to the average listener to have a variety of tones, rhythms, and styles to distinguish the songs from each other.

The family friendly Labor Day weekend performance was a unique experience for this reviewer and DC. Skateboarding and punk rock have always been associated with criminal mischievous and dangerous behavior. Instead of gang fights and drugs which this kind of music is portrayed in the media, tonight's event was filled with young families, millennial couples, and teenagers taking photos with their loved ones enjoying the show. This reviewer's musical taste were not geared towards the punk rock style fast past rhythm and undecipherable singing timbre. However, he band's passion of the genre won a new fan, this reviewer who enjoyed the excitement of the audience and music.

