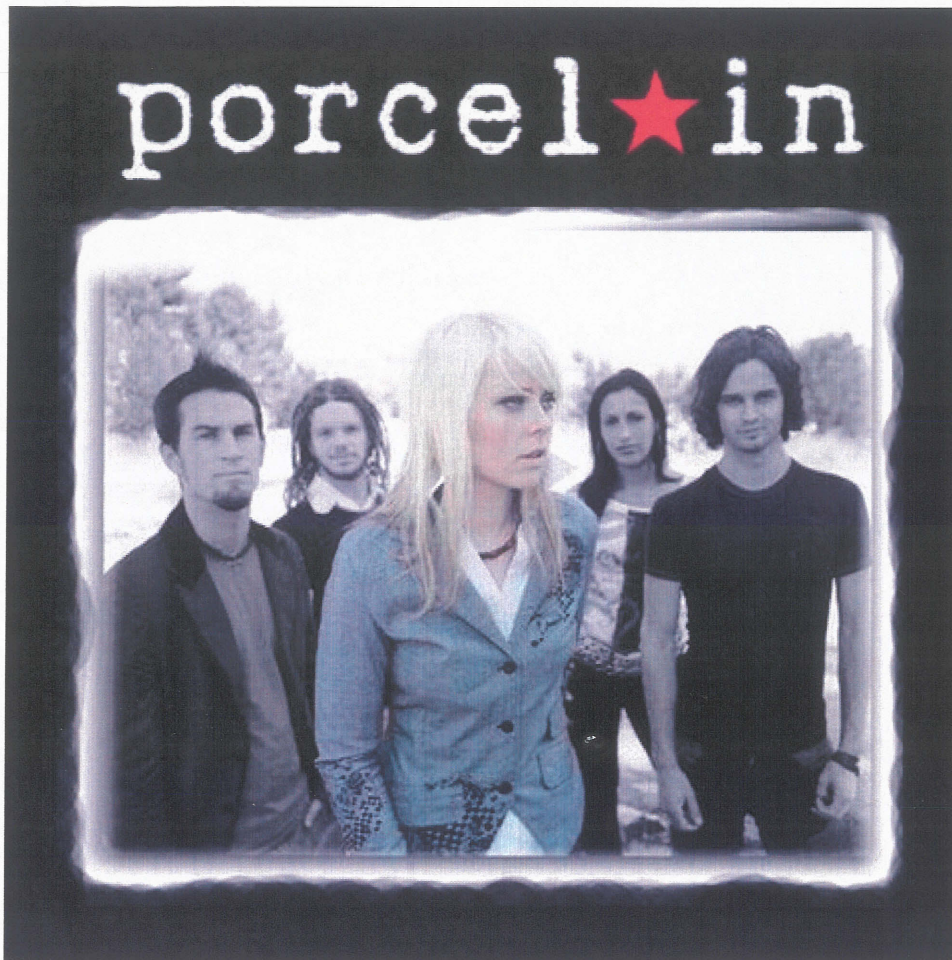


Porcelain live at Replay Lounge 3/20/08

Review of Aussie / LA band during their recent visit to Bakersfield



March 20, 2008 - Replay Lounge, Bakersfield, CA

Main stream music has lost its edge over the last ten years or so. Practically any radio station you may turn on sounds like hours of the same "artist" regardless the genre, heavily peppered with the same 4 obnoxious commercials. Don't get me wrong - music is art. However, I have difficulty allowing people who are strictly performers to call themselves artists.

The massive blow up of certain producers has limited the creative beauty in music to a near screeching halt. This is what has driven me to seek new artists - listen to less known music.

You know; before the mega-producers get a hold of them and make them sound like everybody else.

I was recently introduced to a Los Angeles band that has helped restore my faith in the industry. I say Los Angeles only because that is where they are currently located. The core of the band moved to Los Angeles in 2004 from Wollongong, Australia where **Porcelain** was formed in 1999.

Porcelain has played many well known venues in L.A. including The Key Club and The Viper Room. The music they have posted on their page is great, and yes I bought the CD. Though, this never came close to preparing me for their show on March 20th in Bakersfield.

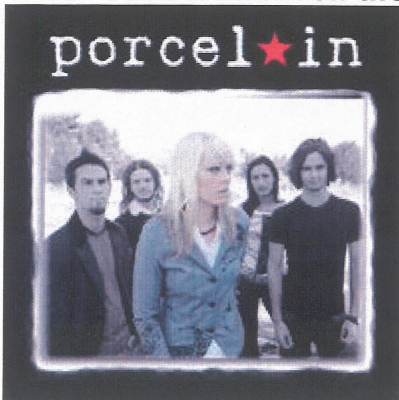
Porcelain is an extremely dynamic five piece ensemble. Lead singer - Lo Roberts - has a voice that is so powerful and is a cross between Melissa Etheridge and Janis Joplin. Asha Mevlana harmonizes beautifully with vocals and brings a unique flare to the music with her violin. Ben Richards rocked the stage on guitar - with his arm in a sling no less. Ewen Penberthy-Groves kicks ass on his six string bass - something I personally haven't seen on stage in a quite some time. Finally, Blake Paulson brings it on the drums.

The energy they delivered on stage was phenomenal. Shortly after the show I was informed they had just driven to Bakersfield straight from a show in Texas. Yet, after a road trip that long - they still rocked, they still brought it, they still had amazing smiles on their faces and the time to chat afterward.

My favorite song of theirs is "Dessert dressed in lights" about how tormenting L.A. can be to a soul. I knew that I was listening to amazing artists when I heard the lyrics to "The Radio". I thought to myself "my feelings exactly!"

Over the past handful of years, I have seen a plethora of shows. Some great and some not so great. Even so, I can count on one hand the artists that come close to the stage presence seen with Porcelain. They are true artists that display their art brilliantly. I would be ecstatic to hear them on the radio. If you like music - the beauty and the art of music.

Check out Porcelain on the web:



<http://www.bakotopia.com/home/ViewPost/52651>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u_azTkmqTk&eurl=http://www.bakotopia.com/home/ViewPost/52651

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsIY3-TsUCQ&eurl=http://www.bakotopia.com/home/ViewPost/52651>

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