

[examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com)

Concert Review: Back to back nights with Lucero

If you read [my review](#) of [Lucero](#)'s last area concert at Brooklyn Bowl, which described their songs as countrified rock that "will make your soul happy", then you were probably able to tell that they've won me over. A Lucero show is a great time, and their gigs this weekend in Manhattan and Rhode Island were no exception.



Lucero at Webster Hall

Lorraine Schwartz

Lorraine Schwartz

Friday, the Tennessee band took the stage at [Webster Hall](#) after an extremely hard-to-follow set by the amazing [J Roddy Walston & The Business](#), whose head-banging Southern piano rock brought the house down. [Appletinis](#) may have been at least partially responsible for adding fuel to their fire as Ben Nichols, singer for headliner Lucero, brought one of the delicious alcoholic concoctions out to J Roddy while he was still rocking out behind his piano. Walston toasted the crowd with his plastic cup freshly filled with the bright green liquid courage as he and his band ended an excellent set.

When Lucero hit the stage, those who weren't worn out by the opener's crazy energetic set moved towards stage front to get up close to the action. Opening with "That Much Further West", they went on to play no less than 27 songs including "Nights Like These", "Slow Dancing", "Bikeriders", "My Best Girl", "Hey Darlin' Do You Gamble" and "I Can't Stand To Leave You." The band seemed to be in a great mood, accepting shots from the crowd and smiling away at their New York City fans.

Saturday night Lucero played [The Met](#), located in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. I wasn't the only person in the crowd to have made the road trip to see them play this 600-capacity room located on the outskirts of Providence. One couple hailing from Birmingham, Alabama were overheard saying they planned their vacations around Lucero concerts, while a young girl at stage-front informed

Ben during the show that she was at their recent Cleveland, Ohio show but was kicked out of the club before Lucero even played. Upon hearing the news she was booted so early on into her evening Nichols said, "That's pretty hardcore."

The setlist had some staples from Friday night's show ("Juniper", "All Sewn Up", "Tears Don't Matter Much", "On My Way Downtown", "Like Lightning") with a few changes, including "Darken My Door" and the fan-requested "Sixes and Sevens." And while the quality of Lucero's actual performance was stellar both nights, the crowd in the small Rhode Island venue was much more vocal and raucous than the slightly more reserved New York City crowd. No doubt the band noticed this as well, as bassist John C. Stubblefield couldn't resist jumping into the crowd of Rhode Islanders and playing right from the floor for a few bars to join in on the craziness.

Lucero continues their tour across America, returning to the NY area for Metallica's Orion Music & More Festival in Atlantic City, playing Day 1 of the [fest](#). To find out more about the band, check out their official [website](#).

Check out photos from the shows here, with additional photos (from both nights) [here](#). Follow me on Twitter at [@ConcertExaminer!](#)