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Concert Review: Sum 41 Rocks the Paramount

This weekend concert goers battled the nightmare that is Friday night traffic in Long Island (or were smart enough to take a train) to catch badass Candian rockers <u>Sum 41</u> at <u>the Paramount</u>. Though the band first burst onto the MTV scene back in 2001 as rambunctious youngin's who combined pop-punk and hip-hop elements to create hit single "Fat Lip", their sound has blossomed into fierce melodic metal with the occasional power ballad thrown in for good measure.



Sum 41 at the Paramount, Long Island

1 of 3

Lorraine Schwartz

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Their current tour celebrates the anniversary of their 2002 CD "Does This Look Infected?" Where their prior CD, 2001's "All Killer No Filler" leaned more to the pop-punk side of things, "Does This Look Infected?" helped set them on the metal path they continue on today. Songs like "Still Waiting" and "Mr. Amsterdam" differed greatly from their earlier tunes like "In Too Deep" and "Summer."

As a result of the maturation of their sound over the years, the crowd that turned out Friday evening spanned a much larger age range than their early shows ten years ago, which saw mostly young teenagers populate the front row. Those same young kids have grown up, and in some cases, have graduated college and entered the work force. Still, Sum 41 continues to attract angst-filled teenagers ready to rock out, as was evidenced by that night's crowd.

Beginning their set with a top-to-bottom performance of all the tracks off "Does This Look Infected?", the band then played a second set of songs taken from other albums "Chuck", "Underclass Hero" and their latest "Screaming Bloody Murder." They also did a metal-infused cover of "We Will Rock You" by Queen, and a brief tribute to the Beastie Boys with "Sabotage." After appeasing the TRL Generation with the aforementioned high-energy hit "Fat Lip",

2 of 3

Sum 41 finished with "Pain For Pleasure." While back in 2001 it was taken as a tongue-in-cheek tribute to metal, "Pain For Pleasure" now seems like a natural fit with the band's 2012 material.

Check out my slideshow from the show <u>here</u>, with additional shots here.

Follow the band on Twitter at <u>@Sum41</u>, and me at <u>@ConcertExaminer!</u>

3 of 3