

**"THAT ARENA ROCK SHOW" not your average tribute act!**

# **THAT ARENA ROCK SHOW**

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My quest to see tribute bands has grown over the years into almost what some might call an obsession. I am constantly asked by the members of our music community about why I seem to lean towards that side of the entertainment industry so often? I guess it can be attributed to my days in the 80s where I wore full make up and played in a Kiss Tribute Band called "Alive" at Americana Amusement Park... So, when I talked on the podcast about my plans to work a concert with That Arena Rock Show at JD Legends this past weekend... several of my friends were very interested in jumping on the "tribute train" and witnessing this trip back in time with me.

First of all, "That Arena Rock Show" (I will call them TARS) is more of an elaborate theatrical presentation than just a plain jane cover band concert. The first time I saw this band, their stage appearance blew me away... A tremendous energy flooded the venue, as the five members basically took the stage by storm. I was mesmerized by the enormous drum kit, the logo scrim, haze, amazing lighting and more! Aside from the look of the stage each time I see TARS I realize each member in their own way creates an incredible atmosphere just by their body language and the way they play their instruments. To pay tribute to the 80s rock era and the "glam" look of the bands

during those days is not an easy task... they took on a style and image exactly like I thought they should.....



Not all tribute act shows are fantastic. But when they're this good, I feel the need to tell everyone! I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to be part of this thing called TARS and appreciate if only for a few hours, being transported back in time... when life was a bit simpler and it was ok to spray two cans of Aquanet in your hair!

That Arena Rock Show is an event you won't forget. This band puts on an experience! – The lights, sound, fog, geysers, smoking guitars, stage props, guest appearances by some of your 80's favorites and the screaming crowd will leave you wanting more!!!!

With T-Bone leading the band vocally, Nikki Star and Steve Satriani shredding the guitars, Geddy Rose banging the bass and Ryan Rocket pounding a drum kit that would put any touring act to shame.... The bands, spot on, accurate tribute to some of the biggest arena acts in the world is worth every dollar you spend to see them! Each show has been a bit different where the stage transforms into an entirely new band and act countless times throughout the night.



TARS also values their fans.... They spend the entire day of show making sure those that come to see them get the entire package! Saturday at JD Legends in Franklin, Ohio our day kicked off at 4 p.m. with a special “Fan Experience” where 25 of their greatest followers got to tour the backstage areas, watch a sound check, take pictures on stage, received a signed set list and even went bowling with the band for some personal one on one time prior to the show..... Next it was on to the VIP section “Meet and Greet”... I like to call it a “Grab and Grin” for most acts because they run them through the line like cattle so fast you don’t even have time for a hello.... This wasn’t true for the crew of TARS who took time to chat and welcome those who had paid their hard-earned money to get the VIP treatment... TARS knows the incredible power of their fans, they call them the “Army” and the band takes every opportunity to let them know the fans are appreciated. Whether it’s a pre-show meet and greet, pictures at the merch booth, or live-streaming on their pages, TARS has a true connection to their followers!

Now on with the show.... I had the honor to introduce the band from the stage... the crowd was pumped and I think the guys in the band were even more excited about getting started. From the first note of “kick Start My Heart” they had the audience feeding for more 80s Rock and that is what they delivered. One right after another from Poison, Quiet Riot, Billy Idol, Bon Jovi, Cinderella, Twisted Sister, Van Halen, GNR, Def Lep and Aerosmith this band nailed each song on their set list.... And then the encore..... They brought out the opening act BlackWater for a heart thumping rendition

of the Kiss hit “Rock and Roll All Nite”.... With both bands and the crowd singing along this made for the perfect ending to a night that took me back to an era of music I dearly love! The best compliment I can give a tribute act is pointing out they encouraged me to return to my roots of that great era and hit up some “Hair Nation” on my XM radio for the next few days!

One final thing I can say is don't confuse TARS with you mama's average tribute band.... It is far from it.... It is an experience you will not soon forget. So, ask yourself the age old question “What do you wanna' do with your life?” ....well you all know the answer .... You wanna ROCK with TARS! So get out to their next show at a venue near you!!!!

