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## 'Mother of Punk' returns to Seattle on November 3rd



### 'Mother of Punk' returns to Seattle on November 3rd

The SGN interview with Nina Hagen

by Maggie Bloodstone - SGN A&E Writer

The Goddess returns - Nina Hagen will be manifesting herself at El Corazon on Thursday, Nov. 3, with appropriately divine guests, Jackie Hell and The Control Tops, Ursula And The Androids, and Pho Bang DJ Baby J.

If you missed her birthday show at Neumo's last March, you have no choice but to be present. To welcome Nina's return, I am encoring the interview I had with her in the March 4 edition of the SGN. El Corazon is located at 109 Eastlake Ave. East - you know the place, it was Graceland, and The Off Ramp back in the day.

MAGGIE BLOODSTONE: When I studied classical voice, what appealed to me most about the act of singing opera was how powerful it made me feel. What was it about singing in that style that made you feel, "This is it, this is how I should sound?"

NINA HAGEN: Simple.....I was nine years old and at a rehearsal with my mom for My Fair Lady. I started imitating the opera singers...and I found my opera voice....I have found many more voices and I am dancing with it... advertising information

MB: In the late '70's, even with all the innovation going on, it never occurred to anyone (except you) to combine opera with hardcore punk. What inspired you to combine the two?

NH: I combine all!

MB: I know you sang Mrs. Peachum in a recording of "The Threepenny Opera," but are there any other operatic roles you would like to take on (Like, perhaps, Medea)?

NH: WICKED.....the witch in an Broadway musical may bee?

MB: There is a documentary on Klaus Nomi opening here soon- he is one artist I would have loved to have seen you perform with, as you both seemed on a similar wavelength artistically. Has there ever been anyone you wanted to work with, and never got the chance?

NH: Hey, I?m still alive and dancing....so let's see what joint ventures are going 2 happen in my future.....

MB: Your most recent CD is all big band music, which would seem to be about the only musical genre left (except for Country Western) that you hadn't explored. How did that come about?

NH: I embrace Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Elvis and Ann Margret with all my being, right now I am working on a swing album with Berlin's CAPITAL DANCE ORCHESTRA...

MB: I'm not sure how it is in Europe now, but American Rock seems to be going through a period like the mid-'70's or the post-MTV '80's right now, where image dominates and real passion and invention is lacking. Is there any kind of music scene in Europe now that would be comparable to when you started performing?

NH: There are sooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo many and I will feature the best of them in my own Nina Hagen TV SHOW. I am producing a pilot for my own TV-show right now these days with a

fabulous production company here in L.A.

MB: I saw that you performed at last year's Life Ball, which makes me wish the U.S. had an AIDS charity event that big and fabulous. Do you think America will ever catch up to Europe when it comes to things like Gay rights?

NH: Yes. Consciousness is shifting shiftingshifting...hope you realize it 2!!!

MB: Have you visited what was East Germany since The Wall came down?

NH: Of course. I live partly in Germany and give many, many concerts there all the time...

MB: I reviewed a version of Hedwig and the Angry Inch awhile ago, and described the character of Hedwig as a combination of you and Wayne/Jayne County. Has anyone else ever made the comparison between you and Hedwig?

NH: YES, ME !!

MB: I had heard that you were going to appear in a film version of Snow White with your daughter Cosma, you playing the evil queen...?

NH: Yes, it was a huge success!! Now we are voice-overing the entire film into English, it will be shown at New York's Tribeca Film Festival in Autumn!!! The sequel is being shot in Germany this Summer!!

MB: Does Otis (Nina's son) want to pursue a life in the arts, as well?

NH: Otis is gonna be 15 years old this August and he is a great D.J. already, so let's see...

MB: (I wanted to touch on matters spiritual, which is a powerful force in Nina's life and work, but couldn't come up with a way to approach it without sounding pretentious and/or ignorant, so I went for a word-association-type thing.)

MB: Enlightenment

NH: YES PLEASE!!

MB: Perfection

NH: ONGOING WORK, GREATEST TASKFORCE

MB: Darkness

NH: YEP, we all know it very well, don't we?!

MB: Transformation

NH: OH YEAH, KALI KALI MAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

MB: Joy

NH: OH I HAVE MY LIFE and MY CHILDREN, MY RIVER and all my friends all over the world! GIVING ME SOOOOOOOO MUCH JOY !!!!! I also give myself JOY, with creating great dances...circumdances...

MB: What will you be doing when this tour is over?

NH: I am filming and also doing a lead in a new Disney-animation called NINA-HYENA, I am in the recording studio working on my new ROCK ALBUM.....

MB: And finally, are you doing "Zarah" in the March 10 show?

NH: I sing a couple of Songs by ZARAH LEANDER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MB: Thank you very much, and hope you have a wonderful birthday!

NH: THANK YOUUUUUUUUU!!!!!!

