

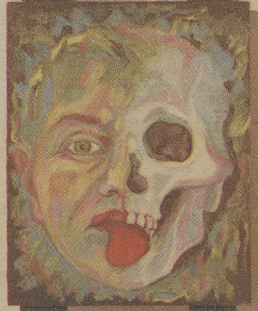
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Show
Wednesday

NOV. 2,
1994
THE ORANGE
COUNTY REGISTER

Danzig's rehash is no treat

REVIEW: Well-worn dark imagery and thumping riffs prove no more interesting for being performed on Halloween.

By **ROBERT KINSLER**
The Orange County Register

If watching Danzig perform on Halloween were a requirement for celebrating the holiday, rock fans might be advised to delete the date from their calendars.

Watching singer Glenn Danzig, guitarist John Christ, bassist Eerie Von and drummer Chuck Biscuits roar through their aggressive, dark brand of heavy metal was like watching a Las Vegas lounge band try to fuse the mystery of the Doors and the angst of Anthrax but fail to capture the magic or power of either.

While the 35-year-old Danzig, who seemed to be in costume as Jim Morrison, is an energetic front man and fright-night mascot, originality is something sorely lacking in his band's music and stage act — big time.

It's likely the half-dozen or so glowing jack-o'-lanterns on stage were wearing big smiles on their pumpkin faces, laughing at the thousands of fans in the near-capacity crowd who paid good money to attend the high-decibel, lowbrow affair.



FRIGHTFULLY DULL: Danzig was long on volume but short on originality at its Irvine Meadows Halloween show.

In interviews, Danzig has positioned himself as a haunted and articulate champion of mystery and the supernatural. He frequently has talked of his literary influences and interest in comic-book art.

But on Monday night, the chilly air in Irvine carried the sounds of

something far less interesting: his four-letter words and music that was little more than a backbeat for the mosh pit in front of the stage.

In songs such as "Going Down to Die," "Until You Call on the Dark" and "Little Whip," Dan-

Danzig, Type O Negative, Engines of Aggression

► **Where:** Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre
► **When:** Monday night

zig revealed an equal lack of lyrical depth. "Little Whip" (from his most recent album) is typical of his craft: "I pull you up / I grab your hair / I give you hope / little whip."

The chorus really was a grabber, where Danzig sang "a come on, little whip" over and over.

The music itself was nothing but a distorted mix of riffs inspired by AC/DC, Black Sabbath and Kiss. Even the band's hit "Mother" came off as little more than a sing-along opportunity as Danzig pointed the microphone to the crowd.

Things got slightly more interesting at the end of the band's 90-minute set when the jack-o'-lanterns were thrown into the crowd and fans began to hurl broken pieces of the pumpkins back at the band.

Opening for Danzig were Engines of Aggression — which turned in an entirely forgettable seven-song set that ended with the singer pronouncing, "Happy Halloween; may Satan be with you." Also on the bill was Type O Negative, which turned in intriguing covers of Seals and Crofts' "Summer Breeze" and Black Sabbath's "Iron Man" in addition to several of its own tunes.