

The Enid News and Eagle, Enid, OK

May 7, 2009

A new 'Haven' for local musicians

By Bridget Nash Staff Writer

Enid musician Greg "Grey" Perkins has put the finishing touches on his most recent album, "Ice World," and now he's ready to help others put together their own albums.

Perkins' CD, his eighth, can be purchased at Enid's local Hastings or at cdbaby.com. It was finished in his own studio, Grey Havens Studio.

"It's probably along the lines of the Beatles-type style, into alternative," said Perkins, with a laugh, as he tried to categorize his music. "It's hard when it comes to labeling your own music."

Perkins sings and plays a few instruments and enjoys recording, mastering and mixing for others.

"I play the guitar and sing," said Perkins. "The guitar is my first instrument. I do the keyboard too."

But for local musicians, Perkins is willing to lay his instruments aside and let each group work its own magic.

"I'm the engineer at that point," said Perkins.

Perkins recently finished construction on his large music studio, which is comfortable and professional and perfect for recording clarity.

Perkins is looking for rock, pop and country music groups and is offering a reduced studio rate for

those who want to rehearse and record at Grey Havens.

"You would get a final master CD," said Perkins.

Perkins is not only interested in helping groups with their recording efforts. He is also interested in helping families preserve family history.

He calls it the Grey Havens History Project and for a fee of \$25, a family could record an oral history, either by telling it themselves or bringing family members into the studio and interviewing them.

"What you get from listening and hearing is you get the inflection, you get the emotion," said Perkins. "We could get that on a digital CD and you could pass it on to all your family."

The \$25 fee waives the studio rate and covers the cost of producing the CD.

Perkins began writing his own music in 1981, while he was still in high school, and has continued to develop as an artist since then. He teaches French at Enid High School and while French was his college major, he minored in history and always has had a passion for history.

Perkins will officially begin business at Grey Havens Studio May 23. Musical groups and those interested in the Grey Havens History Project can set up studio appointments by calling 242-4980.

April 17, 2008

Enid's own musician Grey featured in 'Acoustical Grey' in Muskogee

"Acoustic Grey," the latest music documentary project by Diana Lang, will be screened at the 2008 Bare Bones Film Festival in Muskogee and is nominated for Best Music Documentary. A special screening is slated from 7:45 to 10:45 tonight at Max's Garage, 116 N. Main, Muskogee.

The film showcases Enid musicians Jason Harbour, Mikey Harbour and a singer/songwriter known only as Grey as they play Grey's original pop music at Db Studios in November 2006. The project is an acoustic history, spanning from the early period of Grey's songwriting from "Faded Colours" to the most recent tracks from "Words & Music."

A prolific song writer, Grey has been writing songs since 1981, when he joined the band Elixir, which opened for Richie Havens at the Myriad in Oklahoma City. Grey cites his influences as the progressive art rock of the 1970s and 1980s, especially that of Rush and Yes, and the 1960s rock and pop of acts like the Doors and the Beatles. Fans have compared his sound to David Bowie, Phish and Pink Floyd.

He met filmmaker Lang in the late 1990s through their shared love of languages and formed a creative partnership that has lasted almost a decade, with Lang creating the visuals that enhance Grey's music. Lang has a degree in Film & Video Studies from the University of

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Oklahoma. Her 2005 film, "The Hebrew Project," was created almost entirely in Hebrew, and chronicles the development of the Hebrew program at the University of Oklahoma. It is currently featured on The Jewish Channel, an on-demand television network in New York.

In 2003, Lang served as editor for Charles Maupin's "Liquid Wind" and cut the film trailer which won Best Trailer at the 2004 Bare Bones Film Festival. In both 2003 and 2004, Lang was named Producer of the Year for PEGASYS, and in 2002, she was named Best Editor. Previously, Lang worked for television stations TV4OU, in Norman and KXOK in Enid. She now lives in the San Francisco bay area where she works as an editor of environmental reports.

Since 2000, Grey has self-released eight classic rock inspired music albums. In collaboration with Lang, Grey has also released several award-winning music videos, which have been seen across the country on indie music video programs and garnered thousands of views on online video sharing sites, such as youtube.com. Grey is currently working on his latest album, "Ice World."

April 21, 2003

Local band highlighted at film festival

A "really positive" video interpretation of the music of a local musician will be seen as part of an international film festival in Muskogee this month.

By Robert Barron, Staff Writer

"The theme is love is all you really need to have success in life," said Diana Kettle, of Screaming Butterfly Productions in Enid.

She filmed the Enid band Grey, led by Greg Perkins, guitarist, bassist, composer and lyricist. Perkins is also an Enid teacher.

This is Kettle's first entry into a film festival. The video has been selected for showing in the Bare Bones International Film Festival in Muskogee.

The festival will feature a variety of films - from science fiction to documentary and student entries, like Kettle's.

Kettle is a film student and is presently planning to attend the University of Oklahoma. She eventually would like to be a film editor at a television station, make documentary films or music videos.

"Whatever works," she said.

The program originally showed on PEGASYS in December.

"I wanted to show the artistic side of music, rather than people talking-

make it interesting to watch, where it would grab your attention," she said.

The video features the Enid band Grey, whose music is being recognized in the independent music industry.

His song "This is the place, this is the time," ranks No. 4 on Mp3.com, a Web site for independent musicians, where music can be downloaded.

Another song, "Addiction," is currently sixth at Shoegazer, a forum for British pop music.

Kettle acts as video producer, does the band's website and is the band's promoter.

She has owned her video business for two years, and formerly worked for KXOK, a local television station, as a video editor.

May 3rd, 2003

Enid music video gets top award at film festival

A music video by an Enid producer won the top award at a recent film festival. The video, "[All the Love in the World]," was filmed by Screaming Butterfly Studio in Enid.

The collection of music videos by local band Grey won best student [music] video at the Bare Bones Film Festival last week in Muskogee.

Diana Kettle of Enid is a film student at Northern Oklahoma College and produced and edited the video along with Tim Eck.

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Kettle said she is transferring to the University of Oklahoma next fall.

The songs were recorded at Grey Havens recording studio in Enid and primarily featured band members as actors.

This is Kettle's first submission into a [film] festival.

The video, "[All the Love in the World]," was the only music video in competition and won in a category featuring 30 student entries.

December 5, 2003

Going to the extreme

Documentary that involved Enid-area residents captures the spirit of Lake Hefner surfers

By Cindy Allen, Managing Editor

To a relatively small group of wind and kite surfing enthusiasts, Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City is known as the best place in the area to catch a great wave.

Thanks to the Independent Filmmakers of Oklahoma and Screaming Butterfly Productions, the lake soon may become well-known throughout the country.

Several Enid-area creative artists have their hand in the recently completed documentary titled "Liquid Wind." From editing the project, to promotions to the music, "Liquid Wind" is very much a creation of Enid talent.

Enid High School graduate Diana Kettle had a major role in giving the production its fast-paced, MTV-

style look — she's the editor of the project.

She and Tim Eck run Screaming Butterfly Productions in Enid, and Kettle has had a lot of success locally editing several projects and music videos. Working with Eck, her work previously was awarded Best Music Video at the Bare Bones International Film Festival, and she was recently named PEGASYS Producer of the Year for 2003 and Editor of the Year for 2002.

Kettle got hooked into the Lake Hefner project by Charles Maupin, an Oklahoma City producer. She met Maupin last summer when she was looking for projects to edit, and he was looking for projects to produce.

"I specifically sought out Diana for her excellence and exceptional talent as an editor," Maupin said. "I have specifically been looking for talent that stands out, and Diana has been doing that in Enid and at the Bare Bones International Film Festival at Muskogee."

The OU film school junior and Maupin teamed up to try to capture the essence of the extreme sport of windsurfing and kiteboarding.

"It's an extreme sport," Maupin said. "(The lake) was built for extreme sporting enthusiasts, and it's been an overlooked jewel in the Oklahoma City area for quite some time."

Extreme is the right word for what goes on out at Lake Hefner. As the promotional trailer to the documentary shows, the wind is aggressive. The lake has been popular with wind surfers, but now kite surfers also have discovered its challenges, and they enjoy the

highest and most dangerous winds. And, one of the more surprising revelations is that the best wind is actually in the winter months, meaning the surfers endure some extreme weather to practice their sport.

According to Maupin and Kettle, the 59-minute documentary aims to show the close-knit, family-type relationship the wind and kite surfers have.

"They are an extremely friendly bunch of guys," Maupin said. "They bond well together. These guys are experienced watermen."

What they do is dangerous, and the documentary shows some of that danger. One of the surfers was injured during the filming, and his comrades immediately gathered to help.

Maupin said the project was complicated, requiring appointments with city officials and other logistics to clear before filming could take place. They even convinced Oklahoma meteorologist Mike Morgan, of KFOR-TV to be in the film, in which he talks about the uniqueness of the winds at the lake.

Filming for the project began last March and concluded in October.

After all the filming was done, it's been up to Kettle to give the project its personality. She went to work editing 300 to 350 hours of raw material.

"I contributed to the visual style, not what was being shot, but how fast paced it is," Kettle said. She also was responsible for the special effects. She also worked with several musicians to create the music for

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the project. Chris Stevens and Brad Davis have nine songs throughout the documentary. Champagne Studios in Enid produced a special track, "Long Day," recorded by Jon Carrube with the help of music producer Jerry Patterson. Grey, an Enid rock and pop artist, contributed the track "Joyous Occasion" from his Colours album.

Where the production goes from here is anybody's guess, but Kettle hopes the production goes worldwide.

The theater premier will be Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Meacham Auditorium at the University of Oklahoma. Eck is handling promotion of the film in San Francisco and the California area. "Liquid Wind" also will air on OETA in the spring, and also is lined up to compete in a couple of festivals, including Bare Bones in Muskogee and New York Underground. They are aiming for Cannes and Sun-dance film festivals, and also a festival in Canada.

The film will also be distributed to the California library system and will air on television in California, New York and Georgia.

As for Kettle, she will continue her education at the University of Oklahoma and hopes a good showing of the "Liquid Wind" project at film festivals might propel her to editing stardom some day.

"I want to make films, edit them, edit television shows, like documentaries and music videos," she said.

Maupin thinks the talent is definitely there, and her work on the "Liquid Wind" project shows it.

"Diana really excels in her music videos," he said. "Because she does such a good job of marrying sound with action, for me, she was the only choice" for the project.

Several Enid area creative artists have a hand in the production of Liquid Wind, a documentary about windsurfers and kiteboarders at Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City.

- The project was edited at Screaming Butterfly Productions by Diana Kettle, a 2001 Enid High School graduate and daughter of William and Petra Kettle. She and Tim Eck were honored at the Bare Bones International Film Festival and also as a PEGASYS Producer of the Year for 2003 and Editor of the Year for 2002.

- Tim Eck, also of Screaming Butterfly Productions and son of Carol and Arlyn Eck, is in charge of promotion of the film in the California area.

- Jon Carrube, Enid, recorded the track "Long Day" for the documentary. The track was recorded by Jerry Patterson and Champagne Studios, also of Enid.

- Enid music and pop artist "Grey" provided the track "Joyous Occasion."