

Sybris and Colour Revolt play at Schuba's

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Chicago's indie/folk rock fans were treated to the sounds of Sybris and Colour Revolt at Schuba's Tavern on Friday, and the lucky audience will agree - neither act disappointed.

Colour Revolt fans were heartbroken when over a year ago, the group nearly fell apart, as four of its six members left the band. Naturally, when those four were replaced, many wondered if the act would lose its unique, raw quality - that unapologetic emotion tempered by sweeter moments but exaggerated in the vocalists' screams. This performance was an affirmation to fans that with Jesse Copenbarger and Sean Kirkpatrick at the helm, we need not worry.

For a band so laden with nostalgia and emotion, Schuba's was a perfect venue. With a small stage at the end of a small room, the band was close to their audience, rather than towering over them from a distant platform. The comfortable feel and intimate nature of the venue only added to fans' excited anticipation.

Colour Revolt's passion for their work was palpable on stage. The audience cheered for old

favorites like Naked and Red, as well as songs from this year's album, *The Cradle*, including 8 Years, a song that tells of the hardships Kirkpatrick and Copenbarger faced on the road with their old band. Without long pauses or speeches in between songs, they finished their setlist early enough to treat fans to extra, ending with *Mattresses Underwater*, a crowd favorite. Despite the fact that the new members had no part in writing the songs from the first album, they played with the same fervor as if they had, keeping the crowd nodding their heads in tune.

Following them was headliners, Sybris, a hometown band led by vocalist, Angella Mullenhour. The petite crooner may be the band's greatest draw, with a fascinating and unmistakable voice all her own. With her lyrics and the upbeat melodies, the crowd was full of tapping feet. Especially enjoyable was what is perhaps their most popular song, *Oh Man*, which had fans throughout the cozy venue singing in unison.

Although I prefaced this review by stating that neither act disappointed, but in all honesty, both of them did... when they walked off the stage.



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