

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

Concert review: Jack Johnson at Superpages.com in Dallas (August 17)

by Alexandra Olivia , Kyle Scheumack I can still feel the sand between my toes.

The light rain made the night's temperature match the vibe of <u>Jack Johnson's</u>music: chilled. (At least more than usual in a

sweltering mid-August.) The show wasn't sold out at at <u>Superpages.com Center</u>, but it was more than crowded for a Tuesday night while crowds rocked to the Hawaiian surfer's melodies.



Photo by Alexandra Olivia

G. Love

Just as <u>G. Love</u> took the stage before Johnson, the rain started to come down. A few songs into his set, G. Love said to the crowd, "That rain must be nice after that heat wave." It was. He later free-styled about some of his memories of Dallas, which included references to the <u>Dallas Cowboys</u>, <u>Trees</u>, and the <u>House of Blues</u>,

"where I got my tattoo." G. Love took the stage without his usual <u>special sauce</u> and played solo, but the band's tune "Cold Beverage" seemed to be a crowd favorite.

When Johnson and his band took to the stage, the crowd immediately inflated their beach balls, which Johnson called "his entertainment" -- he likes to watch them hit people from behind

unexpectedly. (He later kicked one over <u>the pit</u> and about 15 rows back, maybe more. If titles like accomplished musician, filmmaker, and surfer were not enough, Johnson can also kick a ball very well. Look out <u>Landon Donovan</u>.)



Photo by Alexandra Olivia

Jack Johnson

The band played mostly songs from the new record *To The Sea*, including "You and Your Heart," "My Little Girl," and "Red Wine, Mistakes, Mythology." Johnson thanked the crowd for listening to his new tunes; it was clear that most people didn't know them. His older songs, however, had the crowd swaying and singing along to "Taylor," "Inaudible Melodies," and "Sitting Waiting Wishing." A crowd favorite seemed to be "Flake" and "Bubble Toes" from the loud applause that followed. "Upside Down" was also played, which was made for the *Curious George*soundtrack in 2006.

Johnson's keyboard player Zach Gill -- who is also a member of the first opening band <u>ALO</u> -- stood out from the rest of the band. His solos really got the crowd cheering.

Johnson also brought out one of his friends from Hawaii, ukulele player <u>Paula Fuga</u>. She sounded straight out of the Hawaiian jungle. Singing a few songs with Johnson, her song "Country Road" shined more than the others. It sounded beautiful.

People on the lawn seemed unaffected by the rain, and most stayed through to the end. With a nice breeze and the rain beginning to clear, Johnson wound the night down with "The Joker" by one time Dallas musician <u>Steve Miller Band</u>.