

KNOW WE'RE TALKIN

By Helen Marketti

Spin Doctors: An interview with Spin Doctors drummer, Aaron Comess.

The band will be performing at Hoover Auditorium in Lakeside, Ohio on Saturday, June 10 at 7:30 pm.

Aaron Comess is a founding member of the band, Spin Doctors who started gaining stardom during the late 80s and moving into the 90s. Their hits include "Two Princes", "Little Miss Can't Be Wrong", "What Time Is It?" and many more!

Aaron recently took some time to chat about his growing up years, career and thoughts on what makes a good drummer.

"My earliest memories of buying records were in the early 70s when I was just a kid. I had records of The Jackson Five and The Osmond Brothers. As I got older, the bands that really got me into music and want to be involved with music were KISS, Led Zeppelin, The Who and AC/DC."

He continues, "I first started playing the piano when I was about five but by age nine, I told my parents that I wanted to take drum lessons. I had a great drum teacher early on who set me up on the right path. Out of all the great drummers there are, I would have to say that John Bonham (Led Zeppelin) was always my favorite drummer and still is to this day. I think he's hard to beat. I was also into Neil Peart (Rush). By the time I was in junior high I became more serious about drumming. I actually have an eclectic taste in music because I love jazz too such as Miles Davis and John Coltrane. I love different styles of music which makes me want to play different styles of music."

Aaron has some definite thoughts about what makes a good drummer. "The absolute number one talent a drummer must have is to be able to keep time! That comes before anything else. It's nice to have your own groove and recognizable style. It's a difficult thing to master but it's important as a musician to find your own voice."

Living in New York City provides an ample "playground" for musicians of all styles and genres where Aaron feels right at home. "I have lived in New York for many years. I have my own band, too. There are many opportunities to play anywhere in the city when I am not playing with Spin Doctors."

Creatively thinking of names for a band has been a task that either takes time or evolves in minutes. "Spin Doctors formed in 1988 at the



same time the United States was going through a Presidential Election," Aron explains. "Spin Doctors was actually a term that was used in the media often during that time. Erick (Schenkman) had a friend who mentioned the term to him, then Erick brought the name to the rest of us and asked what we thought of it as a name for the band. We liked it and it works."

Aaron shares his thoughts on the longevity of Spin Doctors and what fans can expect from their upcoming show. "It's the songs we have that live on. Our songs are still played on the radio, in movies and on TV. We are lucky to have that. We still enjoy performing together. The band has stayed together all of these years. We have had our ups and downs but we have managed to stay together as friends. As a band we still sound great and have a solid fan base. All of us have our own music and projects that we work on outside of the band. If we were just dialing it in, then it wouldn't work."

"When you come to our show, you're going to get a great show! We like to mix it up. We have a new record in the can that should be released relatively soon. We will definitely be playing some new songs; plus, all the songs you would expect us to play and we mix it up with the different records we have. It's a diverse show and I would highly recommend it!"

To purchase tickets visit:
www.spindoctors.com/tour
www.spindoctors.com
www.helenrosemarketti.com
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