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Architecture in Helsinki DJs @ Beck's

Music Box (7/03/09)

Gig Reviews by Rock Princess, 9th March, 2009



Although at first, the short notice and expectant adrenaline of seeing **Architecture in Helsinki** could have got you all in a tizz, it was not quite to be.

Instead, the Perth International Arts Festival was offering one and all the chance to be energised by front man and woman, **Cameron Bird** and **Kellie Sutherland** as DJs.

Arriving at 10:30 the nights main act **The Ruby Suns** were still performing a blend of covers and originals that included Kate Bush's *Running Up That Hill* and some calypso stylings.

In the crowd the indie girls were dressed up and the occasional Perth musical luminary could be seen in the process of seducing them.

With an atmospheric start Cameron Bird began the diverse Architecture in Helsinki DJ set with noises from the forest and then carried on the natural tones with *In the Jungle (the lion sleeps tonight)*. A track listing comprised of Michael Jackson, 80s electronic and funk was divvied up between Bird and Sutherland who rotated positions behind the mixing desk.

The mix was consummately designed with the ability to dance and sing along too without being torn away from conversation or your beverage.

The popularity of the late night session came at a nonfinancial cost to those waiting in the 10 metre long line at midnight. Met with a foul stench at the main entrance, upon noticing the position of the porta-loos, what smelt like horse shit was more likely human discharge.

Playing on till 2am the still night air of the outdoor venue was revitalising and the lack of belligerent behaviour on a night out in the city was heartening.

Fitting into the Arts Festival's programme, free public events at the Beck's Music Box have ushered in a host of artists to complement the night's main act. From 10pm onwards the marquee folds open to non-ticket bearers for an after party. With the likes of **Grace Barbe**, **Tame Impala** and **Sunshine Brothers** as some of the invited musical acts the Beck's Music Box backed the best in international and local alternative music in an often pretentious yet welcome setting to the Perth landscape.