

# VAIN

ROCK CITY, NOTTINGHAM

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**KERRANG! - JUNE 2005**

## **DREAM COMEBACK FOR THE BAND GRUNGE COULDN'T KILL**

LONG AFTER the band have left the stage this sold-out crowd is still chanting song titles, unwilling to leave. Vain, once the unluckiest band in the world, could not have imagined a more rousing comeback.

Back in 1989 Vain issued 'No Respect', arguably the finest glam-rock album ever recorded. Davy Vain's unique voice - questing, ghostly - imbued his debut with an eerie melancholy, and its musicality was strides ahead of the game. Shafted by their record company, the dreary Seattle grunge police then stopped the party once and for all.

Until now, that is. Even though their set-list includes a mere four songs from that Holy Grail of debuts, Vain are outstanding. Davy's vocals are note perfect, the guitar work of James Scott and Danny West a jaw-dropping sensation. New songs win approval, and even the relatively obscure 'Push Me Over' drips with undiscovered quality. When it all culminates in the classic 'Beat The Bullet' newcomers shriek and bounce while old-timers struggle to keep the tears from their eyes.

It's that good - one of those gigs that leave you genuinely amazed, and more than anything, angry that a trend-fixed music industry could possibly have suppressed this awesome band for 15 years.

**STEVE BEEBEE**

